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Dave Hayer, MLA and John Leech Talk Technology in Victoria



MLA Dave Hayer (left) speaks with ASTTBC's John Leech in Dave's Victoria office.

Surrey Tynehead MLA, Dave Hayer, met with ASTTBC's Executive Director, John Leech in Dave's Victoria office. *"Technology education and careers and ASTTBC's work to enhance practice rights of technology professionals were the two priority topics,"* said Leech. "Dave has always been open to talking with ASTTBC and generally supporting most of ASTTBC's initiatives. Dave has said he values ASTTBC as a professional regulating body and for its work in promoting technology education and careers.

On the careers front ASTTBC is stressing a few key areas:

- * A BC plan for technology education
- * Linking education decision-making with labour market demands
- * First Nations
- * Women
- * Technology careers awareness

ASTTBC has significantly enhanced awareness of technology education and careers in recent years. "I believe it is accurate to say that ASTTBC is THE lead organization for the province in promoting

technology education and careers. We are active on a number of fronts," added Leech. In his conversation with Dave Hayer John stressed that there is much more to do and committed ASTTBC to addressing this critical issue on top of its role in regulating technology professionals.

"Dave and I also talked about professional recognition and rights to practice for ASTTBC-registered technology professionals," said Leech. "We have established a strong brand with the many professional titles and designations offered by ASTTBC. ASTTBC titles are valued by members, employers and regulatory bodies." Leech went on to update Dave on the progress made on ASTTBC registrants' practice rights, noting house inspection, onsite wastewater, fire protection and site improvement surveying. "In addition to these technical specialists, AScTs and CTechs have been recognized as Qualified Professionals (QP) in various Regulations pursuant to the Environment Act and by the Oil and Gas Commission." John stressed that there is much work to be done and said he is hopeful there will be forward movement, in particular as ASTTBC and APEGBC work together in joint task groups to address practice rights for the yet-to-be-implemented Professional Technologist.