



ASTT e-News, January 2011

ASTT e-News is broadcast to ASTTBC members and registrants, Honourary Members and our many partners and colleagues. ASTT e-NEWS contains the latest information about ASTTBC's role as a self-governing professional association of technology professionals and the many services provided by the association. Each issue is posted to the ASTTBC web site.

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ASTTBC Moving Ahead with Technology Professionals Canada

ASTTBC and the technology associations in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario, representing about 85 % of the registered technologists and technicians in Canada, are working together to form Technology Professionals Canada (TPC). The four associations left the Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists in favour of formulating a business alliance that will meet the needs and interests of the professional regulatory bodies in the four provinces. Quebec is not a member of CCTT and has indicated interest in considering a relationship with TPC. ASTTBC released [UPDATE #4, December 29, 2010](#)

Minister Ida Chong Meets ASTTBC's John Leech

As Minister Responsible for the ASTT Act (also Engineers/Geoscientists and Architects) the

Honourable Ida Chong (MLA for Oak Bay - Gordon Head) meets with ASTTBC representatives from time to time to stay current with key matters pertaining to ASTTBC. Minister Chong met over a cup of coffee in January with ASTTBC's Executive Director, John Leech, ASCT, CAE. The two spoke about ASTTBC's role as a professional regulatory body and some of the issues regarding practice rights. John mentioned the ASTTBC - APEGBC agreement to strike two task forces, one dealing with the APEGBC Limited License and the second for PTech registration. *"The Minister explored with me various aspects of ASTTBC's role as a professional regulating body and the roles, responsibilities and practice of technology professionals,"* said John Leech. *"Ida is actively engaged and well-briefed on the key issues. I appreciated her thoughtful questions and the suggestions she had for ASTTBC."* They also reflected on specific topics such as onsite wastewater as the Minister previously had responsibility for this program. John raised the topic of technology education and careers and specifically the need for technology education programming in Prince George at the College of New Caledonia and elsewhere in northern BC.

The Year of Science program was also on the list of topics covered. ASTTBC is one of the recognized partners in the Year of Science initiative. ASTTBC was fortunate to receive a grant from Government covering the costs for ASTTBC to secure work experience placements for high schools students throughout BC. A number of activities are planned by ASTTBC for the Year of Science.

TechPRO: Dean Zimmer, ASCT RTMgr, Exciting Challenges

Dean Zimmer, ASCT RTMgr, grew up in the interior in a household that was supported by the forest industry and his father was a small business logging operator. Dean wanted a career in the forest sector, working for a small forestry consulting company out of high school and then enrolling in the Forest Resource Technology program at the College of New Caledonia in 1989. He was a summer student for Babine Forest Products and Canfor while he attended college.

Dean worked as a Resource Technologist for the Ministry of Forests in the Prince George Forest district from 1991 to 2003 and in MacKenzie in 2005. He spent time in the Ministry's Silviculture, Timber, Engineering, Recreation and Small Business (BCTS) programs. During 2004, Dean worked as a Floorhand for Precision Drilling in Alberta. This positive experience working in the Oil and Gas industry in Alberta and the downturn in the timber sector in B.C prompted him to try something new. When positions were advertised with the BC Oil and Gas Commission, Dean was a successful applicant and he and his family moved to Fort St John where they enjoy a variety of indoor and outdoor recreational activities.

At this time, Dean joined ASTTBC as it provides the *"broader scope of practice for technologists which working in the Oil and Gas sector encompasses."* When asked why he joined ASTTBC he said, *"I chose to apply to the ASTTBC because of the representation and recognition it provides to technologists and technicians in the Province. It provides a strong voice for its members in various forums."*

Dean Zimmer, ASCT RTMgr, is now an Operations Manager for BC Oil and Gas Commission in Fort St. John, a position he has held since 2005. In this position he supervises a team of 7 people that oversees the review of stakeholder, First Nations and environmental considerations with regard to Oil and Gas applications. The team is comprised of administration staff, environmental experts, First Nation liaison personnel and a statutory decision maker. The area of responsibility assigned to this group ranges from south of the Peace to the BC/Washington border. In a typical year the team will review 800 - 1200 applications related to Oil and Gas activities. Review times vary depending on the nature and complexities of the individual application, averaging about 25 days. The Ops Manager position must demonstrate creativity and innovation in seeking solutions to complex problems and issues where proponents and stakeholders have divergent and polarized interests. Dean finds this work very exciting. *"No two days are ever the same."*

Dean received RTMgr designation on April 28, 2010. He feels the designation is an important recognition of the experience, knowledge and talents that technology professionals attain during

the course of their careers and he is *"quite proud of attaining it."*

Dean has found working as a technologist for almost twenty years to be a very rewarding experience and would recommend it to anyone. Early in his career he worked primarily in the field, from the Rocky Mountains to various locations in the interior and has *"seen some incredible sights that the province has to offer."* Moving to the Commission his role has changed and expanded as supervising and managing provide new exciting challenges.

