



## ASTT e-News, June 2008

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.

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### Member Savings

***Discount Playland Tickets Now Available.*** ASTTBC members can purchase discounted tickets to Playland and other special events held at the PNE such as The Fair at the PNE, Fright Nights, and High School Musical The Ice Tour. Playland single day and season PlayPasses are available now at UP TO 36% OFF the regular prices depending on the product selected. To access these savings and to purchase tickets for the event of your choice, visit the Group Sales Online Ticket Program Events Webpage [www.pne.ca/groupsales](http://www.pne.ca/groupsales) (Enter promotion code 07ASTTBC)

***Arts Club Theatre Company Corporate Discount Program.*** ASTTBC members can now purchase tickets to live theatre performances of the Arts Club Theatre Company at 20% OFF regular ticket prices for the final two productions of the 2007/2008 season. Currently on stage are two production. 'The Producers' is a new Mel Brooks musical at the Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage in Vancouver from May 15 - July 13 2008 (Corporate Discount Code: BLOOM). 'The Back Kitchen Release Party' is playing at the Granville Island Stage in Vancouver from June 19 - August 9 2008 (Corporate Discount Code: KATE). Book tickets by calling the box office at 604-687-1644 or in person by mentioning corporate affiliation with ASTTBC. Book online at [www.artsclub.com](http://www.artsclub.com) and enter the appropriate corporate discount code shown above.

### ASTTBC Annual General Meeting 2008

The Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC has a new Council elected at the Annual General Meeting on May 23, 2008. Darrin Heisler, ASCT, the owner of West Coast Image and Analysis, continues for a second year as President and Doug Carter, CTech, of the University of

Northern BC, continues as Vice President. Bill MacPherson, ASCT, of Broadway Refrigeration, is Secretary Treasurer and Keith Switzer, ASCT, employed with BC Hydro, rounds out the slate of officers as Past President.

The Council also includes Dave Boswell, ASCT, RBD; Nancy Fowler, ASCT; Prakash Joshi, ASCT, EngL; John McNeill, CTech, CHR; John Meldrum, ASCT, RSD; Dave Rutherford, ASCT, BCLS, CLS; Janet Scott, ASCT; Keith Trulson, ASCT, EngL; Graham Wickham, ASCT; and two public representatives... Jim Blake, MBA, CA and John Murphy.

The 2008 AGM was the kick off to ASTTBC's 50th Anniversary celebrations. The day included an awards luncheon with Service Awards for Bruce Stevens, ASCT, and Ken Lee, ASCT and a Certificate of Appreciation to Tom Roemer, Dean, School of Trades & Technology, Camosun College. Rich Margetson, ASCT, CPWI3 received a Professional Achievement Award and 25-year members were recognized. Workshops were offered on HR Perspective on Recruitment & Retention in Technical Professions, Cultural Diversity in the Workplace, Greening the Code, and Risk Management. The day wrapped up with a high energy presentation 'Celebrating ASTTBC Excellence!' with guest speaker Stuart Ellis Myers.

The AGM was also an opportunity for networking. *"Hans Penner and I worked together from 1973 to 1975," says Jim Shaak, ASCT. "Fast forward to this year's AGM, which is the first one I have attended in the 25 years I have been a member. I sat down at the meeting and who is sitting next to me but Hans, whom I have not seen in 32 years or so. It was great to see him and renew our friendship."*

Dr. Moura Qualye, Deputy Minister for Advanced Education, sent the following greetings: *"I would like to congratulate ASTTBC for its ongoing work in promoting careers in technology and initiating links among the education, business and industry sectors. Fifty years later and it is clear ASTTBC is still going strong. But the challenge is not over. Working together governments, businesses and post-secondary institutions, can create an environment that supports our province and ultimately benefits every British Columbian."*

## **Technology Education & Careers Council Launched**

Approximately 100 representatives from industry, education and associations attended the launch of the Technology Education and Careers Council on June 3 2008 at Science World. Minister of Advanced Education, Hon Murray Coell was the guest speaker and Josh Blair, the Executive Vice President of Human Resources at TELUS, provided comments for industry.

