

March, 2011

## **Minister Yamamoto Meets ASTTBC Leadership**

Minister of Advanced Education and Minister Responsible for the *ASTT Act*, Naomi Yamamoto - MLA for North Vancouver ó Lonsdale <http://www.leg.bc.ca/mla/39thParl/yamamotoN.htm> met with ASTTBC representatives in Prince George and Vancouver to talk about ASTTBC's role as a self-governing professional association and the association's work in enhancing technology education and careers.

In a meeting with ASTTBC President, Doug Carter, CTech and Executive Director, John Leech in Prince George, the topic was professional regulation, legislation and practice rights. Doug spoke with the Minister about ASTTBC's challenges and frustrations over the years to achieve full recognition and agreement on rights to practice for ASTTBC-registered technology professionals. Doug spoke about ASTTBC's joint efforts with APEGBC on the Limited License and PTech implementation. The discussions were of a fairly general nature regarding the recent ASTTBC ó APEGBC work as the Task Force reports have not as yet been presented to the two Councils. Doug noted ASTTBC Council's decisions to move ahead and implement PTech particularly in light of Alberta legislation which enacts the PTech. Applications for PTech are now being considered in that province. *"The Minister was very attentive and interested in our efforts over the years to work out a clear understanding of ASTTBC members' practice rights"*, said Doug Carter. *"I informed the Minister of areas where ASTTBC members have been recognized as Qualified Professionals (QP) but that this is a slow and ineffective process by which to fully engage and enable all practitioners. I stressed the need for regulatory changes in BC to fully recognize ASTTBC members."* The Minister expressed appreciation for the opportunity to meet and hear our views on the need for government to adapt the current framework in light of the Alberta legislation for Professional Technologist and the requirements for portability required by TILMA and the New West Partnership Agreement (which includes Saskatchewan).



Minister Yamamoto met with ASTTBC President Doug Carter, CTech (right) and Executive Director, John Leech, ASCT, CAE over breakfast in Prince George.

The conversation changed direction the following day in Vancouver when Vice President Bill MacPherson, AScT, Secretary Treasurer, Dave Rutherford, AScT, BCLS, CLS and Executive Director, John Leech, AScT, CAE spoke with the Minister about ASTTBC's role in licensing Fire Protection Technicians, House Inspectors and Onsite Wastewater Practitioners. The ASTTBC leaders informed the Minister of ASTTBC's work to enhance awareness of technology education and careers and in our work to address a number of public policy imperatives including First Nations in technology careers, BC Women in Technology, and TechGREEN. The Minister engaged in an active dialogue on our common interest in advancing careers in science and technology. Minister Yamamoto expressed her appreciation for ASTTBC's work in these areas.



Minister Yamamoto met in Vancouver with ASTTBC Leaders (left to right): ASTTBC Vice President Bill MacPherson, AScT; Minister Yamamoto; Secretary Treasurer Dave Rutherford, AScT, BCLS, CLS; and Executive Director, John Leech, AScT, CAE