Please join Dean in posting your career story at www.techprofile.ca. In addition to providing valuable career information to others, TechPRO listings allow you to 'catch up' with former colleagues and find out who is working in your community. Posting your profile provides another way for self-employed practitioners to get their names in front of 10,000 ASTTBC members and to the many visitors to the ASTTBC website.

ASTTBC and BCIPI Submit Brief on House Inspection Licensing

The House Inspection Licensing Regulation has been in force for over 2 years. At that time ASTTBC congratulated Government for being the first in Canada to introduce a licensing regime for those offering house inspection services and in this way help protect consumers. During the first two years ASTTBC and the BC Institute of Property Inspectors (BCIPI), an Institute within ASTTBC, have been working with the Regulation and considering elements of the Regulation requiring change to ensure a more effective program of licensing house inspectors and better protecting consumers. ASTTBC has been in regular contact with Consumer Protection BC (CPBC), the agency responsible for administering the Regulation and licensing. The major concern is that, with three designated associations / organizations offering certification leading to licensing, there is not one common standard for professional certification and regulation. *"ASTTBC is asking the BC Government and Consumer Protection BC to amend the Regulation to include minimum standards for professional certification and professional accountability,"* said Executive Director, John Leech. *"While the Regulation represents a great beginning, the consumer is at risk because of the lack of minimum education, training and professional practice standards."* ASTTBC points to the fact that the three designated associations (ASTTBC is one) do not have the same standard for certification, Code of Ethics or complaints and disciplinary policies and processes. Leech concluded, *"ASTTBC has communicated our concerns to the Ministry and CPBC over the past 2 years and, with this brief, is formalizing our recommendations for change to enhance the Regulation and better protect the public."*

Download a copy of the [ASTTBC-BCIPI brief](#)

ASTTBC Professional Development, AGM & Top In Technology Awards Presentation May 2011

Mark your calendars for Friday, **May 27, 2011** at the Sheraton Guildford Hotel Surrey

\$85.00 per person except \$45 per student More details to follow

John E. Allner, ASCT, had this to say about last year's AGM & Awards Presentation May 2010:

I would just like to thank you and congratulate you on the superb job I feel you and your fellow executive members did at the AGM and Awards Presentation, and wish to express my sincere gratitude at being one of the invited attendees, I was honored and humbled by the experience.

Further, I wish to note how very professional and impressive the awards luncheon was and the great job you did as the master of ceremonies, it was indeed an honor to participate and I look forward to reviewing the photos when available.

Again; thank you so much for the opportunity to attend.

ASTTBC Council Nomination Process

At the September 2010 Council meeting, the nomination committee for the 2011-2012 Council was approved. The committee is now requesting nominations for election to the Council of ASTTBC. Each nomination must be supported by the signatures of 10 certified members, as well as the consent and signature of the nominee. Nominations properly endorsed must be received by the Nominating Committee Chair by Saturday, February 26, 2011. Nomination submissions should be addressed to:

Darrin Heisler, ASCT, Chair, Nominating Committee,
10767 - 148 Street, Surrey, BC V3R 0S4
Fax 604.585.2790 or
techinfo@asttbc.org

ASTTBC Seeks Public Representative for Governing Council

ASTTBC is currently accepting expressions of interest from non-members who are interested in actively engaging in the important supporting role of a Public Representative position on its governing Council. This is an excellent opportunity to make a positive contribution and influence how ASTTBC considers the impact it has on the public as it regulates technology professionals and advances technology careers.

The ASTTBC Council appointed two Public Representatives for the first time in 2006 and has now changed the ASTT Regulations to add a third Public Representative to augment and broaden the perspective of the Public Representatives' role in supporting Council on matters relating to the public interest.

Public Representatives are appointed by the ASTTBC Council on a recommendation from the ASTTBC Nominating Committee. Information on ASTTBC and [the role of the Council and Public representative](#) as well as a copy of the [reports of the Public Representatives](#) are on the website.

If this is of interest we ask that you send to ASTTBC a statement as to your reason for making application to serve as a Public Representative and provide background information on your education, career and community interests and involvement. Expressions of interest should be sent in confidence to techinfo@asttbc.org to the attention of the Executive Director by the end of business day January 31, 2011.

