



## ASTT e-News, January 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 Annual General Meeting 2010

ASTTBC Annual General Meeting 2010 is scheduled for Friday, May 28th, 2010 at The Delta Burnaby Hotel. Cindy Aitken, Manager, Governance & Events, says, "We have a great day planned including Guest Speaker Terry Small 'the Brain Guy', Technical Sessions, and our Top in Technology Award Presentations." John Reynolds, former MLA (and MP) who sponsored the Bill in 1985, and Rick Lindsay, PEng, LLB, who prepared the ASTTBC draft of the legislation, will join us to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the ASTT Act at lunch. For the draft Minutes of the 2009 meeting and minutes of previous meetings go to [www.asttbc.org/about/corporate/minutes.php](http://www.asttbc.org/about/corporate/minutes.php) and scroll to the bottom of the page.

### Time for Annual Renewal

882 people responded to the Electronic Invoice and paid prior to the mailing of the paper invoices on December 15. Their names were entered in a draw to win an iPod Touch. **Congratulations Pierre Ledesma**, ASCT, from Richmond. Thanks to all those who helped ASTTBC cut down on paper and mailing costs.

2010 Annual dues are due and payable. **Save \$10** by paying before February 1, 2010. Dues can be paid on-line, by mail or by phone. [www.asttbc.org/registration/technologists/dues.php](http://www.asttbc.org/registration/technologists/dues.php)

### Code of Ethics – Principle 3

Provide an opinion on a professional subject only when it is founded upon adequate knowledge and honest conviction.

#### Amplification:

- a. (Members shall clearly distinguish between facts, assumptions, and opinions in reference to applied science technology in the preparation of reports, in conversation with clients and colleagues, in statements to the media, in the publication of papers and articles, and in discussion in a public forum.
- b. Members shall not make statements, criticisms, or arguments generated or paid for by private interests on matters relating to public policy, unless they indicate on whose behalf the statements are being made.
- c. Members shall ensure, to the best of their ability, that statements attributed to them properly reflect their professional opinion.
- d. Members shall not misrepresent their qualifications to their clients or their employers.
- e. Members shall engage or provide advice on engaging, experts or specialists when, in their judgment, such services are in the best interests of their client or employer.

## **Commentary:**

It is the responsibility of the members to clearly and accurately express the results of their work, and avoid bias due to political, economic or other non-technical factors. When called upon, members shall do their best to ensure that their professional opinions are accurately represented. When presenting complex issues to a non-technical audience, in order to avoid misinterpretation, members must simplify their discussions without losing the critical elements. Members shall separate their personal views from their professional activities and be impartial and factual when expressing professional opinions.

## **How do YOU think ASTTBC is Performing? - Member Satisfaction Survey**

Thank you if you have participated in the ASTTBC Member Satisfaction Survey. **If you have not yet participated in the online survey, we encourage you to do so.**

Council and staff want to hear your opinion! Where do you think we should focus the Association's time and resources in the future? **Every completed questionnaire makes a difference!**

Please take time as soon as possible to complete the Member Survey online at [www.asttbc.com/services/publications/ms09.php](http://www.asttbc.com/services/publications/ms09.php)

Everyone who completes the Member Survey will have their name added for the draw prize -- an iPod touch 8GB, value \$229! Survey results will be posted on our website and highlights will be published in ASTT News.

## **Rate Increase for Posting Jobs to the CTEN Network**

The cost of posting a career opportunity on the network has increased to \$249 after several years at \$199. This is still a comparatively low cost way of advertising for prospective employees. CTEN (Canadian Technical Employment Network) links skilled technicians and technology professionals who are seeking jobs with prospective employers across Canada through a 24/7 online job network.

\*\*\*ASTTBC members who are seeking jobs can still register and create a profile on this network at no cost.

## **New Portal for Labour Market Information: the Redesigned WorkBC Website**

The Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development has redesigned the [WorkBC](#) website to provide information to support all those who need information about the labour market: students, career explorers, job seekers, employers, post-secondary education and training providers and organizations delivering and managing employment programs and services.

