



ASTT e-News, December 2009

Dear Member,

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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ASTTBC Council Nominations

Nominations are requested 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 Sunday, February 28 2010.

Darrin Heisler, ASCT
Chair, Nominating Committee
10767 – 148 Street, Surrey, BC V3R 0S4
Fax: (604) 585-2790

ASTTBC Annual General Meeting - Friday, May 28 2010. Please mark your calendar!

Time For Annual Renewal

Electronic invoices for 2010 annual dues have been sent out. Paper invoices will be mailed by mid-December. Please help ASTTBC keep administrative costs to a minimum by paying your dues promptly. Thank you. Dues can be paid on-line, by mail or by phone.

www.asttbc.org/registration/technologists/dues.php

Martin Mac Gregor, ASCT, CPI, Named Deputy Registrar

Martin Mac Gregor, ASCT, CPI has been appointed Deputy Registrar at ASTTBC effective January 1 2010. He brings to the Association many years of experience in professional regulation as well as in education and industry. *"It is fortunate that Martin is again available to contribute his expertise to ASTTBC's role in regulating the profession,"* said ASTTBC Executive Director John Leech, ASCT, CAE.

In the 1980s Martin taught Electrical Apprentices at the Pacific Vocational Institute (now merged with BCIT) and subsequently worked for the IBEW on a variety of Electrical Worker upgrading initiatives. He then spent a number of years with Canadian Standards Association as an Electrical Inspector. In the late 1990s, ASTTBC appointed him as Director of Professional Standards which later included the position of Registrar. In 2005 APEGBC recruited Martin as an Associate Director in which role he revitalized the Limited Licence (Eng.L) program.

In anticipation of his first day back at ASTTBC Martin said, *"I am very much looking forward to returning to ASTTBC and making tangible contributions to the Association, the membership and Council's initiatives."*

Code of Ethics – Principle 2

Principle 2 of the ASTTBC Code of Ethics is 'Undertake and accept responsibility for professional assignments only when qualified by training and experience.' This means that members shall not take credit for plans, specifications or reports unless actually prepared by them or prepared under their direct supervision and only when they are satisfied that the component, for which he or she is professionally responsible, is complete and correct.

Members shall offer services, advise or undertake professional assignments only in areas of their competence by virtue of training and experience. This includes exercising care and communicating clearly and accepting or interpreting assignments and in setting expected outcomes. It also includes the responsibility to obtain the services of a specialist or an expert if required or, if the technique is uncertain, to proceed only with fullest disclosure of the experimental nature of the activity to all parties involved. Hence this requirement is more than simply a duty to a standard of care; it also involves honesty with one's client or employer and one's self.

In this age of rapidly expanding technologies and new concepts and theories, members cannot be expected to be conversant with every new development of knowledge. Thus, members have increased personal responsibility to employ the services of others who have expertise to supplement their own capabilities. This responsibility is most important when adopting new processes like computer software to ensure the programs are site-specific to the member's project. This is also why ASTTBC requires members to continuously pursue such Professional Development as is relevant to ensure their continued competence in their specific discipline. Throughout their career all members have a personal responsibility to diligently assess their continuing education and training needs, to ensure both currency and competence in their work.

Highlights From The First 50 Years

Premier Gordon Campbell sent greetings to more than 200 guests at the ASTTBC Awards & Recognition Celebration in November. In his greetings he stated *"British Columbia certainly has some exceptional people and tonight we recognize some of our best. I commend this year's recipients for all they have done to bring out the best in themselves and the ASTTBC."*

The success that the Premier alluded to is built on five decades of growth, activities and achievements by the Association and its members. Fifty years ago a few technologists got together

and decided to form their own society. Thirty five years ago, membership had grown to 500 and the society hired its first staff person. Today ASTTBC has 9,500 members and, between full-time staff and those who help out on contract-based projects, about 25 people working on behalf of the members. Other highlights include:

- 1985 - became a self-governing professional association under the ASTT Act
- 1990 - established the Foundation for Education & Advancement in Technology. FEAT has given out well over a half million dollars in student bursaries and support for science and technology events
- 2005 – paid off the mortgage on the ASTTBC office building
- 2007 – issued member certificate #25,000
- 2009 - Member Compensation Survey indicated 63% of respondents have their dues paid by their employer.