ASTTBC Stamp and Seal

Do you know where your ASTTBC Stamp or Seal is right now? If you are in possession of an ASTTBC Stamp or Seal you are always directly responsible for its safekeeping and use. The Stamp or Seal belongs to ASTTBC; you have paid a lease fee that is good as long as you are an ASTTBC registrant in good standing. The issuance of an ASTTBC Stamp or Seal is a privilege granted to you while you use it in an ethical and appropriate manner. Application of your stamp or seal indicates that you are taking professional responsibility for the work. Pre-stamping drawing, documents or work that you have not prepared or approved under your close supervision is entirely unacceptable.

Should someone ever use a Stamp or Seal issued to you without your knowledge or consent, you may be in breach of the ASTT Code of Ethics, through lack of safeguarding it. If you discover your Stamp or Seal is missing you must advise the Registrar at once, for until you do, you may be professionally liable for any misuse.

If you ever encounter a situation where you have concern about the legitimacy of the use of a Stamp or Seal, you are required to bring it to the attention of the Association.

For further information visit [our website](#) or contact the Association if you have specific questions.

ASTTBC REGISTRAR POSITION AVAILABLE IN 2012

The ASTTBC Registrar, [John Shortreid](#), ASCT, CLS, after 5 years of extraordinary service and contribution to ASTTBC, will retire in 2012. With this notification we are starting the search for a replacement. As ASTTBC expects the next Registrar to be with us for 10 or more years, we are initiating a selection process which will identify the best fit and arrangements for ASTTBC and for the successful candidate. During 2011 we will work through a process to identify ASTTBC's next Registrar. This process includes information sessions designed to provide to those who might be interested an opportunity to learn more, without necessarily making a commitment in the early stages to submitting an application.

Stay tuned to ASTT e-News for more information.

Paul Butterfield, BSc, ASCT Receives ASTTBC Top in Tech Award

Senior Engineering Technologist, Traffic Division with the District of Saanich, [Paul Butterfield](#), BSc ASCT, was presented with the ASTTBC [Top in Technology Award](#) at the Saanich offices. Attending the presentation were several co-workers including Paul's manager, Jim Hemstock, PEng, Manager of Transportation and Colin Doyle, PEng, Director of Engineering. Jim provided an overview of Paul's work at Saanich and ASTTBC Executive Director, in presenting the award, spoke of Paul's qualifications which led to his nomination for the award. *"Paul is an exemplary representative of the 9,500 technology professionals registered with ASTTBC"*, said John Leech.

We Want to Hear from You

Changed jobs? Changed careers? Earned a promotion? Got a great idea? Let the ASTTBC eNEWS help you spread the word. Send information to techinfo@asttbc.org

Harry Diemer's Trek to Mt. Kilimanjaro!

Two years ago Harry Diemer, Honourary Member of the ASTTBC and President and CEO of the BC Safety Authority, translated his love of nature and enjoyment of the successful completion of difficult challenges into an opportunity to take part in a major fundraising event. Harry participated in one of the Alzheimer Society of B.C.'s signature fundraising events - the Ascent for Alzheimer's.

Ascent for Alzheimer's is a journey to summit Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, which stands at 19,340 ft. above sea level and is the highest mountain on the continent of Africa.

"I love the Ascent philosophy that it is a team effort. There is great symbolism in this, because fighting Alzheimer's disease requires a societal team effort."

Watching his mother experience dementia gave Harry a profound motivation to help eradicate this condition. *"No one should go through what my mother's last years were like. I dedicated my trek to her memory."*

Harry, who was 62 when on the trek in 2008, believes that his age helps other potential climbers relate to him. *"I could send a strong message to my peers that Alzheimer's disease and related dementias are affecting increasing numbers of people in our generation, and that a great effort is needed now. I believe everyone, particularly older people, can make a difference toward this disease."*

More than 160 Ascent for Alzheimer's alum have climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro to raise over \$2 million for the Alzheimer Society of B.C. What about you - do you have what it takes to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro?

The Alzheimer Society of B.C. is recruiting climbers for their 2011 Ascent for Alzheimer's team. Sign up now if you think you, your family or friends have what it takes.

For more information on how you can join the team, visit www.ascentbc.ca.

BC Safety Authority Strategic Plan 2011 - 2013

The BCSA released its updated Strategic Plan which is available on the BCSA web site. With its release the BCSA advised, *"This Strategic Plan reflects a shift from "development" to "application" in how we view the four components of our preventative operating model (Education & Outreach, Inspection, Enforcement and Research). These components are applied to specific, outcome-based objectives which are clearly focused on the reduction of injuries and fatalities in targeted areas."*

Keith Fransson, ASCT, with Urban Systems Edmonton

In the last ASTT News, it was incorrectly noted that Keith Fransson, ASCT, was with Stantec Architecture. Keith and ASTTBC would like you to know that he is still with Urban Systems Ltd. (USL) although he did transfer from the Kamloops office to USL's Edmonton office in August 2010.