For more information, go to [www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news\\_releases\\_2009-2013/2009ALMD0047-000696.pdf](http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2009-2013/2009ALMD0047-000696.pdf)

## **ASTTBC Seeks Volunteers: Photographers, Writers, Researchers, Archivists**

Do you have expertise you are willing to share with ASTTBC? We are looking for a few special skill sets for services to be provided in Metro Vancouver as well as throughout BC. Some services are provided electronically so it will not matter where you live. And we are not looking for a lot of your time. Here is what we need....

- Photographers for local events, especially in Prince George, Kelowna, Nanaimo, Kamloops and Metro Vancouver; you will need your own camera
- Videographers throughout BC who will work with the ASTTBC video camera and capture images of ASTTBC members at work throughout BC
- Researchers and Writers to contribute to the ASTT eNEWS and ASTT NEWS
- Archivist to rummage through old ASTTBC files

Sound interesting? Please email us a brief note to [techinfo@asttbc.org](mailto:techinfo@asttbc.org) outlining your area of interest.

## **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 Sponsors CEBC Awards

ASTTBC is continuing its sponsorship of the Consulting Engineers of BC awards dinner to be held April 24, 2010. "ASTTBC's sponsorship of the CEBC awards is a statement of support for CEBC and the employers who engage the services of ASTTBC members in the consulting field", said Executive Director, John Leech. "CEBC and ASTTBC have a great working relationship and this is one more way to express our support". ASTTBC is one of three sponsors at the Platinum level.

For several years, an ASTTBC executive member has been a member of the judging panel for these awards that recognize world class leaders in innovation and technical excellence. Then President Darrin Heisler, ASCT, was the ASTTBC representative on the panel for 2009.

## CEBC Awards Dinner

The Awards will be presented at the 21st Annual CEBC Award Gala and dinner at the Westin Bayshore, Vancouver April 24, 2010. The 500 guests include many leading business and industry leaders as well as government officials. "This is a great event. I encourage ASTTBC members to attend the CEBC dinner", said ASTTBC's Vice President, Bill MacPherson, ASCT, a regular ASTTBC representative at this event.

## ASTTBC Welcomes Student Members

Any student in an ASTTBC accredited or recognized technology program at any post secondary program in BC is eligible to join ASTTBC as a student member. Student members pay no fees to join and this provides them with a good opportunity to learn more about their intended profession as well as access to many of the services provided through ASTTBC such as CTEN.

Jason Jung, ASCT, Manager, Technology Careers, reports that student membership at the end of December 2009 was at an all time high of 1064, a 48% increase over 2008.

## Media Focuses on House Inspection

The popular investigative **CBC Marketplace** aired a program on house inspections Friday January 9 at 8:30 pm. The program profiled CAHPI (Canadian Association of Home and Property Inspectors) in Ontario. CBC asked Mike Holmes of 'Holmes on Homes' to complete an inspection on a home that was previously used as a grow op. Holmes pointed out several 'obvious' indicators that the home had been a grow op. Marketplace then brought in four separate inspectors who each completed an inspection on the same Ontario residence, catching some of their work on camera. All four of the inspection reports failed to report on the issues with the home as a result of the grow op. One incident in BC was also covered, but the original inspection was completed prior to the BC Government licensing requirements coming into force. Mike Holmes indicated he was not impressed with the inspectors' reports and the fact the inspectors failed to notice what he described as obvious signals of a former grow op. CBC interviewed the President of CAHPI(Ontario) who had few answers for CBC except to indicate that the association would advise its members of the issues relating to grow ops. View the program at [www.cbc.ca/marketplace/2010/grow\\_op\\_cover\\_up/main.html](http://www.cbc.ca/marketplace/2010/grow_op_cover_up/main.html)

