



## ASTT e-News, May 2009

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 AGM Set For May 22

#### Deadline for registration – May 15

'ASTTBC's First 50 Years Building British Columbia', the ASTTBC Annual General Meeting, will be held Friday, May 22 2009 at the Delta Hotel & Conference Centre in Burnaby. Registration for the full day is \$70 (students \$35) which includes: continental breakfast, business session, meet council coffee break, keynote presentations on coming to terms with the recession and on enhancing memory skills, breakout sessions on communications and on risk management, an awards luncheon, and presentation of the new 'Top In Technology' awards. (Members are welcome to attend the AGM business session and following coffee reception at no charge.) To see a short introductory video, download the agenda, or to register, visit [www.asttbc.org/agm](http://www.asttbc.org/agm)

### \$1,000 Bursaries Available

#### Deadline - May 31

Are you a student in an accredited technology program in BC? Are you about to graduate from high school and enroll in technology studies? You could be eligible for a \$1,000 bursary:

- **Apply directly to ASTTBC's charitable foundation.** The Foundation For Education & Advancement In Technology (FEAT) offers bursaries to first or second year students in electrical, mechanical, civil & structural, environmental technology and other accredited technology programs at BCIT and BC colleges. FEAT also offers a \$1,000 bursary for a child/grandchild of an ASTTBC member and who is graduating from high school and is planning to attend an accredited technology program at BCIT or a college in BC. Another bursary is earmarked for students who

are overcoming any significant or extraordinary obstacle to pursue an education in technology, with priority being given to students with physical challenges. Application deadline is May 31 2009. For criteria and details visit [www.asttbc.com/about/foundation/howtoapply.php](http://www.asttbc.com/about/foundation/howtoapply.php)

- **Check with your college awards office.** Additional FEAT bursaries are provided through BCIT and the colleges.
- **Apply to the Canadian Council of Technicians & Technologists.** CCTT, through the generosity of Manulife Financial, awards two \$1,000 scholarships to the son or daughter of an individual member of a provincial association like ASTTBC. The deadline for applying to CCTT for the CCTT/Manulife scholarship is October 15. For more info visit [www.cctt.ca](http://www.cctt.ca)

## **Load Your TechPROfile And You Could Win An iPod**

We are inviting ASTTBC members to load their career stories on the special TechPRO section of ASTTBC's web site. This 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. It also provides another way for self-employed practitioners to get their names in front of visitors to the ASTTBC web site. If you have not yet posted your profile, please do it today! Each month until the end of 2009, ASTTBC will do a draw from TechPRO entries and one lucky member will win an iPod. To load your information go to [www.techprofile.ca](http://www.techprofile.ca)

## **Lay Representation Sought For ASTTBC Boards**

Increased scrutiny of the professions and professionals by government is being driven partly as a result of initiatives such as the Trade Investment Labour Mobility Agreement between Alberta and BC, and by the federal Agreement on Internal Trade. Governments are looking for professional associations to be more accountable to the public. It has been suggested by government representatives that associations should interject more lay representation into decision making. ASTTBC has already taken a major step in that direction with the addition of lay members to Council. The time has come to consider lay representation on the Association's certification boards and Practice Review Board. By Regulation the PRB can have some lay representation, but currently it does not. To start a search for suitable non-member volunteer candidates who would be prepared to give some time to ASTTBC, the Association is asking members to recommend candidates. Typically they should come from professional organizations that work in a structure with a code of ethics. Other criteria may be acceptable, such as suitable municipal or provincial politicians for example. Please forward any suggestions in confidence to John Shortreid, ASCT, CLS, Registrar, at [jshortreid@asttbc.org](mailto:jshortreid@asttbc.org)

## **Member Compensation Survey Winner**

Daryoush Moayed, ASCT, was winner of an 8Gb iPod Touch in conjunction with the ASTTBC Member Compensation Survey. His name was drawn from the 1287 survey responses received by March 31 2009. The Member Compensation Survey contains valuable labour market data for both members and employers and is a service that ASTTBC has provided since 1977. Participation is important and the more responses, the higher the accuracy rate. While the number of responses equaled that of the previous survey done two years ago, this year's survey was extended to April 15. Members who participated by that date will be entered in a secondary draw for a micro iPod Shuffle. Once compiled, the Member Compensation Survey 2009 will be posted on the ASTTBC web site. Thanks to everyone who participated!