Keith decided to relocate to USL's Edmonton office so he could leverage his 23 years of project design and construction experience by mentoring novice project managers and contributing his technical expertise to the many exciting projects currently underway in the Edmonton market. According to Keith, Urban Systems has a well-established professional apprenticeship program and senior practitioners are often called upon to share their knowledge in different locations in an effort to "cross-pollinate" ideas and foster stronger inter-disciplinary collaboration. *"We believe this type of integrated knowledge sharing adds considerable value to our clients"*, explains Keith.

Keith brings a wealth of knowledge to the Edmonton market based on his experience working in both the public and private sectors. Since graduating from BCIT's Civil and Structural Engineering program in 1989 he has held positions with the BC Ministry of Transportation, various municipalities and more recently with private consulting firms. Keith has been with USL for 11 years and has been a principal with the company for the past 4 years.

While in Kamloops Keith was responsible for managing design and construction services related to various types of projects including roads, highways, utilities, residential subdivisions, water treatment systems, etc. Keith's many years of experience in managing contracts and overseeing design and construction projects were invaluable in his role as Senior Project Manager and Client Leader for Sun Peaks Resort Corporation and Tobiano Golf Resort, both world-class destination resorts. *"Planning and building vibrant communities is Urban Systems' hallmark"*, says Keith, *"and I'm excited about the potential for similar scale development opportunities in the Alberta market"*.

Keith is currently leading the design of the Alberta Central East Regional Water system - 80 km of pipeline, reservoir and pump station - the first phase of a 320 km pipeline to supply water to 15 communities east of Edmonton. He plans on maintaining his ASCT registration with ASTTBC and has received his CET with ASET. He has also applied for the PTech(Eng) designation with ASET.

ASTTBC Practice Review Board Investigates Complaint: ROWP Stamping and Filing

Statement of Complaint: That a Registered Onsite Wastewater Practitioner (ROWP) stamped and signed a Filing for an onsite sewage system which he did not plan, and that the commercial facility was beyond the abilities and registration of a ROWP.

Background: During an investigation into a former ROWP Installer, ASTTBC staff identified a Filing that shows a ROWP Planner stamped and signed an identical Filing, which had been previously stamped by the former ROWP Installer. The onsite system was for a substance abuse

rehabilitation center with accommodations for the patients, a full commercial kitchen and laundry facility.

ASTTBC staff became concerned about significant missing information within the Filing, that the onsite system appeared significantly undersized, and that the volume and quality of wastewater generated per day from this facility is beyond the registration of a ROWP. There was concern that a malfunction could result, potentially creating a health hazard.

Investigation: ASTTBC staff contacted the ROWP to obtain further details about the site and system. The ROWP responded that he did not actually plan this system but reviewed the design with the former ROWP Installer. As the onsite system was already installed and operating for over 18 months, the ROWP relied on photographs and the paperwork the former ROWP Installer presented to him. The ROWP admits he never attended the site. The former ROWP Installer claimed his Planner registration was *"in the mail"* further giving the ROWP the impression that this action was only a formality since the Health Authority had already accepted this and other Filings planned by the former Installer. The former Installer was also a former employee of the ROWP's father *"so that is why I gave him my trust."*

ASTTBC staff contacted the owner and manager of the facility, who confirmed that the onsite system had been malfunctioning since installation and that a Professional was in the process of designing the replacement. The facility owners also expressed a desire to consider civil action against both the former Installer and the ROWP Planner.

Discussion: The ROWP admits he did not have sufficient training or skills to plan this system. Further, he admits that his knowledge of pressure distribution system design may not be current or sufficient.

In stamping and signing the Filing created by the former ROWP Installer, the ROWP Planner now understands and admits that he contravened the ASTTBC Code of Ethics and that his actions contributed to a system malfunction, and needless expense to the property owner.

Outcome: ASTTBC Practice Review Board immediately suspended the ROWPs registration, with reinstatement pending the successful completion of a selection of planning courses as well as a Practice Assessment. This was accomplished with the ROWP showing very significant improvement in competency and understanding of his limitations, and his registration was reinstated.

ASTTBC Code of Ethics: Principle 4

Principle 4

Act with integrity towards clients or employers, maintain confidentiality and avoid a conflict of interest but, where such conflict arises, fully disclose the circumstances without delay to the employer or client.