**The Vancouver SUN**, January 9, 2010, published an article by Derrick Penner, entitled '**Home Inspection Remains a Buyer-Beware Environment**'. Penner's article focused on a home purchaser who was dissatisfied with the job done by the home inspector whose report did not note major repairs that would be needed. It talked about confusion in the marketplace and the potential for conflicts of interest. The article also quoted ASTTBC's Peter Link, CTech,CHI, Manager, House & Property Inspections who advised that ASTTBC's Code of Ethics "has always made it clear that the inspector's loyalty always remains with the client who is paying them: the homebuyer" and he further added that ASTTBC's advice to realtors when clients ask about home inspectors is to refer them to the government website of licensed property inspectors and let them choose their own. Read the article at [www.vancouver.sun.com/business/More+about+home+inspection/2444231/story.html](http://www.vancouver.sun.com/business/More+about+home+inspection/2444231/story.html)

**The Vancouver SUN**, January 15, 2010, carried a follow up by Kash Heed, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor-General. He reminded readers that BC was "the first Canadian jurisdiction to license home inspectors to protect consumers." He also stated that buyers should do their research before hiring an inspector and added that the regulations state that an inspector must not have a conflict of interest. Read his comments at [www.vancouver.sun.com/story\\_print.html?id=2423934&sponsor](http://www.vancouver.sun.com/story_print.html?id=2423934&sponsor)

About this recent media coverage, John Leech, ASCT, CAE, Executive Director with ASTTBC says, "These 'reminders' of some less than ideal practices and their impact on consumers is not all bad as it serves as a reminder that no matter the positive developments and progress here in BC there is still work to be done. ASTTBC remains committed to doing its level best to protect the public interest, and we achieve this through the highest standards for certification, registration, professional accountability and consumer awareness and protection."

## Consumer Protection BC (CPBC) Improves Protection for Home Buyers

CPBC's primary role is the protection of consumers. In the house inspection field CPBC has been working with ASTTBC and other organizations recognized within the Regulation to provide the

consumer with the best possible information that will assist the consumer make knowledgeable decisions when engaging the services of the licensed house inspector. ASTTBC has provided CPBC with information to help build the best possible web site and has committed to working with CPBC to ensure consumers are fully aware of what the inspection covers and what they should expect from a licensed inspector.

## **ASTTBC Enhances Professional Regulations for House Inspection**

ASTTBC's standards of professional regulation are among the highest in Canada, quite possibly the most stringent and comprehensive. Aware that the association's job is to reach out for excellence in all we do, ASTTBC is now working on several fronts to further enhance its regulatory model. Here are a few initiatives in the works:

- Consumer Information – information for consumers will be more readily available and significantly enhanced.
- Complaints – the process for filing a complaint with ASTTBC will be profiled for consumers. ASTTBC is currently piloting some new approaches that we anticipate will assist the consumer reach a settlement with the inspector in the case of an error or omission. 2011 is the target for full implementation.
- CPD – ASTTBC requires members to complete a minimum of Continuing Professional Development. In 2010 we will promote this with members and audit compliance in 2011.
- CPD Activities – BCIPI web site will provide more info on available seminars and workshops.
- Risk Management – risk management information will be made available to all members.
- Realtors – the work completed a few years ago to define the relationship with realtors will be renewed and a policy adopted.
- Peer Reviews – enhancements to the peer review program will be initiated.

For information on house inspectors visit [bcipi.asttbc.org/about.html](http://bcipi.asttbc.org/about.html)

## **Messages From Members & Others**

- **E. Bruce Foden, ASCT, former Past President of Ontario ACETT** wrote, *"I have received my registration as an ASCT and extend my thanks to ASTTBC for accepting my transfer. Let me know if there is anything I could do for the profession in BC."*
- **Dave Wells, ASCT**, on resigning from ASTTBC because of retirement, wrote *"I would like to thank ASTTBC staff for their support and hard work during the 28 years of my membership. The association has made many advances for technology professionals under the leadership of John Leech, Executive Director and many others. Thank you."* Best wishes for a well deserved retirement, Dave.
- **Alice Zhou of the Bamboo Network** wrote, *"Great conference at SFU Centre for Dialogue. Looking forward to future collaborations with ASTT!"*