## **BCIPI On CBC Radio About House Inspection**

The Secretary Treasurer of the BC Institute of Property Inspectors, Sean Wiens, CHI(P), was interviewed on CBC Radio on March 30 2009. The focus of the talk show was the new government requirement that all house inspectors must be licensed in British Columbia. ASTTBC's certification as a Certified House Inspector or Certified Property Inspector are qualifications accepted for licensing. The interview identified that BCIPI inspectors certified by ASTTBC have the highest training qualifications in BC for home inspectors and why the public still needs to be vigilant when

choosing an inspector. *"I encourage our 9,000 members and other partners to look first for the CHI and CPI designations when selecting a house inspector,"* said John Leech, ASCT, CAE, Executive Director. *"You can rely on ASTTBC's high standards and the professional integrity of our members".* Noel Murphy, CPI, President of BCIPi, highlighted the qualifications of BCIPi members in a letter published recently in the Vancouver Sun. BCIPi is an institute established by ASTTBC.

Meanwhile, applications for registration as certified inspectors continue to come in to ASTTBC as the new regulations take effect. *"Please relay my many thank-you's to all that were involved in my attainment of provisional Certified House Inspector,"* said one applicant, Terry Neyedli, as he went through the certification process. *"It is very gratifying to be accepted into a great organization as ASTTBC."*

To hear the CBC Radio interview click on [www.bchouseinspections.ca/myinspection/pdf\\_articles/09-03-31%20CBC%20Radio%20Licensing.mp3](http://www.bchouseinspections.ca/myinspection/pdf_articles/09-03-31%20CBC%20Radio%20Licensing.mp3)

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## **Government Liaison Continues**

Premier Campbell was the guest speaker at a special Leadership Luncheon in April by the BC Chamber of Commerce, the BC Business Council and the Vancouver Board of Trade. ASTTBC hosted a table. Council members Keith Trulson, ASCT, EngL, (who is also Chair of ASTTBC's Practice Review Board); Prakash Joshi, ASCT, EngL; Dave Rutherford, ASCT, BCLS; and Bill MacPherson, ASCT, (who is ASTTBC's Secretary Treasurer) joined several staff members at the event. The event was an opportunity to hear first-hand from the Premier and to meet with other business and association leaders. The ASTTBC delegates also had a chance to connect with Richmond – Steveston MLA, John Yap.

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## **BC And Alberta Sign New TILMA Agreement**

In April 2009, ASTTBC President Darrin Heisler, ASCT, and Roy Clark, CET, ASCT, Past President of the Association of Science and Engineering Technology Professionals of Alberta, penned an updated statement on transferability between the two associations. This is in keeping with the Trade Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement between the governments of the two provinces. TILMA assures portability of credentials between the provinces. While both provincial associations have offered portability of credentials for the better part of a decade as part of a national initiative, TILMA places a higher standard on the arrangement. As a result of the agreement by Heisler and Clark, ASTTBC and ASET will be able to offer more effective transfer arrangements.

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## **Top In Technology Award**

ASTTBC will be making its first 'Top In Technology Award' presentations at our Annual General Meeting on Friday, May 22 at the Delta Burnaby Hotel. Make plans to attend! This award will recognize members whose work has been consistent with the high expectations of a professional committed to serving the public, and who have acted as a role model to other British Columbians. To see a short video on all the awards that are available through ASTTBC, visit [www.youtube.com/watch?v=eeysCI2GSsE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eeysCI2GSsE)

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## **Women In Technology Plans Progressing**

Women are an untapped resource for addressing the skills shortage over the next 15 to 20 years according to ASTTBC Council member Nancy Fowler, ASCT. In the fall of 2008 ASTTBC issued a survey to female members focusing on the challenges that 'women in technology' face as they choose a career path, enter the workforce and, as they develop their technology careers. The goal is to build an action plan that involves educators, government and associations. Nancy encourages ASTTBC members to get involved. To see a short introductory video on the initiative, visit [www.asttbc.com/careers/womenintech.php](http://www.asttbc.com/careers/womenintech.php)

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## **Tech Careers Featured On Teen Web Site**

'YouThink' is a web site by teens for teens. The feature article on the home page is 'Get A Tech

Career In Two Years'. ASTTBC was a resource for the site's authors and is mentioned in the article. Check it out at [www.youthink.ca/yt/careers-ed](http://www.youthink.ca/yt/careers-ed) and click on the Top Feature article.