Amplification:

- a. Members shall act judiciously when administering a contract on behalf of their client or employer and be realistic and honest in all estimates, reports and statements.
- b. Information gained in confidence during the course of assignments shall not be used for personal gain, or divulged to either another client or new employer without the express permission of the pervious client or employer.
- c. Any conflict of interest concerning, for example, personal friends, close associates or relatives shall be revealed immediately to the client or employer. If, in spite of a conflict, members are instructed to continue, the interest of the clients or employers shall be held paramount over the member's interests.
- d. Any outside activity shall be avoided if it will have an adverse affect upon their employer's business.

Commentary:

The interpretation of agreements and contract documents must be undertaken with fairness and impartiality, and if members become aware of errors or omissions in their services they should report immediately to their superiors and work to rectify these problems.

Any information received of a confidential nature during the performing of their professional service shall be deemed the exclusive property of its owners and shall not be disclosed to others or used by the member except with the owner's specific approval.

When members use designs supplied by clients, the designs remain the property of the clients and should not be duplicated by members for others without express permission from the first client.

Technical knowledge of a non-confidential nature gained by the member through exposure to the work environment is part of a member's experience and may be used in subsequent projects without further consent.

Members must ensure in their professional activities and business dealings that both potential and perceived conflicts of interest are avoided.

Precise rules in conflict of interest are not possible and members must use their common sense, conscience and sense of honour for guidance.

In any inquiry to adjudicate an alleged conflict of interest the total circumstances surrounding the conflict must be investigated.

7th Annual BC Wood Design Awards

Monday, March 14, 2011 at Vancouver Convention Centre West, Level 3 - Vancouver

Wood WORKS! BC will once again be hosting the annual Wood Design Awards, to recognize designers, builders and owners dedicated to innovative and sustainable wood design. And once again, ASTTBC will be there - this year as a Gold Sponsor!

Registrar, John Shortreid, ASCT, CLS meets with Hon. Rich Coleman & Dave Hayer, MLA

Registrar, John Shortreid, ASCT, CLS, met with the Hon. Rich Coleman, MLA for Fort Langley - Aldergrove and Dave Hayer, MLA for Surrey -Tynehead at a charity event on November 12, 2010. John discussed issues regarding the ROWP program and spoke with Coleman about a formal meeting in the future. Rich Coleman is the Minister of Public Safety, Solicitor General and Minister Responsible for Housing. Dave Hayer is Parliamentary Secretary for Multiculturalism.

Technology Professionals Needed for Scientists and Innovators in Schools

Many of you have just the right expertise, skills, knowledge and experience needed to reach out to school students and encourage them to engage in mathematics and science leading to careers in science and technology. As part of Science World, TELUS World of Science, the Scientists and Innovators in Schools (SIS) program organizes classroom visits by science and technology professionals. To date in the 2010/2011 school year there have more than 1200 school visit requests for the SIS program throughout BC. SIS needs your help and invites you to be a part of educating the youth of British Columbia through the SIS program. Every visit counts! And, your participation qualifies for Continuing Professional Development Credit.

If you are ready, willing and able to volunteer for this worthwhile program, contact Rebecca Thompson, Program Coordinator, Community Engagements at 604-443-7551 or

rthompson@scienceworld.ca

Science Occupations Profiled. Solid Stats. Have a Look

BC Stats put out a report on science-related occupations, and technology professionals are included. "ASTTBC and our many partners have been advocating for many years for contemporary, reliable data regarding technology education and careers," said ASTTBC's Executive Director, John Leech. "This Report provides valuable information which will help stakeholders such as educators, employers and government make more informed decisions." The Report is posted to the website.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Week

ASTTBC's CPD week at the end of October consisted of a number of great seminars featuring experts in a variety of areas ranging from communications, risk management, to technical workshops. It was a very successful week that saw over 240 ASTTBC members attending 11 seminars in 5 different cities including Castlegar, Coquitlam, Kelowna, Nanaimo and Surrey. Thanks to all those that attended and to our valued presenters.

TechGREEN Banner Helps Showcase ASTTBC Program

ASTTBC created a new roll-up banner to help promote TechGREEN. "The banner will help us present ASTTBC and our messaging about sustainability," said ASTTBC's TechGREEN Chair, Kerri Trace, ASCT.

"It will be used at career and trade shows, ASTTBC AGM and similar events." ASTTBC launched the TechGREEN program at the 2010 Technology Awards & Recognition Celebration (TARC).