## **Thanks From**

- **Jenny Kwan, MLA (Vancouver-Mount Pleasant)** for the invitation to the Awards and Recognition Celebration. Kwan congratulated ASTTBC on its 50th Anniversary and recognized that ASTTBC members *"contribute a broad range of important services and skills that help build our communities."*
- **Kevin Barnard, Camosun College**, for the Technology Bursary and the opportunity to participate in the 50 year celebration
- **Joanne Brown, Aboriginal Education Centre at Thompson Rivers University** for *"your encouragement and support of Aboriginal students...It is making a huge province-wide difference!"*
- **Shirley Bond, MLA (Prince George-Valemount), Hugh Nicholson Publisher of the Citizen and Baljit Sethi, Executive Director of Immigrant & Multicultural Services Society** for support of the third annual 'Healthier You Expo', promoting healthier lifestyles and creating awareness of health issues across cultures in Northern BC.
- **Okanagan Science & Technology Council (OSTEC)** for continued support during the year that enables the delivery of valuable programming and services to the science and technology community.
- **Rob Fleming, MLA (Victoria-Swan Lake), John Horgan, MLA (Juan de Fuca) and Lana Popham, MLA (Saanich South)** for the support for the MLA Golf Tournament Classic.

## **Congratulations To**

- **Aaron Edis, Electronic Engineering Technology student at Okanagan College**, who received a \$1000 national technology scholarship from TD Meloche Monnex. The scholarship was presented by John Leech, Executive Director of ASTTBC. Aaron has already sent a note of thanks stating that *"electrical engineering has always been a goal of mine and this scholarship will help me achieve it."*
- **Douglas MacLeod upon appointment as Associate Dean of Science, Technology and Health at Okanagan College**. MacLeod left the position of Executive Director of the Okanagan Science and Technology Council (OSTEC) to assume his new role in January 2010. In responding to congratulations from John Leech, MacLeod noted that he *"look(s) forward to continuing to work with (ASTTBC) in my new capacity."* He added his thanks for ASTTBC support for OSTEC over the past few years.

- **Ted Nodwell, Manager, Communications at ASTTBC** for winning the 'What Will You Create' 2009 photo contest sponsored by Olympus Canada. First prize is a trip to Japan.
- **ASTTBC staff** who donated boxes of food and \$750 to the Surrey Food Bank in December.

## TechPRO

### Recognition as a Technology Professional: Dave Rutherford, ASCT, BCLS, CLS

Dave Rutherford knows that technology professionals are "*always on the leading edge, learning the newest skills and new ways of using technology*". He believes that technology professionals deserve recognition for their skills and knowledge and he is willing to put his time, effort and positive attitude to work to help make this happen.

His passion for his career began in high school when he joined the outdoors club led by his Automotive teacher. Combining technology with the outdoors seemed the natural way to go and when he had the opportunity, as a student, to go surveying one summer ... well; Dave Rutherford was "*in heaven – being paid to be outdoors using some neat equipment!*"

Dave graduated from BCIT in the Field Survey option and, after completing the required work experience, he earned his ASCT in 1981, becoming the Regional Surveyor with his company. Wanting more challenge, he continued on, receiving his Commission as a BCLS in 1995 and then his Canada Lands Surveyor Commission in 1997.

After working for several years with a great Land Surveyor, Dave took his passion for technology and the outdoors to BCIT where he is now an Instructor in the Geomatics Engineering Technology and Degree program. Besides helping others to advance their careers through his instruction, he has contributed to his profession by volunteering to serve on a variety of ABCLS committees, the Board of Examiners for the Association of BC Land Surveyors. It will not be a surprise then to know that Dave is a recipient of an ASTTBC Service Award. **Dave Rutherford is currently Secretary Treasurer on Council for ASTTBC** and is working with the Council as it strives to gain greater recognition for ASTTBC members.