The upcoming year will have its own special significance. The following motion was passed recently by Council:

That ASTTBC celebrate the 25 year anniversary of the proclamation of the ASTT Act, said celebration to commence at the 2009 Awards & Recognition Celebration and conclude at the 2010 Awards Celebration.

Minister of Forests Pat Bell Meets with John Leech

Minister Pat Bell (Prince George – Mackenzie) and ASTTBC Executive Director John Leech, ASCT, CAE, met for a lengthy and informal chat in Vancouver. Also attending was Deputy Minister Dana Hayden. They touched on a number of subjects including ASTTBC's ongoing challenge of securing appropriate recognition for its members within government legislation and regulations. Pat Bell is Minister of Forests and Range and Minister Responsible for the Integrated Land Management Bureau.

"The Minister knows about ASTTBC and our role in regulating technology professionals," said John Leech. "He is also well-informed on ASTTBC's initiatives to promote technology education and careers. He understands the value of technologists, technicians and technical specialists in the economy and renewed his support generally for ASTTBC's work to enhance professional recognition."

Pat Bell has hosted many events in Prince George over the years where ASTTBC has been a sponsor and provided a technology award. One example is the Northern Resource Forum held each year in January where ASTTBC sponsors the Technology Leadership Award.

"Minister Bell is concerned about technology education in the north and is working with the College of New Caledonia to improve programming access throughout northern BC," continued Leech.

Minister of Citizen's Services Meets ASTTBC

The Hon Ben Stewart (Westside – Kelowna) met recently with ASTTBC's Vice President Bill MacPherson, ASCT, and Executive Director John Leech, ASCT, CAE to learn about ASTTBC and its role as a self-regulating professional association. The ASTTBC representatives spoke about the Association's job of serving the public by regulating technologists, technicians and technical specialists. *"It was great to talk with the Minister about ASTTBC's contribution in the province during the past 50 years,"* said Bill MacPherson. *"He was informed on who we are and asked questions about the professionals regulated by ASTTBC."* The Minister was also advised of ASTTBC's efforts to enhance technology education and careers, especially with BC's youth, First Nations and women. As Ben Stewart is the Minister Responsible for Multiculturalism and the Public Affairs Bureau, Bill and John thought it important to also talk about ASTTBC's work to improve assessment of internationally trained professionals.

Save On Whitecaps Soccer Tickets

ASTTBC is pleased to provide the following savings as part of our member services program. Vancouver Whitecaps FC is offering ASTTBC members up to 15% off season tickets for the 2010 season. Season ticket holders get tickets to every regular season, Nutrilite Canadian Championship, and playoff matches... as well as front of the line access to seats for MLS 2011 at the new BC Place! For more information, please contact Whitecaps Senior Account Manager Tom Tompkins at 778.330.1366 or ttompkins@whitecapsfc.com

Member Survey Draw Winners

ASTTBC has conducted a member survey to get feedback on how the Association is doing and to identify the primary areas that members feel the Association should focus on in the future. Respondents were entered in a prize draw. Congratulations to:

- Paul Usher, ASCT - main prize, a silver 8 Gig iPod touch
- Majid Pishvaei, ASCT - early-bird prize, an iPod shuffle

Thanks to all the members who participated in the survey! Results are currently being compiled. Watch ASTT eNews.

Kitimat Technologist Receives 'Today's Woman' Award

The 'Today's Woman' awards gala in Prince George recognizes outstanding women living in Northern British Columbia. Recipients must be a role model for other women and have demonstrated innovation and a commitment to their area of involvement. Awards are given in fourteen categories. ASTTBC sponsors the 'Technology Leadership Award'.

Cindy Harmel, ASCT, of Kitimat received the ASTTBC award for 2009. The 'Technology Leadership' award recognizes a woman who has demonstrated outstanding performance in her career and provided leadership by serving as a role model while promoting careers in technology. Her nomination for the award described her as having a positive attitude, hard working and always looking to help others, especially youth.

Cindy was born in Kitimat and now works at the Northwest Community College as Director of Facilities and Maintenance. Her job involves managing the maintenance for nine campuses spread across northern BC. She graduated from the BCIT Operations Management Technology, then got her 4th Class Power Engineering ticket which opened the way to a job at Kitimat General Hospital. In 1995, she achieved her 3rd Class designation and became Chief Engineer at the hospital.