TechGREEN Campaign Promotes Tech Careers: President Doug Carter, CTech Profiled

With the launch of its TechGREEN program and awards at the ASTTBC Technology Awards & Recognition Celebration (TARC) on November 6, ASTTBC set in motion a program that will see the Association ramp up initiatives to promote sustainability. "The TechGREEN initiative will showcase ASTTBC members, promote GREEN technology education and careers, and engage youth in GREEN activities," said ASTTBC Executive Director, John Leech. "The TechGREEN awards presented at TARC represent some of the best of the best and clearly point to the work of ASTTBC members and others on the engineering and affiliated teams in which ASTTBC members work." ASTTBC has launched a website <http://www.techgreen.ca> to help promote the program. Keep an eye on the site for new developments.

Advertising GREEN will be part of the ASTTBC's action plan, including an advertisement which features ASTTBC President Doug Carter, CTech.

ASTTBC Proposes 10 Years as Ultimate Limitation Period for Limitation Act Reform

ASTTBC sent in a submission in response to the *White Paper on Limitation Act Reform: Finding the Balance*. ASTTBC's response to the proposed changes to the Limitation Act focused on the Ultimate Limitation Period (ULP) as it applies to professional services.

In its brief ASTTBC agreed with the recommendation in the White Paper that the Ultimate Limitation Period be reduced from 30 years, with ASTTBC suggesting 10 years, a recommendation which is consistent with that of APEGBC and the Consulting Engineers of BC. On March 16, 2009, ASTTBC issued a 'Statement on the Ultimate Limitation Period' which also recommended 10 years. ASTTBC stated in 2009, "The BC Attorney General offered an opinion in 1998 recommending that the ULP be reduced to 10 years. A review of literature, including the ULP in other provinces, court

decisions and the recommendations of other professional associations, has lead ASTTBC to take the position that the current 30 year ULP does not strike a fair balance between the interests of a plaintiff to bring forward a claim and the defendant's ability to defend itself. The literature cites many reasons and examples leading to the conclusion."

"The Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) between BC and Alberta calls for an integrated regulatory framework and economy between the two provinces. With the ULP at 10 years in Alberta (1999), the BC Government is encouraged to establish the same ULP in British Columbia, aligning with the intent of TILMA."

John Les MLA Meets ASTTBC's John Leech

MLA for Chilliwack, John Les, met over breakfast recently with ASTTBC's Executive Director. The two talked about several matters of interest to ASTTBC including a few of the technical specialist programs, including house inspection, onsite wastewater and fire protection. *"John Les has always been available to meet with ASTTBC reps and 'talk technology',"* said ASTTBC's John Leech. In addition to talking about the need for a few enhancements to current regulations dealing with house inspection (legislation first considered by John Les and then shepherded through the Legislature by John van Dongen, then Minister of Public Safety), Leech also spoke about the need for changes to the ASTT Act to address practice rights issues and enhance management of ASTTBC's role as a professional regulatory body. John continued, *"I informed MLA Les about ASTTBC Council's plans to implement Professional Technologist in 2011 and some forward movement with APEGBC in this matter."*

Stockwell Day Speaks with Jim Blake, ASTTBC Public Representative

The Honourable Stockwell Day, Minister for the Asia Pacific Gateway and President of the Treasury Board, spoke recently in Ottawa with Jim Blake, CA, a Public Representative (PR) on the ASTTBC Council. Stockwell is Member of Parliament for Okanagan - Coquihalla and Jim is one of two PRs on ASTTBC Council, the second is John Murphy. Jim was meeting Stockwell on other business and took this opportunity to chat about the work of the Public Representatives and the issues of concern to ASTTBC. Jim handed Stockwell a copy of the PRs Report for 2009. *"Stockwell was most interested in hearing about my role as a Public Representative and to some of the key matters John Murphy and I included in our annual reports,"* said Jim Blake. Jim continued, saying, *"The Minister expressed interest in staying connected with ASTTBC in its role of professional registration and its work to ensure the availability of technology professionals well into the future."* The Minister recalled other meetings with ASTTBC folk, including a meeting with the Technology Education and Careers Council.

Robots and Kids: ASTTBC Sponsors at Okanagan College

Check this out, on CASTANET News and the Kelowna Courier. Okanagan College annually sponsors ROBOCUP - a fun event which brings youth together to learn about science and technology, oh, yes, and play with robots. ASTTBC is the lead sponsor. Bruce Stevens, ASCT, Regional Manager, Okanagan, <http://www.techprofile.ca/techprofile.php?PKte8> said, "It was a delightful experience for all involved, with many kids clearly making the connection with technology education and a career as a technologist or technician."

