



ASTT e-News, February 2011

Dear Member,

ASTT e-News is broadcast to ASTTBC members and registrants, Honourary Members and our many partners and colleagues. ASTT e-NEWS contains the latest information about ASTTBC's role as a self-governing professional association of technology professionals and the many services provided by the association. Each issue is posted to the ASTTBC web site.

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Year of Science Job Shadowing & Work Experience Opportunity

Members and employers! we need your support today!

ASTTBC has a grant from the BC Ministry of Sciences and Universities to provide job shadowing and work experience information events for students from high schools across the province as part of the Year of Science initiative.

The Association's members and their employers are key to attracting math-and-science-minded secondary students to a huge array of applied science careers. Members are invited to meet students in their community. Technology-rich employers, both private and public, are invited to welcome grade 11 and 12 students in a 'job shadowing' experience.

"Our participation in Year of Science lets interested students explore their own career futures," explains John Leech, ASCT, CAE, Executive Director. "What are the coming opportunities, training requirements, the day to day work and the pay and benefits of technology and science careers right where they live?"

Black Press, a long-time partner in telling the story of careers in technology, is one employer who is onside. "We're looking at creating an 'intern' opportunity at each paper and it might be for one of a variety of roles: reporter, editor, photographer, graphic artist, production, sales or marketing," says Candy Hodson, Senior Vice President, National Sales & Marketing. Black Press media reach all regions across the province. "We'll cover it as a news story and we'll also create a channel on our news websites for the students to comment on their experience," continues Candy.

Allnorth Consultants of Prince George is another eager participant. "We now have 40 technicians and technologists in this area alone, and will add more through the coming decade," says Glen Wonders, Prince George Division Manager.

Companies and government offices considering hosting day-long 'job shadow' experiences can find information, and list their opportunity, online. ASTTBC members can participate in a 'meet a technician, a scientist, or a technologist' event in their local community. These events will take place across BC until June 30 with a focus on areas centered on Kelowna, Kamloops, Prince George, Prince Rupert, Castlegar/Trail, Nanaimo, Campbell River, Ft St John, Metro Vancouver and Victoria. Members will receive Continuing Professional Development (CPD) credits for the direct mentoring of students (two hours minimum to one half-day of direct mentoring: 1 credit; one full day of direct mentoring: 3 credits).

Participate today! Members and employers are urged to visit www.asttbc.org/careers/yos

Nominate Someone for an ASTTBC Award Today!

Each year ASTTBC showcases the best in BC through our awards program. Do you know an outstanding technology professional (you can even nominate yourself) who should be recognized for his/her contributions to technology, the profession of technology or through volunteering? Our awards selection committee wants to hear about them. It only takes a few minutes to submit an award nomination. Nominations are due by **April 1 2011**.

We have a number of ASTTBC Awards that recognize exceptional leadership and achievement:

- Advanced Technology
- Certificate of Appreciation
- Honorary Membership
- Life Membership
- Peter Allan ASCT Leadership
- Professional Achievement
- R. Littledale Memorial
- Service Award
- Employer Award for the Enhancement of Career Success of Technology Professionals
- Professional Leadership Award for Women in Technology
- Top in Technology
- TechGREEN

Please visit: www.asttbc.org/about/awards/nominations.php

Top in Technology Award Nominations

Deadline April 1 2011! That is the cut-off date for nominations for the 'Top in Technology' awards that will be presented at this year's AGM. Applying is easy with the on-line application process.

Recipients will be members of ASTTBC who have demonstrated qualifications consistent with the high expectations of a BC professional committed to serving the public and acting as a role model to other British Columbians. Attributes typical of a nominee could include: mentor / role model; promotes and uses new technologies; demonstrates leadership " excels in his/her field; entrepreneur; promotes technology careers; volunteer in the community or profession; elected to public office; or a new graduate who shows exceptional promise as a technology professional. Check it out: www.asttbc.com/about/awards/topintech.php

Top In Technology Recipients Garner Media Coverage

Ken Christian, ASCT, Health Protection Director, Interior Health Authority (and Chair of the Kamloops-Thompson School District) was profiled in The Daily News in Kamloops after receiving the 'Top in Technology' award at ASTTBC's. **Paul Butterfield, ASCT**, Traffic Engineering Technologist, District of Saanich, had his 'Top In Technology' award written up in the Saanich News.

May 27th... eMPower Yourself!

The synergy between you as a technology professional, your employer or your client, is paramount to your success... in your career, in your job and in your life.