## BCIT Alumni Awards Nominations

### Deadline April 30 2009!

ASTTBC is asking our members to consider submitting a nomination for a BCIT Alumni Award. If you require assistance in gathering information and developing the full nomination package, contact Sheila Lundell at [sheila\\_lundell@bcit.ca](mailto:sheila_lundell@bcit.ca) or 604-431-4958. To access the nomination package please visit the BCIT Alumni web site at [www.bcit.ca/alumni/awards/](http://www.bcit.ca/alumni/awards/)

## Okanagan College Students Win Catapult Competition

Civil Engineering Technology students from Okanagan College took home top prize in the third annual Wood Catapult Competition hosted by Wood *WORKS!* BC, an initiative of the Canadian Wood Council. The 2009 catapult competition was held at UBC on March 28. Nine teams competed from Western Canada. The results were:

- Okanagan College Civil Engineering Technology - 1809 pts
- UBC Civil Engineering - 565 pts
- BCIT Civil Engineering - 537 pts

The Okanagan team also won the award for the best technical report. ASTTBC was the lead sponsor for the event, awarding a \$1,500 prize. APEGBC and AIBC rounded out the prize money donors and all three associations provided judges for the competition.

## National Code Consultation

In an effort to draw a clear line between the roles of the National Fire Code and the National Building Code, editorial changes are being proposed that will move building design requirements out of the NFC and into the NBC. No new technical changes are being proposed. As these codes are used as models for the BC Codes, all interested parties in British Columbia are encouraged to participate in the public review process. The public review is one of the main steps for developing national code documents, providing a nation-wide forum where anyone can review and comment on the changes proposed. The opportunity to comment will be available until May 29, 2009. The online review is hosted by the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes and can be accessed at [www.nationalcodes.ca/publicreview/2009\\_1/index\\_e.shtml](http://www.nationalcodes.ca/publicreview/2009_1/index_e.shtml)

## TechLINKS

- **CCTT 'Innovation' Newsletter.** The March 2009 issue contains information on CCTT efforts to connect with federal parliamentarians; CCTT's new initiative to facilitate credential recognition and labour market integration for foreign-trained technology professionals; an update on the National Technology Benchmarks; and planning for National Technology Week 2009. [www.cctt.ca](http://www.cctt.ca)
- **IQDB News Update.** The 17th issue of CCTT International Qualification Database newsletter for IQDB stakeholders highlights eleven new educational programs; and provides information on the CCTT 'Passport System' centralized database of user credentials. [www.cctt.ca](http://www.cctt.ca)
- **Electronic Recycling Association Requests Used Computers.** The ERA needs more than 200 computers and laptops to help charities. With the economic decline, ERA has been receiving five times more donation requests. Many charities are waiting on upgrades and donation set ups for their office, resource projects and families in need. If your company has any equipment that is not being used, please contact ERA to book a pick-up. [www.era.ca](http://www.era.ca)
- **Scientists and Innovators in the Schools.** Technologists and technicians who want to explore whether the SIS program is the right volunteer opportunity for them and learn more about classroom presentations are invited to a workshop at Science World on May 11 2009. [www.scienceworld.bc.ca](http://www.scienceworld.bc.ca)
- **CSAP 2009 Examination Schedule.** The Contaminated Sites Approved Professional Society is accepting applications for the November 2009 sitting of qualifying examinations. The application

deadline is July 1, 2009. [www.csapsociety.bc.ca/roster-of-approved-professionals/2008-applicant-information.html](http://www.csapsociety.bc.ca/roster-of-approved-professionals/2008-applicant-information.html)

- **OSTEC's Silicon Vineyard Innovation Award Winners.** Innovative leaders in the Okanagan's science and technology community were recognized March 13, 2009 in Kelowna. For a list of awards and recipients visit [www.ostec.ca](http://www.ostec.ca)