**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](http://www.techprofile.ca)

## TechLINKS

The Director of Waste Management has approved **three new protocols under Section 64 of the Environmental Management Act relating to site risk classification**. Protocol 12, "[Site Risk Classification, Reclassification and Reporting](#)", Protocol 11, "[Upper Cap Concentrations for Substances Listed in the Contaminated Sites Regulation](#)" and Protocol 16, "[Determining the Presence and Mobility of Nonaqueous Phase Liquids and Odorous Substances](#)" all must be used when the risk classification of a site is being determined under the Act. These protocols come into effect on June 1, 2010. For more information go to: [www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/remediation/index.htm](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/remediation/index.htm) E-mail address: [site@gov.bc.ca](mailto:site@gov.bc.ca)

To all organizations in BC incorporated as a society under the BC Society Act: The BC Ministry of Finance has initiated **a review of the BC Society Act**. The deadline for comments for this first phase of the review is April 1, 2010. The BC Ministry of Finance link: [www.fin.gov.bc.ca/society\\_act\\_review.htm](http://www.fin.gov.bc.ca/society_act_review.htm). contains information on the review and how to submit your comments to the Ministry.

The Ministry of Environment intends to review and potentially revise the **Asphalt Plant Regulation (APR)** of the Environmental Management Act (EMA). For information go to [www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/industrial/regs/asphalt/index.htm](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/industrial/regs/asphalt/index.htm) or contact Meegan Armstrong (250-386-9089 or [Meegan.armstrong@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Meegan.armstrong@gov.bc.ca))

The ministry has posted a **Public Consultation Paper** on our **Cosmetic Use of Pesticides Consultation Forum** website ([www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/ipmp/regs/cosmetic-pesticides/consultation.htm](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/ipmp/regs/cosmetic-pesticides/consultation.htm)). The Consultation Forum website includes a [response form](#) (in on-line and downloadable formats) to seek comments from British Columbians interested in this topic.

The ministry has contracted Cindy Bertram of C. Rankin & Associates to manage the information collection process. For information regarding the consultation process, check the ministry website [www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/ipmp/regs/cosmetic-pesticides/consultation.htm](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/ipmp/regs/cosmetic-pesticides/consultation.htm) or contact Cindy Bertram at [cindybertram@shaw.ca](mailto:cindybertram@shaw.ca) Fax: (250) 598-9948. Comments should be submitted by February 15th 2010.

## TechEVENTS

**Fundamentals and Beyond the Data**, Feb 1-3, Vancouver. Workshop series on contaminated sites issues for practitioners, site owners/managers, regulators,

planners and others. [www.geoenvirologic.ca](http://www.geoenvirologic.ca)

**Camosun College Trades & Technology Career Fair**, February 4, Victoria. Sponsored by VIATeC. Exhibits & networking, employer presentations. [www.viatec.ca/ViewEvent.aspx?id=153](http://www.viatec.ca/ViewEvent.aspx?id=153)

**'Opening the Door' – Volunteers needed** to encourage grade 11 & 12 students to explore science & technology careers, February 18, 9:30 am – noon, G.W. Graham Middle-Secondary School, Chilliwack. Sponsored by Science World. Sign up and inspire youth. [sisinfo@scienceworld.ca](mailto:sisinfo@scienceworld.ca)

**The 2010 Dig Safe BC! Workshop**, February 18, Abbotsford and March 31, Cranbrook. Learn how to avoid buried pipelines and cables. Register at [www.commongroundbc.ca](http://www.commongroundbc.ca) or call (604)568-2700.