That is why you should make plans to attend the ASTTBC Annual General Meeting & Professional Development Day on May 27 2011 in Surrey, BC. Our keynote speaker, Dr. Mark DeVolder, 'The Change Specialist', will provide insights to help you learn how to adapt, survive and thrive in a climate of constant change. You will learn vital knowledge and skills to re-energize, re-engage and transform your workplace and life. Don't just survive; eMPower yourself. Find out what you can do!

Details for the event... AGM business session, workshops, awards luncheon, keynote speaker and 'Top in Technology' awards ...will be posted once finalized. In the meantime, mark your calendar:

Friday, May 27th 2011
7:30 am to 4:30 pm
Sheraton Guildford Hotel
Surrey, BC
\$85 pp | \$45 pp for students

We look forward to seeing you there!

Volunteers Needed for ASTTBC AGM

Would you like to help ASTTBC host our 2011 Annual General Meeting on May 27 in Surrey? We are looking for volunteers for the following:

- lead the singing of the national anthem
- photography
- videography

If you wish to offer one of these services please email techinfo@asttbc.org. If you have a DVD, video or portfolio, it would be great if you could send it to us for review. Thanks.

ASTTBC to Participate in National Engineering & Geoscience Month

National Engineering & Geoscience Month in March will promote public awareness of the professions by highlighting engineering projects and professionals throughout the province. ASTTBC has thrown its support behind the initiative.

ASTTBC is publishing a four-page supplement in the Prince George Free Press on March 4. The supplement includes stories on ASTTBC member involvement in northern BC and how ASTTBC collaborates with other organizations to promote engineering technology professionals. Local recipients of ASTTBC's 'Top in Technology' award and the 'TechGREEN' award will be profiled. Other articles will describe careers for women in technology and the need for technology programs at the local level at the College of New Caledonia. ASTTBC also has a full-page corporate ad slated for the supplement. Members will be able to see the supplement on the ASTTBC website or obtain a copy from the ASTTBC office.

APEGBC has arranged for a special three part series in The Vancouver Sun during the first two weeks of March, highlighting National Engineering and Geoscience Month. ASTTBC will run ads promoting our technology professionals for all three issues. The Vancouver Sun reaches more than 460,000 readers.

ASTTBC secured a major 'Year of Science' grant from the government to arrange work experience placements for high school students (see separate article). This dovetails perfectly with the goal of National Engineering & Geoscience Month. Other ASTTBC initiatives for the month include:

- Spaghetti Bridge Contest at Okanagan College, March 4 - major sponsor
- Math Contest, first round in schools March 31, final round in May - sponsor
- CEBC 'Awards for Engineering Excellence', March 5 - platinum sponsor
- CHBABC 'Georgie Awards', March 5 - enhanced bronze sponsor

- ABCLS 106th AGM, March 8-11 - silver sponsor
- Canada Wood Council 'BC Wood Design Awards', March 14 - gold sponsor

APEGBC and ASTTBC Form Joint Task Forces

The Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC and ASTTBC have formed two joint task forces: The Limited Licence Renewal Task Force, and the Professional Technologists (PTech) Task Force.

The Limited Licence Renewal Task Force will advise the Councils of APEGBC and ASTTBC on an improved and more effective Limited Licence system. It is expected to make recommendations to the two Councils during the Spring of 2011.

The Limited Licence and its associated designations of Engineering Licensee (Eng.L.) and Geoscience Licensee (Geo.L.) has been offered by APEGBC since 1995. This designation allows those who hold the designation to practise professional engineering or professional geoscience within a clearly defined scope. It is intended to recognize the fact that certain individuals can be permitted to carry out certain specific functions normally within the definition of professional engineering or professional geoscience. Examples of typical applicants are Applied Science Technologists or other practitioners whose work extends into the field of professional engineering or professional geoscience. The licence is designed for those who do not possess the academic training and experience for full professional registration as a PEng or PGeo, but who are qualified to perform a scope of professional engineering or professional geoscience.

The PTech Task Force held its first meeting on January 13. The group expects by this Spring to advise the ASTTBC and APEGBC Councils on the implementation of the designation PTech in BC.

A PTech is defined in the ASTT Regulations as a certified member of ASTTBC who has a minimum of four years of progressive technical experience in addition to the experience required for certification as an Applied Science Technologist or Certified Technician and has acquired the competencies commensurate with a Professional Technologist as recognized by the Council. ASTTBC intends to implement PTech in 2011. The PTech Task force will take into account the Alberta model where the Professional Technologist designation is regulated under the Engineering and Geoscience Professions Act through a series of Joint Boards of the Association for Science and Engineering Technology Professionals of Alberta (ASET) and the Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta (APEGGA).

