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## **ASTTBC Hands out Top in Technology Awards in Kelowna**

The Daily Courier in Kelowna picked up on ASTTBC awards presented at a recent member meeting in Kelowna. 75 members attended the breakfast meeting to be a part of the award presentations and to hear Executive Director John Leech talk about latest developments with the Association.

In handing out the awards Leech said, "It is a great part of what I do. Recognizing some of the 10,000 members of ASTTBC helps draw attention to the very significant contribution made by ASTTBC members across the province."

Leech spoke on a number of topics including the joint task Forces with APEGBC looking at the implementation of PTech and modifications to the Limited License to make it a more effective program.

Bruce Stevens, ASCT, ASTTBC's Regional Manager, Okanagan was on hand to update members on his work throughout the region. Bruce talked about ASTTBC's work in the BC Government Year of Science program, highlighting one project where ASTTBC has found over 500 job shadow experiences for high school students in grades 11 and 12 across BC.

See below for copy of Kelowna Daily Courier article.

# Top technologists honoured

**Network planner, lab technician and mechanical designer to receive award**

By **ANDREA HILL**  
The Daily Courier

Three Kelowna technologists are being honoured for their career accomplishments and community service.

The presentations offer an opportunity to showcase the importance of technologists and technicians in British Columbia.

"Technologists fill a gap between the technicians that do the hands-on work and the professional engineers who are strictly theoretical," explained Bruce Stevenson, a network planner for Telus and one of those being recognized. "They're a necessary piece in the engineering pie."

The Top in Technology awards are being presented by the Association for Technology Professionals in British Columbia, the group that regulates technicians and technologists in the province.

John Leech, executive director of the association, is travelling through the Interior this week presenting 15 awards in five communities.

"We are given an opportunity to breathe life into the technologists and technicians and draw attention to the work they do," Leech said. "Hopefully in that way, we can inspire young people and their parents to consider a career in technology."

Encouraging people to pursue a career as a technologist or technician is important, Leech said, because B.C. may face a skills and labour shortage in the coming years as many of its technologists and technicians retire.

Even now, there are a number of job openings for people trained as technologists and technicians.

Henry Murphy, lab technician at Okanagan College and another of the recipients, said he would encourage young people to make themselves aware of the career prospects available.

"There's a plethora of jobs out there waiting for the right people," Murphy said.



*Submitted*

**Clockwise from top: John Leech, the executive director of the Association for Technology Professionals in British Columbia, is presenting three Kelowna residents with awards, including network planner Bruce Stevenson and lab technician Henry Murphy.**

He said his skills as a technician have opened a number of doors for him and provided him with some interesting work experience.

One of his most interesting job opportunities was as a facilitator for an exhibit of dinosaur bones. He travelled across Canada, the United States and to Singapore, Australia and Japan assembling and dismantling the displays.

Other mainstream careers technologists may find them-

selves in could involve working in fields such as architecture, electronics or civil engineering.

Arturo Senadjian, the final Kelowna recipient, is a mechanical designer for Yoneda and Associates, a company that provides consulting services to mechanical engineers.

He said he is thrilled to be receiving recognition for his work and hopes more people may be inspired to enter the workforce as technicians and technologists.