Year of Science in BC

The Government of British Columbia has declared the 2010/11 school year, the *"Year of Science."* The purpose of the Year of Science is to ignite interest in science, generate partnerships across the province and lay a foundation to encourage interest and involvement in science and technology across British Columbia. The three primary objectives of the Year of Science are to:

- increase awareness and interest in the importance of science among British Columbians;

- increase the number of new entrants to the British Columbia labour force with science and technology related skills and knowledge; and,
- understand the issues facing British Columbia in building science capacity and develop an action plan to address these issues

Contest:

To help get British Columbia's youth, more interested in science, The Year of Science is running the contest "*Choose Science. Go Far. Win Big*". The Year of Science is inviting kids to use their imagination, creativity and scientific know-how, and submit great ideas for experiments that can prove or disprove some of the world's greatest myths and mysteries.

Every month an entrant will win a science-related prize package valued at approximately \$250 and, at the finale of the Year of Science in June 2011, a \$25,000 scholarship will be awarded to one of the monthly winners. Please visit the Year of Science [YouTube page](#) to enter now!

Camosun Co-op Career Fair Looking for Employer Participants

Camosun College's Co-operative Education & Student Employment, in partnership with the School of Trades & Technology, invites you to be part of an upcoming on campus recruitment and career event sponsored by VIATeC. Camosun is hosting a one-day fair where students from our trades & technology programs and employers can network and discuss recruiting opportunities. For more information and details on registration, visit our [career fair website](#). ASTTBC will be participating and looks forward to a great day of networking.

Students at Okanagan College work on "Real-World Product" (thanks to OC newsletter)

Mechanical Engineering Technology students from Okanagan College enjoyed a great opportunity recently when their professor Iain Cameron was approached by Paul Auger, President of SNO-LIMO Mountain Eco-Touring. [SNO-LIMOs](#) are chauffeured sliding chairs that carry non-skiers over a ski hill. They were at work at Whistler for the Olympics and on Big White for five years. Auger saw the need to make engineering improvements that were beyond his capability and his company's means so the Mechanical Engineering Technology students set to work, "*problem-solving, brainstorming, refining, improving, prototyping and testing*". They developed improvements to the braking system, to sled articulation and rider comfort. They developed a pneumatic system that allows standard ski lifts to transport the chairs up the hill. Says Professor Cameron, "*it is an example of how a College is part of applied innovation in this country. It's great to teach students that they have a role to play now and later, as technologists, in innovation.*"

BIG Little Science Centre

The BIG Little Science Centre in Kamloops continues to be open to delight young and old with Science learning and fun. Hours for 2011 continue to be Thursday and Friday 3 - 5 pm and Saturdays from 10 am to 4 pm with a special show/activity at 1:30.

Here's the line up of Saturday activities for February:

- February 5 - Mirrors, Mazes and Light
- February 12 - Astronomy and Constellations
- February 19 - How do Animals Keep Warm?
- February 26 - Rocks and Minerals.

Birthday party? Special event? Call to book. Visit the blscs.org website or call 250-554-2572.

Human Resources Website

The Asia Pacific Gateway Skills Table has launched a website HRwire.ca with free HR tools for small and medium employers in the construction, transportation and security sectors.

Government Regulation Updates

Land Remediation

See [Site Risk Classification Update](#) for progress report on Protocol 12, "Site Risk Classification, Reclassification and Reporting"

See [Version 1.1 of Procedure 8](#), "Definitions and Acronyms for Contaminated Sites"

Congratulations to:

ASTTBC President [Doug Carter](#), CTech, Assistant Director, Physical Plant, Sustainability and Capital Projects at University of Northern British Columbia

In recognition of the focus on the University's Bioenergy program and the increasing importance of expertise in the physical plant and associated infrastructure, Doug Carter's duties have increased substantially. As a result, a title change was also appropriate and is now Assistant Director, Physical Plant, Sustainability and Capital Projects.

Thanks from:

Brain A. Canfield, Honourary Member

Thank you for once again providing me with the annual membership card to ASTTBC. It is a special privilege to be recognized, as I have, for my involvement in Technology in BC.

TechEVENTS

[Environmental Careers Organization](#) Canada's Environmental Professional Event - project management workshop, luncheon, Contaminated Sites: Managing Risks
January 27, Vancouver

[Earthworks Design, Construction & Inspection](#)
January 31-February 1, Vancouver

[Municipal Design Workshop](#)
February 2-4, Vancouver

[Free Workshop for Building Welcoming and Inclusive Workplaces](#) - Orientation, Retention and Promotion of New Immigrant Employees
February 3, Surrey

[Building a Healthy Future](#); Aboriginal Employment & Career Fair
February 4, Chilliwack