It was unusual for women to go into power engineering and facilities management, however Cindy does see more women entering the field now. As a role model, she has likely been part of the reason why. "*I encourage women to go into non-traditional careers,*" she says. "*It's worth it.*"

Northern Health Team Wins ASTTBC Award

At the third annual Northern BC 'A Healthier You' conference in Prince George, the Northern Health Diagnostic Imaging Team won the ASTTBC Technology in Health Care award. They received the ASTTBC award for their solution developed collaboratively by Northern Health and Agfa Healthcare that means results from x-rays, ultrasounds, and other scans could be available to family doctors and their patients up to three times faster.

The ASTTBC Technology in Health Care award is awarded to an individual or organization that has developed, introduced or improved a technology product or has improved the interface or service between technology and health care which enhances health and wellness within Northern British Columbia.

When people are getting health tests done, it is vital to know the results as quickly as possible. The new system takes the image a radiologist is interpreting and automatically links it to the patient's electronic record. This results in a more efficient and expedited process with test results that are shared immediately with physicians. The system will eventually be expanded across the entire Northern Health region.

Lorraine Guillet, Acting Chief Technologist at Prince George Regional Hospital and Karen Eldridge, Regional PACS Administrator for Northern Health accepted the award from ASTTBC President Doug Carter, ASCT.

To help bring greater attention to the links between technology and health care, ASTTBC again placed an advertisement in a special supplement of The Citizen newspaper that was distributed in the Prince George area. The ad brought attention to Biomedical Engineering Technologists as well as other ASTTBC members in fields such as mechanical, electrical, power engineering, electronics and fire protection. ASTTBC's marketing over the past three years has helped create public awareness about ASTTBC-registered technology professionals and about technology education and careers in general.

ASTTBC Sponsors MISTIC Awards

ASTTBC was once again a Platinum Sponsor for the MISTIC Awards held in Nanaimo on November 5 2009. MISTIC, short for the Mid-Island Science, Technology and Innovation Council, holds an annual awards celebration to recognize leaders in 'technology'.

Randy Holmquist, owner of Canadian Electric Vehicles Ltd received the ASTTBC 'Leadership in Technology' award. Randy converted his car to electric in the 1990s as a hobby, a starting point from which Holmquist has developed a global business. CEV was established in 1995 with the initial focus to provide designs and parts for converting gas vehicles to non-polluting electric. In 2000, CEV was approached by the Los Angeles airport to design and build a zero-emission aircraft refuelling truck. Since then trucks have been converted to electric and are in service in the US, Dubai, Puerto Rico, Australia and soon in England.

ASTTBC was represented at the event by a number of members including Past President Bob Colclough, ASCT, and Executive Director, John Leech, ASCT, CAE. The Association also sponsored the event programme advertisement.

For more details visit www.mistic.bc.ca

ASTTBC Sponsors RoboCup

ASTTBC was once again a prime sponsor for Okanagan College's RoboCup, now in its fourth year. This year the Western Canada RoboCup Junior was held November 20 at the Kelowna Campus of Okanagan College. Thirty-seven teams from 12 elementary, middle and secondary schools participated. This was a 20% increase over the 2008 games. RoboCup is an educational event that promotes science and technology through hands-on, fun and challenging activities.

"This is a great event and a natural fit for ASTTBC as we work to enhance awareness of technology education and careers," said Executive Director, John Leech, ASCT, CAE.

As a major sponsor, ASTTBC's logo figured prominently in an advertisement promoting RoboCup that appeared in the Kelowna Capital News. The ASTTBC logo also showed up on the Western Canada RoboCup Junior website and on the games banner, T-shirts and posters.

Prince Rupert First Nations Career Fair

In October, ASTTBC participated in a career fair organized by the Prince Rupert Aboriginal Skills Employment Partnership. It was an opportunity for organizations and participants to get connected for potential opportunities with port related jobs. It is anticipated there will be a positive job market in the region, particularly during the next three years.

Richard Pucci, ASCT, Civil Engineering Technologist in the Engineering Department of the City of Prince Rupert, volunteered to represent ASTTBC and set up the Association's display booth.

"We had a ton of traffic through the booth and I feel we were very successful advertising ASTTBC's new First Nations Careers Council," he said after the event. *"Also I really focused on women in the*

technology field as well. Everybody loved the pamphlets, pens and rulers and I really pushed our website for more information. Overall I feel that that our booth in the job fair was a great success and we got invited to one for all of Prince Rupert in March."