Watch ASTT e-News and www.asttbc.org for updates.

Technologist Comments on PTech

A joint APEGBC / ASTTBC information release on the Limited License and PTech task forces prompted this response from Colwyn Sunderland, ASCT, Local Services Engineering Coordinator, Infrastructure Engineering Division, Integrated Water Services Department with the Capital Regional District:

"I have been following the development of the PTech designation in particular with interest, and am encouraged that the two associations will be working together to develop recommendations to your respective Councils. In my experience working alongside engineers and other technologists and technicians in government, manufacturing and consulting, and in leadership of the British Columbia Water and Waste Association, I can see many ways in which a well defined and agreed scope of professional practice for technologists and technicians would add significant value for employers and the public. This can only be achieved if engineers and technologists and our respective associations can agree on reasonable boundaries, supported by legislation and clear guidelines. Let me know if there is anything I can do to support the work of the joint task force."

Consulting Engineers of BC and ASTTBC Meet

The Executives of the Consulting Engineers of BC and ASTTBC met in December to review several topics of interest to both. CEBC is an industry association representing consulting engineering firms. With many ASTTBC members and other technologists and technicians as employees, ASTTBC has a natural interest in linking with CEBC. The topics ranged from ASTTBC's sponsorship

of the CEBC Awards and ASTTBC representation on the CEBC Awards judging panel to CEBC programs like the Young Professional Group. The joint executives took note of submissions by both CEBC and ASTTBC on Government's review of the Limitation Act. ASTTBC updated the CEBC representatives on the steps being taken by ASTTBC and APEGBC to form two task forces dealing with (1) the Limited License; and (2) PTech.

Those attending from ASTTBC were: Doug Carter, CTech, President; Bill MacPherson, ASCT, Vice President; Dave Rutherford, ASCT, BCLA, Secretary Treasurer; Darrin Heisler, ASCT, Past President; John Leech, ASCT, CAE, Executive Director. CEBC representatives were: Jack Lee, PEng, President; Doug Hinton, PEng, Vice President; Mike Currie, PEng, Past President; Steve Fleck, PEng, Executive Member; Glenn Martin, CAE, Executive Director.

www.asttbc.org/docs/cebce news.pdf

ASTTBC Code of Ethics: Principle 5

Principle 5 - Uphold the principle of appropriate and adequate compensation for the performance of their work.

Amplification:

- a. Members should ensure that compensation is fair and appropriate for the services rendered, but are expected to put service above financial gain, quality above quantity and acknowledge a code of honour within a competitive spirit.
- b. Members should not undertake a contract for anything other than a firm price, and be cautious of contracts containing contingency fee clauses.
- c. Members should not submit any proposal to secure an engagement or assignment with a firm price or estimated cost lower than the realistic expected full estimated cost of the proposed engagement.

Commentary:

Member's fees shall be determined by the scope of work and level of service required. Cutting fees to the extent that results in the rendering of an incompetent or dangerous service is unethical.

Contingency fee arrangements may cloud the judgment of the member dependent on the size of the fee, for example, zero in the case of an unsatisfactory conclusion or disproportionately high in other situations.

Offering services at less than cost as a 'loss leader' in order to secure future work is not recommended, particularly where the services might have an effect on the feasibility of future work. Potential clients should be made aware if a 'loss leader' type of service is offered, together with the future work expectation.

Complaints re House Inspection Reports

On a monthly basis, ASTTBC hears from realtors complaining about a perceived lack of cooperation by house and property inspectors in providing the contents of an inspection report to them. In response, we discuss the realtors concerns with them by phone, then email the following regulations taken from the web site of Consumer Protection BC:

"Realtors should not:

- request information about the contents of a home inspection report, as it is against the law for home inspectors to disclose the contents except:
 - a. with permission from the consumer;
 - b. as required by law; or
 - c. if, in the opinion of the licensee, the property poses a serious health or safety risk; and
- make a referral to a home inspector if there is a conflict of interest regarding a home inspection that results in a material gain for the home inspector."

Licensees who violate the regulations are subject to penalties ranging from having conditions imposed on their licensing to paying monetary penalties of up to \$5,000.

This information has also been sent to all Realtors in the province by the Real Estate Council of BC. These regulations not only support the activity of the BCIPi inspector in complying with client privacy but it also strengthens the client-inspector relationship in that the inspector has only one client.