TECC was organized as one of ASTTBC's responses to the 'Building Careers in Technology' conference of May 2005 and subsequent roundtables where ASTTBC was challenged to take a lead role in enhancing awareness of tech ed and careers. *"Key issues that were identified are that technology careers are 'invisible'; there are declining enrollments in technology programs; industry does not have a voice as pertains to technology education, and participation in math, science and technology by students in K-12 is waning,"* says John Leech, ASCT, CAE, one of the main proponents for establishing TECC. *"The Technology Education and Careers Council is an initiative to guide and advocate on behalf of these much needed careers"* he says.

Working together to get the word out can pay off. At Camosun College, for example, demand for Engineering Technology programs remains strong according to Tom Roemer, Dean of Trades and Technology. *"It seems that the relentless efforts of faculty and staff to promote their respective areas at high schools, career fairs and open houses, are paying off",* he says.

## **Career Videos Added To ASTTBC Web Site**

Now students can go to the ASTTBC web site and see a number of stories told by members of how they became involved in great, rewarding careers in technology. Students will also hear a tip or two about how they might find success in their careers. The new careers video feature is in the Technology Careers section of the ASTTBC web site.

*"I think that it would be a great idea to put the video out to every school",* says Grahame Rainey,

President of the BC Science Teachers' Association. *"We can also add a link to the videos on your website from our website and also promote the site in our journal."*

If you know young people who are exploring career options, please encourage them to visit [www.asttbc.com/careers/career\\_videos.php](http://www.asttbc.com/careers/career_videos.php)

## **Premier Campbell Offers Kudo's On ASTTBC's Roundtable**

The report on the Fall 2007 Roundtable on Technology Skills Shortages attracted the interest of Premier Campbell. The Premier wrote to ASTTBC's Executive Director & Registrar, John Leech, ASCT, CAE, *"I commend you for the work you are doing to raise the profile of technology careers. It is indeed important and significant for many reasons and through leadership like yours we will be able to overcome the challenges."*

Since this major roundtable, ASTTBC and the College of New Caledonia jointly hosted another one in Prince George and ASTTBC is planning roundtables for Kamloops, Kelowna, Nanaimo, Campbell River and Victoria. Other centres being considered include Fort St John, Nelson and Prince Rupert. [www.asttbc.com/docs/ASTTBC.RTSS.07.pdf](http://www.asttbc.com/docs/ASTTBC.RTSS.07.pdf)

## **Pitt Meadows Adopts Fire Inspection Bylaw**

On May 6 2008 the Pitt Meadow's Council passed a bylaw that regulates the inspection and testing of fire protection systems. *"In talking to Assistant Fire Chief Brad Perry, the Pitt Meadows Fire Department is planning to enact their new bylaw in the next few months,"* says Brian Stegavig, Manager of ASTTBC's Fire Protection Registration program. *"They would like to give the service companies and building owner's notification of the new bylaw before it goes into affect."*

The new bylaw is called Fire Protection Equipment Inspection and Testing Bylaw No. 2366, 2008. This will be the 12th local government to enact a bylaw regulating the inspection and testing of fire protection equipment. The municipalities that have bylaws in place are: Abbotsford, City of North Vancouver, Chilliwack, Courtenay, District of North Vancouver, Pitt Meadows, Richmond, Sechelt, Squamish, Surrey, Vancouver and Whistler.

## **House Inspector Licensing Update**

ASTTBC continues to work with the BC Government, the BC Institute of Property Inspectors and other stakeholders toward a new licensing scheme for BC. An update on key developments includes:

- ASTTBC planned an 'all party meeting' for the end of May. Representatives from the Ministry of Public Safety as well as the Business Practices and Consumer protection Authority were invited. This represented a great opportunity to engage first hand with the stakeholders, including those who will make recommendations to government as to the future direction of licensing in BC.
- Dialogue with government continues. Regular contact is being maintained between government staff and ASTTBC, ensuring full connectivity as this initiative unfolds.
- While ASTTBC has not as yet written to the new Minister of Public Safety, we enjoy a great working relationship with Minister van Dongen and expect we will be able to secure a meeting in the near future.
- ASTTBC has had exchanges with various groups re licensing including: BC Safety Authority; APEGBC, Canadian Home Builders Association, and the Building Officials Association of BC.