**Georgie Awards 2009 Gala**, March 13, Vancouver, Sponsored by the Canadian Home Builders' Association of BC. The finalists for the CHBA BC provincial housing awards will be announced. Tickets on sale now. [www.chbabc.org](http://www.chbabc.org)

**Sediment Solutions Seminar**, March 23, Vancouver. Hear the latest in integrated approaches for cost-effective sediment assessment, management and closure. [www.geoenvirologic.ca](http://www.geoenvirologic.ca)

**Globe 2010**, March 24-26, Vancouver, Join presenters, exhibitors and participants from around the world to discuss corporate sustainability innovation, climate change & carbon management, energy's future, financing the low carbon economy, urban infrastructure revolution. Special sessions for retail, auto future, water & clean technology. [www.globe2010.com](http://www.globe2010.com)

**Thompson Rivers University Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner**, March 26, Kamloops, [www.tru.ca/alumni](http://www.tru.ca/alumni)

**Offshore Arabia 2010**, March 29-31, Dubai. A conference for exchange of knowledge and discussion on the oil & gas outlook, oil spill protection, the challenge for the marine industry, global issues & the environment, renewable energy & new technologies. [www.offshorearabia.ae](http://www.offshorearabia.ae)

**ABC FP Annual Conference Expo for 2010**, April 8-9, Kelowna [www.expofoor.ca/](http://www.expofoor.ca/)

**Buildex Vancouver**, April 21-22 the largest event at the Vancouver Convention Centre, welcoming over twelve thousand Design, Construction and Real Estate Management professionals for exhibits and seminars on Interior design & architecture, property and real estate management & construction and renovation <http://www.buildexvancouver.com/>

**CEBC Awards Gala**, April 24, Vancouver, recognizing Engineering Excellence [www.cebc.org/awards.html](http://www.cebc.org/awards.html)

**ASTTBC Annual General Meeting**, May 28, Burnaby, including technical sessions and Top in Technology Award presentations

**Building Envelope Systems & Technologies International Conference**, June 27-30, Vancouver. Hosted by National Research Council Canada, this worldwide forum will provide exchange of information and discussion of developments in building envelope engineering for researchers, engineers, designers and manufacturers. [www.icbest.ca](http://www.icbest.ca)

**Simon Fraser University Continuing Studies is offering the following:** Register on line at [www.sfu.ca/city/register\\_course.htm](http://www.sfu.ca/city/register_course.htm)

- **Climate change: Using the New Local Government Powers**, March 5, Victoria. Planning practitioners will examine climate change Bills 10 and 27 and how to put them to use focusing on development permit area designations for water and energy conservation and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Cosponsored by SFU continuing studies and the Planning Institute of British Columbia South Island Chapter.
- **Real Estate Development from the Inside Out**, March 8–April 19, 6 Mondays / 6:30–9:30 pm
- **Anatomy of a Zoning Bylaw**, April 16, advanced hands-on workshop on how to prepare and draft a comprehensive zoning bylaw
- **Urban Design Ecological Planning and Sustainable Design**, March 12–13, use multiple objectives and an integrated process to introduce effective ecological planning strategies into projects.
- **Integrating Social Dimensions into Sustainability**, March 19–20, view sustainability not primarily as a product but rather as a process, where power and issues of social justice and equity are considered essential to successful outcomes.
- **Green Economy Frontiers and Opportunities**, April 16–17, explore green economy opportunities and how communities can strategically develop and expand a green economy sector.

- **Alternative Development Approaches**, April 30–May 1, explores current projects to discover the barriers and bridges to more innovative ways to develop our land, from policy to construction.
- **Acting Local: Municipal Government Responses to Climate Change** (in Kamloops) May 31, Explore new types of bylaw provisions to help local governments to achieve results. This is a pre-conference course to the PIBC 2010 annual conference.
- **Studio II, Synthesis of Urban Form** June 3–5, Surrey, focus on developing urban design in a comprehensive physical form.

**Note:** for more information on events and seminars go to [www.asttbc.org/services/coming\\_events.php](http://www.asttbc.org/services/coming_events.php) and [www.asttbc.org/services/cpd/seminars.php](http://www.asttbc.org/services/cpd/seminars.php)

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