Liability Insurance & Discipline of Registration

ASTTBC's 'Liability Insurance Plan' has one of the lowest premium rates for insurance of its kind in Canada. The current plan, brokered by Willis Canada and carried by ENCON, includes options for both E&O and CGL coverage. A new package has also been developed for members who not only design and inspect, but also provide installation or build services. This new insurance offering is called the Environmental Package Insurance for Contractors and Consultants (EPICC). For more information on EPICC and its advantages for your specific needs, please contact Jason Adolfo at Willis Canada (Tel: 604.605.3671 or Email: Jason.Adolfo@willis.com).

One reason for ENCON providing ASTTBC with such a competitive pricing structure to members for liability insurance is the due diligence conducted by both the broker and ASTTBC to ensure that coverage required by the member for work provided falls under their certified competency. Insurance carriers have found that professionals who provide services outside of their certified competencies have the largest percentage of liability insurance claims made against them. With the due diligence assurances provided by Willis and ASTTBC, the result contributes to a low claims history. This of course also attests to the quality of our certification process generally.

With this background, you may now understand why your discipline of certification becomes important. Council requires that member's access to the ASTTBC Insurance Plan be conditional that the work and services provided match their certification general competencies. As part of Willis's due diligence, they review member requested coverage against the work normal for their Registry identified discipline. When the services provided appear to be outside of work normal to that discipline, Willis will refer the member to ASTTBC for clarification of the member's competence. It is, however, the responsibility of each member to ensure that they are qualified to provide the services they offer. If in doubt, the member should verify their situation with ASTTBC and avoid the risk their claim will be denied.

During an assessment of the member's competence in this situation, the Registrar will review the member's file. If it is clear that the competency needed is covered, the Registrar will simply inform Willis to give the member access to the plan for the coverage requested. When it is not clear, the Registrar may request additional evidence be provided by the member as to their competence, in conjunction with a review by a Board of Examiners' File Reviewer for advice. Should an assessment determine that the member's level of competency is in question (has happened in only a few cases), the member may then be required to submit a reclassification application for a change of discipline or modify their insurance coverage request. This process could take time and if time is of the essence for access to insurance, it should not be left to the last minute.

Liability insurance can form the basis of a balanced risk management plan and members are strongly encouraged to consider appropriate insurance coverage for work and services, whether self-employed or as an employee. This will not only help to protect you from a huge potential financial risk, but your client as well.

Registrar - Key ASTTBC Staff Position Opening

The ASTTBC Registrar, John Shortreid, ASCT, CLS, will retire in 2012. As we expect the next Registrar to be with us for 10 or more years, during 2011 we will work through a selection process that will identify the best fit for both the Association and for the successful candidate. This process includes opportunities for those who might be interested to learn more without necessarily making a commitment in the early stages to submit an application:

- Spring 2011 – information at member meetings in Castlegar, Ft St John, Kamloops, Kelowna, Nanaimo, Prince George, Trail and Victoria plus by webinar
- June – expressions of interest; webinar for those filing an EOI
- August – applications
- September / October – interviews
- December – hire new Registrar.

For updates, watch for broadcast emails from ASTTBC and announcements in ASTT e-News.

TechPRO: Marv Woolley, ASCT, Volunteer Extraordinaire

Applied Science Technologist Marv Woolley of Chilliwack, a 40-year member of his professional association, was honored with the prestigious ASTTBC Peter Allan Leadership Award in November. This award recognized his exceptional leadership in promoting careers in technology and in preparing students for rewarding careers over many years.

"Peter Allan was a mentor for many members of ASTTBC and I had the privilege of being one of them," says Marv. "His example of leadership and volunteerism set a standard that I work hard to meet and may never achieve. I recall serving on Council when Peter was president of our association and he asked me to take over the employment-referral service for members. He was instrumental in introducing me to the file review process for new members; and I am still reviewing files and training others wishing to serve on the Board of Examiners. Thanks to Peter, and to the inspirational leadership of John Leech, I continue to enjoy the rewards of membership in our professional association."

Marv was a student in the first Mechanical Technology class at BCIT in 1964. Over the years since, Marv has been an active member of ASTTBC serving on numerous committees, Provincial Council and the Fraser Valley Chapter executive. He served on the Property Inspector Certification Board during the initial years of formation. He is currently serving as an Academic Evaluator, as a member of the Board of Examiners and the Fire Protection Certification Board. He has served on provincial accreditation teams and recently completed reviews as the provincial reviewer for The Canadian Technology Accreditation Board.

He spent sixteen years in industry in manufacturing, production engineering and project management. Working with a broad range of manufacturing facilities in Greater Vancouver, his projects were local and international and included marine, logging, pulp and paper, military and heavy equipment.