## **ASTTBC Sponsors Innovation In Kootenays**

ASTTBC provided \$1,000 in sponsorship for the 'Spirit of Innovation Conference & Awards Gala' organized by the Kootenay Association for Science & Technology in May 2008. The annual event celebrates the efforts of companies, organizations and individuals from the West Kootenay-Boundary region who, with creativity, effort and persistence, demonstrate excellence in a technology related innovation. [www.kast.com](http://www.kast.com)

## **Last Chance To Participate In National Survey**

More than 400 responses have been received from British Columbia for the National Survey of Engineers and Engineering Technologists and Technicians status report. "The willingness of ASTTBC members to cooperate with this study is very encouraging," says Christine Newton. "The survey is still underway and we're still looking for more responses so that the results for BC will be strengthened." If you haven't participated yet, please link to the survey at [www.asttbc.com/services/publications/nstt08.php](http://www.asttbc.com/services/publications/nstt08.php)

## **University Status For Kwantlen**

Kwantlen University College will become Kwantlen Polytechnic University. 'Polytechnic', derived from Greek and meaning 'many arts', describes a comprehensive program mix that encompasses theory and practice, and a research and scholarship agenda that engages students and faculty in innovation and the useful application of knowledge.

*"As a polytechnic university, Kwantlen will be better positioned to serve the fast growing segment of the population with higher education needs that are increasingly career-focused. We can enhance programs that contribute to the knowledge and skills needed by our growing, increasingly diverse region,"* said Kwantlen president Skip Triplett. *"At Kwantlen, students get access to integrated citation, certificate, diploma and degree programs designed specifically for their and their province's success."*

'Campus 2020: Thinking Ahead', a report about the future of BC's post-secondary education system, and to which ASTTBC had made a submission, had recommended that Kwantlen be made a university.

## **Douglas College Developing Building Energy Management Program**

Building Environmental Systems training for building operators, energy managers and facilities managers is now being offered by Douglas College. Courses cover: overview of building systems, heating, air conditioning, air handling systems, electrical systems, controls systems and water treatment. All courses are available for self-paced and distance learning.

Douglas College is targeting September 2009 as the start date for a full-time two-year diploma in Building Energy Management. *"We are looking forward to graduating candidates for the ASTTBC designation,"* says Program Coordinator Brian Miltimore, ASCT, RPA, CEM, LEED Accredited Professional.

*"I've gone through the course outlines, and I commend Douglas College for their coverage and thoroughness,"* says Geoff Sale, ASCT, a past president of ASTTBC who has been very involved in course accreditations over the years.

[www.douglas.bc.ca/programs/bes.html](http://www.douglas.bc.ca/programs/bes.html)

## **TechPRO – Ian Bahlmann, ASCT, RET, PMP**

Ian Bahlmann, ASCT, RET, PMP, is Manager, Pipeline Business Services for Colt Engineering Corporation, a division of WorleyParsons Canada. An ASTTBC member for the past 13 years, this year he also received his 30-year pin as a member of The Association of Science and Engineering Technology Professionals of Alberta. Ian graduated in Mechanical Engineering Technology from the Natal College for Advanced Technical Education in South Africa before beginning his career in aeronautical technology at the Atlas Aircraft Corporation. In 1973 he immigrated to Canada. He began his Canadian career working as mechanical technologist for Armstrong Cork Industries in Ontario and later joined Texaco Canada in Calgary. In 1986, he returned to South Africa for a brief period where he was a senior project engineer and project manager for Sasol Technologies. Since returning to Canada in 1993, he has been in the engineering and project management consulting business, serving clients in the petrochemical industry across Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. He lives in Calgary and keeps a home on Vancouver Island where he can enjoy the great

outdoors of 'Beautiful BC'.

