



ASTT e-News, October 2008

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 Saturday, February 21 2009.

Keith Switzer, AScT
Chair, Nominating Committee
10767 – 148 Street, Surrey, BC V3R 0S4
Fax: (604) 585-2790

500x50 Kick-Off

Fund-raiser will support student bursaries and science and technology awareness in years ahead; donors will receive charitable tax receipts.

It is ASTTBC's 50th anniversary and the Association has a number of activities planned including a special '500x50' campaign. The 500x50 campaign will be formally launched at ASTTBC's Awards & Recognition Celebration on October 25 2008.

"This joint ASTTBC – FEAT initiative will increase our charitable foundation's Technology Legacy Fund from \$320,000 to \$500,000," says Ted Nodwell, CAE, Executive Director of the Foundation for Education & Advancement in Technology. "ASTTBC Council earmarked a \$25,000 contribution to kick-start the 500x50 campaign and volunteers on the FEAT Board personally committed another \$2,000 as soon as it was announced. Now we are giving the members of ASTTBC the opportunity to keep the momentum rolling."

In this milestone year, members are invited to 'go the extra mile' by adding a bit to what they have donated in the past, and to do this in a way that ties to the 50th anniversary, for example by adding \$50, \$100 or even \$500 to their donation. For members who have not donated before and who want to give something back to the technology community, this is an ideal time. All donations of more than \$15 receive a charitable receipt from FEAT for tax purposes.

FEAT currently provides \$24,000 in bursaries each year to technology students. Since the charitable foundation was established in 1990, it has also provided \$365,000 in support of science and technology awareness in the province of British Columbia. Donations by ASTTBC members have been vital in making this happen. To donate please download a donation form at www.asttbc.com/about/docs/form.pdf

FEAT Sponsors 'Taste Of Electronics'

The 'Taste of Electronics' event at Camosun College has become so popular that this year the College had to run it on a second date. FEAT, ASTTBC's charitable foundation, helped out by stepping up as a Silver Sponsor.

Grade 10 girls spend a day assembling an LED-based circuit and programming a PIC microcontroller to control a musical memory game. 'Taste of Electronics' is organized by the Electronic and Computer Engineering Technology Departments at Camosun College.

Women In Technology Survey Now On-line

Of the approximately 9,000 members of ASTTBC, only 9% are female. The goal of the 'ASTTBC Women In Technology' Survey is to get feedback from female members to help ASTTBC understand the challenges women face in choosing a career in technology; entering the workforce; and during career progression. Industry, educators, government and others, such as the new Technology Education and Careers Council, want to hear from ASTTBC about female members' key challenges and suggested recommendations and/or solutions. Complete the survey and you could win a green 8GB iPod Nano or a Red 1 GB iPod Shuffle! www.asttbc.com/careers/womenintech.php

'Practice Review Board and Discipline Committee' Regulation Updated

On September 25 2008, ASTTBC Council approved a replacement to Section 4.7 of the Regulation regarding the Practice Review Board & Discipline Committee. This was the result of a review of the Regulation that was started in the Spring of 2008 and that involved the Practice Review Board, ASTTBC's legal counsel, and other interested parties within ASTTBC. The completely rewritten Section 4.7 synchronizes the Regulation with PRB policy and processes. It sets the ground rules for establishing a Practice Review Board and defines the powers of the Board. Section 4.7 does the same for structuring a Discipline Committee within the PRB. The Regulation also clarifies what charges can be made and how complaints are handled, sets the rules for hearings and appeals, defines penalties, and addresses issues such as reporting and publication of judgment.

www.asttbc.org/about/corporate/act.php

New House & Property Inspection Standards Set

On September 25 2008, ASTTBC Council approved new house and property inspection standards. The new standards were developed in conjunction with the BC Institute of Property Inspectors. The most significant change is inclusion of standards of inspection for multi-family/strata dwellings. The full document is posted on the ASTTBC and BCIPi web sites. www.bcipi.net/standards.html