He was hired by BCIT as a Program Consultant for Part-Time Studies and worked with Program Heads and Coordinators from all of the Engineering Technology Programs. Marv held a number of positions in Part-Time Studies actively supporting students and service issues for 24 years, before retiring in December 2006. He became a member and chair of the BCIT Mechanical Advisory Committee when the Mechanical Systems Option was created. He was recognized on the 20th Anniversary of BCIT for contributing to the growth and development of the institute.

Marv Woolley has received a number of ASTTBC awards for service, a Commemorative Award on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of ASTTBC for contributing to the growth and development of the Association, and was granted Life Membership in 1997. Marv was recently recognized for 40 years of Continuous Membership.

Both Marv and his wife Iris have served on the executive of their local community association for 30 years, and have actively supported and participated in leading Scouting and Guides.

How Green is Your Team?

Science World's BC Green Games is an annual contest designed to encourage K-12 students to document and share their environmental action stories on topics such as energy conservation, transportation, schoolyard greening, recycling & composting, and community stewardship. More than \$20,000 in prizes will be awarded! But hurry, deadline for project submissions is March 1 2011! Visit bcgreengames.ca to get inspired by last year's winning entries.

Science World manages BC Green Games with input from government, school district, university, science and environmental education community partners. Presenting Sponsors are BC Hydro and Terasen Gas with additional support from the Province of BC.

Mechanical Engineering Technology Students Available

Employers, an enthusiastic and energetic group of the province's upcoming Mechanical Engineering Technology professionals from Camosun College have ready-to-apply skills in drafting and CAD, fabrication and machine shop, design and related administrative work.

Please consider where a Camosun co-op student can contribute to your business. They are available to work for you from April 4 - June 24 2011.

For information visit: camosun.ca/services/cese/employers.html

Thanks from:

Margaret MacDiarmid, Minister, Ministry of Education

"Thank you for your letter dated August 30, 2010, requesting a meeting with you to discuss the second annual report entitled Professional Regulation: Serving the Public Interest. While my schedule does not allow me the opportunity to meet with your association, I would like to take this opportunity to applaud the interesting work that you and your representatives do in delivering value-added programs and services to the public and private sector."

Moira Berg, ASCT

"Thanks so much for the call about the iPod touch (editors note: prize in the BCWIT TechPRO Challenge). I was having quite the dayâ€¦car broken into and presents stolen, burnt cookies, the usualâ€¦ and then I got your message. I burst out laughing and was reminded that the universe seems to balance itself out...but not usually within the hour."

TechEVENTS

For details &/or registration, please do an internet search for the following events:

- Canadian Home Builders Association Georgie Awards, March 5, Vancouver
- Consulting Engineers of BC Awards Gala, March 5, Vancouver
- 7th Annual BC Wood Design Award, March 14, Vancouver
- Geotechnical Design Workshop, March 14-16, Vancouver
- Building Welcoming and Inclusive Workplaces - Orientation, Retention and Promotion of New Immigrant Employees, March 29, Surrey
- Piping System Fundamentals - Design, Operation and Maintenance, March 31-April 1, Vancouver
- Bulk Electrical System Technology 1, April 5-7 & June 14-16, Winnipeg
- WaterTech 2011, April 13-15, Banff
- National Aboriginal Business Opportunities Conference, April 12 - 14, Prince Rupert
- Sanitary Sewer & Stormwater Drainage Systems Design Workshop, April 14-15, Vancouver
- Engineering Asset Maintenance Management, April 28-29, Vancouver
- Canadian Home Builder's Home Show 2011, Apr 29-May 1, Prince George
- 3rd International Multidisciplinary Conference on Hydrology & Ecology, May 2-5, Austria
- 2nd International Marine Conservation Congress - Making Marine Science Matter, May 14-18, Victoria
- 5th Canadian Conference on Geotechnique & Natural Hazards, May 15-17, Kelowna
- Electricity Sector Council 2011 Bright Futures in Canada Conference, May 24-26, Toronto
- 34th Canadian Medical & Biological Engineering Conference, June 5-8, Toronto
- Recycling Council of BC Zero Waste Conference 'The Green Economy - Ready, Set, Grow!', June 8-10, Whistler
- Eastern Snow Conference, June 14-16, Montreal
- Earth on the Edge: Science for a Sustainable Planet, June 28 - July 7, Australia
- World Future 2011, July 8-10, Vancouver
- Canadian Quaternary Association and International Association of Hydrogeologists, Aug 28-31, Quebec City
- BC Water Symposium: Creating a Water Science Strategy, Aug 30-Sept 1, Victoria, Kelowna, Prince George
- Fourth Interagency Conference on Research in Watersheds: Observing, Studying and Managing for Change, September 26-30, Alaska