The Prince Rupert ASEP Society is in partnership with: Lax Kw'alaams, Metlakatla, Kitkatla, Prince Rupert Port Authority, Maher Terminals, BC Ferry Services, Prince Rupert Grain, Ridley Coal Terminals, Canada Boarder Services Agency, Canadian National Railway, Naikum Wind Development, International Longshore and Warehouse Union, SMIT Marine and BC Hydro. The partnership contribution agreement is funded by Human Resources Skills Development Canada.

John Leech Speaks To BCIT Students On Leadership

ASTTBC's Executive Director John Leech, ASCT, CAE, was asked by the BCIT Student Association to be its first speaker this year at its Peak Leadership program. The initiative, organized by Amanda Spear, Student Services Manager at the BCIT Student Association, provides access to individuals who 'have a few kilometers behind them' and have a little something to impart to those just starting their careers. *"I was honoured to speak at the event. It is a great initiative and hats off to the BCIT Student Association,"* said John. *"I hope I was able to provide some insights."* Amanda sent a note following the event saying, *"Thank you again for your involvement in its success."*

Watch the video at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vSzcaikS0i4>

'Idea Mashups' Could Advance Technology In North

The Chair of Northern Development Initiatives Trust, Bruce Sutherland, came out in support of scholarships for Grade 12 students who would bring together two or more technologies in a competition called 'Idea Mashups'. Bruce is also Chair of the College of New Caledonia and he has been working to re-introduce technology programs at CNC in a way that would ensure their sustainability. Bruce owns Wolftek Industries in Prince George, a fabricator that uses the latest technology to serve the sawmilling, oil and gas and manufacturing sectors. ASTTBC Council Public Representative, Jim Blake, CA, a former Vice President and Acting President at the College of New Caledonia, said in a phone interview from his home in Prince George, *" I am pleased to see the NDI and BC Innovation Council collaborating in a way that engages high school students in technological innovation. This is a great initiative that will surely draw students to science and technology."* Jim went on to reference ASTTBC's efforts in Prince George and northern BC. *" I also applaud ASTTBC's efforts in recent years to promote technology education and careers in the north. It takes a collaborative effort to ensure the fullest possible interest in technology."* ASTTBC has sponsored several events including three awards dedicated to the application of technology in northern BC: 'Innovator of the Year'; Technology Leadership (women in technology); and 'Technology in Health Care'.

First Nations Bursary Presented

Atoine Archie, a student in the Architectural & Engineering Technology program at Thompson Rivers University, received the inaugural ASTTBC / First Nations Careers Council bursary. Atoine picked up his \$1,000 cheque at a breakfast hosted by ASTTBC at the BIG Little Science Centre in Kamloops. It was presented by John Leech, ASCT, Executive Director of ASTTBC and Larry Dyck, ASCT, Transitions Manager, School of Trades and Technology, TRU.

Bursary Welcomed By Career-changing Student

Completing his Electronic Engineering Technology diploma at Okanagan College is going to be a little bit easier for second-year student Aaron Edis. He was the recipient of a \$1,000 Canada Technology Bursary in November. The bursary is sponsored by TD Insurance Meloche Monnex. It was presented by John Leech, ASCT, CAE, of ASTTBC.

While his 91.6 per cent average in the first year suggests that getting through the second year of the two-year diploma program won't be a struggle academically, Edis admits that it can be a struggle financially, even though his wife works full-time to support his studies. *"This will definitely*

help," said the 23-year-old who decided to build on a short career as an electrician by pursuing a credential in Electronic Engineering Technology. "The money will be very useful, but it's also very encouraging to see support from ASTTBC and from companies like TD Monnex Meloche. It's a strong message that people see the value in our education and want to encourage us."

The cheque was presented at a gathering of senior officials of Okanagan College, the Okanagan Science and Technology Council and the City of Kelowna.

Technology Scholarship Winners Announced

Each year the Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists, through the generosity of Manulife Financial, awards two \$1000 scholarships to the son or daughter of an individual member of a constituent member of CCTT. The scholarships assist students with expenses leading to a technician or technologist diploma in a recognized program of study in engineering or applied science technology. For 2009, the CCTT/Manulife Technology Scholarship winners are Ralph Mercado from British Columbia and Cassandra Coutts from Alberta.