## TechEVENTS

- **BOABC 54th Annual Education Conference and Trade Show**, May 3 - 6 2009, Nelson. Includes workshops and golf tournament. Co-sponsored by the City of Nelson and the Regional District of Central Kootenays. [www.boabc.org](http://www.boabc.org)
- **AIBC Annual Conference**, May 7 - 9 2009, Vancouver. Legacy Building acknowledges the permanence and importance of architecture in developing communities with a special nod to the province's role as host of the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. [www.aibc.ca/conference/index.html](http://www.aibc.ca/conference/index.html)
- **The Future Of Housing**, May 8 2009, Burnaby. Housing as an ongoing economic driver. A CHBA BC conference. [www.chabc.org](http://www.chabc.org)
- **EPIC: The Vancouver Sun Sustainable Living Expo**, May 8 - 10 2009, Vancouver. Vancouver's only green-living tradeshow and eco-marketplace. [www.epicvancouver.com](http://www.epicvancouver.com)
- **International GeoExchange Conference and Trade Show**, May 13 - 15 2009, Kelowna. Conference program; pre-conference workshops; trade show. [www.geoexchange2009.com](http://www.geoexchange2009.com)
- **MISTIC Capitalinx Program. Phase 1- Accessing Money: How to Beat the Odds**, May 12 2009, Nanaimo; May 13, Campbell River. **Phase 2 - Becoming Investable**, May 27 2009, Nanaimo; May 28, Campbell River. Information about: the main sources of financing; what each source of capital looks for in an investment; and how to match up your business's needs with suitable financing options. Contact MISTIC at 250-753-8324 or e-mail [info@mistic.bc.ca](mailto:info@mistic.bc.ca)
- **National Engineering Summit**, May 19 - 21 2009, Montreal. An opportunity to identify, with the engineering profession, steps to affect positive change for a healthier, cleaner, safer, more competitive and sustainable Canada in a global society. [general@taylorandassociates.ca](mailto:general@taylorandassociates.ca)
- **Bright Futures Canada Conference**, May 19 - 20 2009, Toronto. How to address 25,000 electricity personnel retiring within the next 6 years. Sponsored by the Electricity Sector Council. [www.brightfutures.ca](http://www.brightfutures.ca)
- **Contaminated Sites Stakeholder Update and Consultation Session**, May 20 - 21 2009, Fort St. John. The Ministry of Environment's Land Remediation Section is providing a two-day information exchange and update session. [www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/remediation/index.htm](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/remediation/index.htm)
- **BC Land Summit 'A Better Future: Adapting to Change'**, May 20 - 22 2009, Whistler. Workshops, panels and speakers of interest to BCSLA members and other allied professionals. [www.bclandsummit.com/register/index.html](http://www.bclandsummit.com/register/index.html)
- **CEBC Golf Tournament**, May 21 2009, Vancouver. A fun and relaxed networking environment for CEBC members, their clients and industry colleagues. [www.cebc.org](http://www.cebc.org)
- **Recent Advances in Bridge Engineering and Structural Health Monitoring**, May 21 - 22 2009, Vancouver. The latest in the field of short and medium span bridges with special emphasis on the monitoring of their health by means of state-of-the-art electronic and photonic sensors and the use of fibre-reinforced polymers in the design and rehabilitation of bridges. [www.csce.ca](http://www.csce.ca)
- **ASTTBC AGM, 'ASTTBC's First 50 Years Building British Columbia'**, May 22 2009, Burnaby. Full day includes: continental breakfast, business session, meet council coffee break, keynote presentations on coming to terms with the recession and on enhancing memory skills, breakout sessions on communications and on risk management, and awards presentations including the new 'Top In Technology' awards. Register by May 15 at [www.asttbc.org/agm](http://www.asttbc.org/agm)
- **Construction Law**, May 22 2009, Kelowna; May 29, Whistler; June 17, Coquitlam. This is an online course with a 1 day in class session. Answers questions regarding contracts, risks, risk-minimizing clauses, issues that could lead to liability disputes, holdbacks and more. Sponsored by Canadian Home Builders' Association of British Columbia. [www.chbabc.org](http://www.chbabc.org)
- **ECONomics: The Green Economy Summit**, May 27 -29 2009, Whistler. Recycling Council of BC's 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Zero Waste Conference. [www.rcbc.bc.ca](http://www.rcbc.bc.ca)
- **BC Building Code - Single Family Dwellings**. May 30 2009, Coquitlam; June 6, Kelowna; June 13, Whistler. This is an online course with a 1 day in class session. It will help familiarize students

with various sections of the BC Building Code and teach them how to readily locate code requirements in an efficient manner. [www.chbabc.org](http://www.chbabc.org)

- **PMC-Sierra Science Fair Fun Run**, May 31 2009, Vancouver. 10<sup>th</sup> annual run to support the promotion and development of science fair programs in BC. [www.bcic.ca](http://www.bcic.ca)
- **Collective Commitment to Action**, May 31-June 2 2009, Prince George. This symposium addresses a rural health workforce. [www.ruralhealthnetbc.org](http://www.ruralhealthnetbc.org)
- **GEE 2009**, June 10–12, 2009, Vancouver. GEE 2009 is the 9th Canada-France-Japan-Korea joint conference on Geo-Environmental Engineering. This conference will bring together industry, regulatory, and academic professionals from the disciplines of geotechnical, geological, hydro-geological, mining, chemical and environmental engineering, biology, and toxicology to seek new solutions to technical and regulatory issues regarding geo-environmental engineering and contaminated sites. [gee2009.civil.ubc.ca](http://gee2009.civil.ubc.ca)
- **WorldSkills Competition**, September 1- 6 2009, Calgary. More than 850 competitors from 48 countries will compete. The goal is to promote excellence in skilled trades and technologies training. [www.worldskills.org](http://www.worldskills.org)

**Note:** For links to seminars listed on the web sites of other associations, visit [www.asttbc.org/services/cpd/seminars.php](http://www.asttbc.org/services/cpd/seminars.php)

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