## TechTIPS

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*'TechTIPS' passes along a variety of information that members may find helpful in their daily lives.*

**Closing In On A New Job?** If you are over 40 and looking for a new job, the interview process has changed. For a start, you're likely going to be interviewed by someone much younger than yourself, and you'll be facing all sorts of stereotypes about older individuals and their abilities in today's workplace. Check out interview strategies and tips for the KAA-Boomer applicant to help you persuade interviewers that your age is an asset and that you are the perfect candidate. [www.kaa-boom.com/node/22](http://www.kaa-boom.com/node/22)

## TechGREEN News

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*ASTTBC's mission is to serve the public by regulating and supporting technology professionals' commitment to a safe, healthy and sustainable society and environment. The TechGREEN column in ASTT e-News provides sustainability related information.*

### **Greener Building Code Will Reduce Energy And Water Use**

New standards for the energy and water efficiency of buildings have been announced to lower energy and water use and decrease greenhouse gas emissions. *"Sustainable building practices are enhanced by a greener regulatory framework,"* said Derek Doyle, Executive Director and Registrar of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC, which participated in an industry advisory committee on the new green requirements. *"This is very important to the building design and construction community."*

Houses, multi-family residential buildings under five storeys and small commercial and industrial buildings will have new insulation requirements. High-rise residential buildings and larger commercial buildings must meet the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Engineers 90.1(2004) standard. To reduce water use, ultra low-flow toilets and other water saving plumbing fixtures will be mandatory.

The BC Building Code will be updated on a regular basis with green standards to support the Province's climate action goals. The Province is exploring further changes, including grey water recycling, the use of lighting sensors and the reuse of existing buildings. More public consultation will be held as these steps are developed. *"Greening the B.C. Building Code will reduce the environmental footprint of buildings and will lower energy bills for British Columbians,"* said Rich Coleman Minister responsible for Housing.

[www.housing.gov.bc.ca/building](http://www.housing.gov.bc.ca/building) or [http://asttbc.com/docs/Green Bldg Code.pdf](http://asttbc.com/docs/Green_Bldg_Code.pdf)

### **Increased Incentives For Builders To Build Green**

Bill 27, the Local Government (Green Communities) Statutes Amendment Act, was introduced for first reading in the Legislature. Of particular note are the amendments to the Development Cost Charge (DCC) provisions, which include: DCC exemption for small housing units; authority for local governments to waive or reduce DCC's for affordable rental housing; small lot subdivisions that are designed to result in low greenhouse gas emissions; and a development design that will result in low environmental impact.

[www.leg.bc.ca/38th4th/1st\\_read/gov27-1.htm](http://www.leg.bc.ca/38th4th/1st_read/gov27-1.htm)

## TechJOBS

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- Building Code Appeal Board. Interested candidates must have a comprehensive and in-depth knowledge of the BC Building Code, and be tactfully effective in the deliberations to reach consensus based rulings. Please apply prior to July 1, 2008. [www.boabc.org](http://www.boabc.org)
- The BIG Little Science Centre, Kamloops. Assistant Operator to work with the Executive Director and volunteers. Permanent part-time. Successful candidate will have: a passion for science and education; a keen interest in working with children; experience in the physical sciences; strong interpersonal, communication and administrative skills. [www.blscs.org](http://www.blscs.org)