'Ignite The Spark' Campaign Update

This year's Awards & Recognition Celebration turned out to be a golden opportunity for ASTTBC's 'Ignite The Spark' campaign. Between the silent auction, a wine raffle, and an anonymous donation at the event, a total of \$10,000 was raised for the FEAT Technology Legacy Fund. This was on top of a \$25,000 contribution announced by ASTTBC Council to the Foundation for Education & Advancement in Technology. FEAT is ASTTBC's charitable foundation and the money goes toward student bursaries and science and technology awareness. The goal of 'Ignite The Spark' is to increase the Technology Legacy Fund to \$500,000 in celebration of ASTTBC's 50th anniversary.

To make an online donation visit <https://secure.asttbc.com/donate/donation-form.php>

Canadian Technology Immigration Network

CCTT's foreign credential recognition initiative has been officially branded as the Canadian Technology Immigration Network. Made possible by federal funding through HRSDC, the goal of this 30-month program is to increase Canada's competitiveness in attracting, integrating and retaining foreign trained technicians and technologists into the labour market. A major focus will be enhancing the capacity of CCTT's provincial constituent members to expedite foreign credential recognition. CCTT is now in the partnership development phase and is holding meetings with constituent members, immigrant employment councils, immigrant serving agencies and related stakeholders across the country. For more information contact Rick Tachuk, CCTT Communications Director, at 613-238-8123.

TechPRO – Julia M. Roberts, ASCT

In the days of mainframe computers and punched cards, Julia Roberts got a university math degree and went to work as a computer programmer in the oil industry. After taking time out to raise her children, she returned to work to find desktop computers had arrived. She landed a position coordinating a continuing education program that taught managers and professionals to manage computer technology. Looking for new challenges after a few years, she enrolled in the Environmental Technology program at Camosun College and, after gaining appropriate experience, she was registered as an ASCT in 2004. Now, as owner of Roberts Environmental Services, she works on environmental site assessments, building energy audits, fisheries studies, and statistical analyses. For 2009/10, Julia is excited to have a contract as Training Coordinator for SolarBC, a program that is building the solar industry and helping to reduce our carbon footprint. Her community service includes setting up a series of environmental networking luncheons for professionals and students in West Kootenay and volunteering as Chair of the Nelson Carshare Co-op.

Visit Julia Roberts, ASCT, TechPROfile at www.techprofile.ca/techprofile.php?4b14250b

Editor's Note: The TechPRO section of ASTTBC's web site provides great career information for aspiring technologists, technicians and technical specialists. 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 visitors to the ASTTBC web site. ASTTBC members... if you have not yet posted your career story, please do it today! To load your information go to www.techprofile.ca

TechEVENTS

New Design of Steel Structures Standard, January 22 2010, Vancouver.

A thorough examination of the newest edition of the CSA Standard S16-09 Design of Steel Structures. www.csce.ca

Roads to Prosperity Transportation Conference, January 27 2010, Richmond.

Socio-economic returns on investment in the transportation sector. Organized by the Consulting Engineers of BC in association with the BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. www.cebc.org

BCIC Innovation Summit, January 7-8 2010, Vancouver.

A networking event connecting science to business in the agriculture, food and ag-bioproducs sectors. Join the kick-off the Commercialization of Agricultural Technology Awards. www.bcic.ca

Georgie Awards 2009 Gala, March 13 2010, Vancouver.

Sponsored by the Canadian Home Builders' Association of BC. (CHBA BC) announces the finalists for its provincial housing awards. www.chbabc.org

GLOBE 2010, March 24-26 2010, Vancouver.

During the past 20 years more than 100,000 people have participated in the Globe conference or exhibition. This year the conference will address issues at the heart of sustainable development: climate change, carbon management, clean energy, corporate social responsibility, finance, and the business of building better cities. Special sub-themes include a spotlight on retail, water and clean technology.

www.globe2010.com

ASTTBC Annual General Meeting, May 28 2010.

Mark your calendar. Details to follow.

Building Envelope Systems and Technologies, June 27 – 30 2010, Vancouver.

ICBEST 2010 provides a worldwide forum for the exchange of information and discussion of recent developments in building envelope engineering. www.icbest.ca

Note: For links to seminars listed on the web sites of other associations, visit

www.asttbc.org/services/cpd/seminars.php