[Cross-Laminated Timber \(CLT\) Symposium](#)
February 8-9, Vancouver

[FCM Sustainable Communities Conference & Trade Show](#)
February 8-10, Victoria

[BCIC-Entrepreneurship & Technology Commercialization Workshop](#)
February 11, 18 & 25

[BCIC ProductCamp](#)
Vancouver, February 12, Vancouver

[Contaminated Sites Workshop](#)
February 16-18, Vancouver

[Global Positioning Systems \(GPS\)](#) Global Innovative Campus
February 21-22, Vancouver

[Zero Flow: A Workshop on Intermittent Streams](#)
February 23-25, Drumheller, AB

Wood is Good, ABCFP conference
February 23-25, Vancouver
FORREX Webinar - Getting Ahead of Climate Change - Guiding the Adaptation of Forest-based Communities in Canada
11 am February 24
FORREX Webinar - Carbon Management in British Columbia's Forests
11 am March 3
Canadian Home Builders Association Georgie Awards
March 5, Vancouver
Consulting Engineers of BC Awards Gala
March 5, Vancouver
7th Annual BC Wood Design Award,
March 14, Vancouver
Geotechnical Design Workshop
March 14-16, Vancouver
Free Workshop for Building Welcoming and Inclusive Workplaces - Orientation, Retention and Promotion of New Immigrant Employees
March 29, Surrey
Piping System Fundamentals - Design, Operation and Maintenance
March 31-April 1, Vancouver
Bulk Electrical System Technology 1
April 5-7, Winnipeg
WaterTech2011
April 13-15, Banff
Sanitary Sewer & Stormwater Drainage Systems Design Workshop
April 14-15, Vancouver
Engineering Asset Maintenance Management
April 28-29, Vancouver
Canadian Home Builder's Home Show 2011
Apr 29-May 1, Prince George
3rd International Multidisciplinary Conference on Hydrology & Ecology
May 2-5, Vienna, Austria
2nd International Marine Conservation Congress - Making Marine Science Matter
May 14-18, Victoria, BC.
5th Canadian Conference on Geotechnique & Natural Hazards
May 15-17, Kelowna
Electricity Sector Council 2011 Bright Futures in Canada Conference
May 24-26, Toronto
34th Canadian Medical & Biological Engineering Conference
June 5-8, Toronto
Eastern Snow Conference
June 14-16, Montreal
Bulk Electrical System Technology 1
June 14-16, Winnipeg
Earth on the Edge: Science for a Sustainable Planet
June 28 - July 7, Melbourne, Australia
World Future 2011
July 8-10, Vancouver
Canadian Quaternary Association and International Association of Hydrogeologists
Aug 28-31, Quebec City
BC Water Symposium: Creating a Water Science Strategy
Aug 30-Sept 1, Victoria, Kelowna, Prince George
Fourth Interagency Conference on Research in Watersheds: Observing, Studying and Managing for Change
September 26-30, 2011, Fairbanks, Alaska

Note: More information on [events](#) and [seminars](#) is available on the ASTTBC web site.

Courses of Potential Interest to Members

Principles of Hydrology Short Course

[More Information](#)

February 28 - March 11, 2011. Kananaskis Valley, AB

The Centre for Advanced Wood Processing and the Wood Manufacturing Council has developed a set of [8 on-line management skills training courses](#). Each course is designed to be completed entirely online over a 6 week period.

UBC Award of Achievement in Sustainability Management - The Winter 2011 term for the UBC Award of Achievement in Sustainability Management is now [open for registration](#) featuring new courses in tourism, LEED and sustainable food systems. Courses may be taken individually or as part of the program.

Part-time Studies at BCIT - Registration for Winter Term is now Open

BCIT provides [continuing education](#) through a variety of Part-time Studies courses and programs in many sectors including: Business, Computing, Engineering, Applied and Natural Sciences, Health Sciences, Trades, and Academic Studies. Learn from industry experts. Earn BCIT credentials, including certificates, diplomas or degrees. Choose from a variety of delivery options and locations - evenings, weekends or online.

Editor's note: Occasionally we are sent information on courses/ professional development that could potentially be of interest to members. However, there are undoubtedly many others and far too many to include here. A partial list of possible sources for courses/ professional development follows:

[AIBC](#)

[APEGBC](#)

[Associated Environmental Site Assessors of Canada Inc.](#) offers environmental training courses across Canada

[British Columbia Water and Waste Association](#) offers BCWWA Operator Education

[Columbia Mountains Institute of Applied Ecology](#)

[FORREX](#)

[Selkirk Management Services](#)

[Seminars for Small businesses](#) involved in international trading

Also check out the [Continuing Studies at BCIT](#) and all of the universities and colleges in British Columbia.