## TechLINKS

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- Civil and Mechanical Engineering Co-op Students Available. Camosun Co-op students are available for a 3 month work term. [camosun.ca/services/coop/jobpost.html](http://camosun.ca/services/coop/jobpost.html)
- MMCD AutoCAD Civil 3D CAD Standard. The Master Municipal Construction Documents Association is creating a MMCD AutoCAD Civil 3D CAD Standard for local governments wishing to adopt a consistent and economical approach towards infrastructure records and graphics. The deliverables of the new MMCD project will include: internal drawing structure; external presentation of engineering and construction details; and post construction GIS submissions. Contact Andrew Walther at 250 336 2957, or sign up for the project vBook at [www.retrieve.com/mmcd](http://www.retrieve.com/mmcd) (Registration Code: mmcdc3d)
- Wood Design Awards Book 2007. Some of the best examples of design and building craft with complete descriptions, drawings and photographs. [www.wooddesignandbuilding.com](http://www.wooddesignandbuilding.com)
- CCTT International Qualification Database. Ninety-one programs from educational institutions of Republic of Ireland, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica and India have been transferred to the International Qualification Database. The total number of programs in the IQDB is now 5082. [www.cctt.ca](http://www.cctt.ca)
- WorldSkills Competition Coming To Calgary. From September 1-6 2009, Calgary will host more than 850 competitors from 48 countries at the WorldSkills Competition. WorldSkills is an association that promotes excellence in skilled trades and technologies training. It provides a means of exchange and comparison of competency standards in the industrial trades and service sectors of the global economy. [www.worldskills.org](http://www.worldskills.org)
- Tech Transfer E-News. A new monthly newsletter with guidance and practical, how-to strategies for technology transfer professionals. Audio-seminar CDs also available for purchase on various aspects of tech transfer. [www.technologytransfertactics.com](http://www.technologytransfertactics.com)

## TechEVENTS

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- Summer In The Silicon Vineyard BBQ, June 26 2008, Kelowna. Enjoy a delicious BBQ with OSTECC members from across the Okanagan Valley. Sponsored by the Okanagan Science & Technology Council. [www.ostec.ca](http://www.ostec.ca)
- Union Contract Negotiations, July 9-11 2008, Vancouver. Contact Canadian Professional Management Services for details toll free at 1-888-452-6422 or visit [www.cpmsnational.com](http://www.cpmsnational.com)
- Pacific NorthWest Economic Region 18th Annual Summit, July 20 – 24 2008, Vancouver. PNWER is the regional planning and facilitation organization set up in statute by the border states and provinces to deal with trans-boundary policy and planning in the Pacific Northwest. [www.pnwer.org](http://www.pnwer.org)
- Winning Grievances & Arbitrations, August 6-8 2008, Vancouver. Contact Canadian Professional Management Services for details toll free at 1-888-452-6422 or visit [www.cpmsnational.com](http://www.cpmsnational.com)
- International Federation of Consulting Engineers, September 7 – 10 2008, Quebec City. Bringing together the world's consulting industry. [www.fidic2008.org](http://www.fidic2008.org)
- 2008 BC Innovation Council Awards, September 29 2008, Vancouver. Celebrating leaders whose contributions establish BC as a world-class innovation centre. [www.bcinnovationcouncil.com](http://www.bcinnovationcouncil.com)
- Wood WORKS! BC Sustainability Workshop, October 10 2008, Vancouver; October 11, Surrey; October 12, Kelowna. Different ways of measuring the benefits of high performance structures; environmental attributes of engineered wood products; Green Globe Training. [www.wood-works.org](http://www.wood-works.org)
- Fuelling the Economy of the Future, October 24 2008, Penticton. High school graduates entering post-secondary programs in science, engineering or technology is declining. This symposium will heighten awareness of science and engineering education, and build stronger connections within the K-PhD education system and industry. [www.eplvevents.com](http://www.eplvevents.com)
- Canadian Summit on the Mature Workforce, November 5 2008 Calgary. The impact retiring baby boomers are having on organizations throughout the Western World and what to do about it. [www.workplaceinstitute.org](http://www.workplaceinstitute.org)
- WorldSkills Competition September 1- 6 2009, Calgary. More than 850 competitors from 48 countries will compete. The goal is to promote excellence in skilled trades and technologies training. [www.worldskills.org](http://www.worldskills.org)

- World Forestry Congress, October 18 – 25 2009, Buenos Aires. Call for papers under the theme 'Forests in development – a vital balance'. [www.wfc2009.org](http://www.wfc2009.org)

Note: For links to seminars listed on the web sites of other associations, visit [www.asttbc.com/services/cpd/seminars.php](http://www.asttbc.com/services/cpd/seminars.php)