Manager, House Inspection Certification Appointed

Peter Link, CTech, CHI, has been appointed as the new Manager, House Inspection Certification at ASTTBC. Peter brings experience in inspections, quality assurance, and management to the ASTTBC staff team. *"Peter will make a significant contribution as we work on government's plans to formally license house inspectors,"* says John Leech, ASCT, CAE, ASTTBC Executive Director. *"His expertise will be of great benefit as we ramp up quality assurance in house and property inspection and as we certify inspectors through the BC Institute of Property Inspectors."* www.bcipi.com

'Onsite Wastewater Regulator' Project Awarded To ASTTBC

ASTTBC has been awarded a grant by the Ministry of Economic Development to compare the regulatory framework currently existing in Alberta and British Columbia with respect to the registration/licensing of onsite wastewater practitioners. Expected to be complete by Spring 2009, key objectives for the project are to provide a comparative analysis of educational and work experience requirements necessary for registration in each province and to provide solutions to comply with the Alberta – BC Trade Investment & Labour Mobility Agreement.

Connecting With Victoria

Meeting With The Leader Of The Opposition

"Engaging, interested in what ASTTBC has to say, and generally understanding and supportive," is how ASTTBC's Executive Director John Leech, ASCT, CAE, described a recent one hour meeting with Carole James, NDP MLA for Victoria – Beacon Hill.

John was joined at the meeting by Jason Jung, ASCT, Manager, Technology Careers. During the conversation they talked about ASTTBC's work to enhance professional recognition and to define the scope of ASTTBC members' practice. John talked about ASTTBC's Guides to Professional Practice and ASTTBC's efforts to have its members included as 'Qualified Professionals' in appropriate government legislation and through various regulatory bodies. He also brought up efforts by the Architectural Institute of BC to register building designers; his concern that AIBC is registering practitioners who are currently regulated under the ASTT Act; and how this AIBC initiative is not supported by ASTTBC.

Meeting With The NDP Advanced Education Critic

The ASTTBC Executive Director recently met with NDP MLA Rob Fleming (Victoria - Hillside). The two spoke about technology education and careers; ASTTBC's work to enhance professional recognition and rights to practice; and other topics similar to those discussed with Carol James, Leader Of The Opposition.

National List Aims To Reduce Unsolicited Telemarketing

Canadian consumers now have a mechanism to reduce unsolicited telemarketing calls. The Canadian Radio & Television Commission announced that a 'National Do-Not-Call List' will be effective September 30 2008. Organizations will still be able to call individuals with whom there is an existing business relationship, such as customers.

ASTTBC offers money saving programs through affinity partners. ASTTBC affinity partners do not conduct telemarketing to our members. Any mail-outs, ads or inserts must have prior approval from the Association and the mailing list is carefully controlled by using only approved 'mailing houses' that provide confidentiality agreements. www.crtc.gc.ca

National Technology Week

National Technology Week is just around the corner. Taking place from November 3 – 7 2008, NTW is an annual showcase of exciting careers in technology and a golden opportunity to recognize the valuable contribution of technologists, technicians, and technical specialists across BC and Canada. One of ASTTBC's initiatives for this year is a two-page spread on technology in 27 newspapers around the province. Be sure to visit the National Technology Week webpage under the Technology Careers section of the ASTTBC website. www.asttbc.com/careers/ntw/ntw_asttbc.php

Youth Contest - National Tech Week Poster Design

Members please spread the word!

The task - design an 11"x17" poster (hand drawn or computer designed poster) with the theme: "What is Canada's Best Technology Invention Ever?"

The prize - a \$1,000 RESP and a \$250 gift card from BestBuy for each level.

Youths in grades 7-9 (Junior Level) and 10-12 (Senior Level) are encouraged to submit their entry to the ASTTBC office by **December 1 2008**.

www.cctt.ca/item_5.asp?it=BCB3C36A86F94818B8CE3C7740D13CE2

ASTTBC Sponsors 'QuizMe!' TV Show

Starting September 14 2008 students from sixteen schools in the Prince George area began competing for the 'QuizMe! Cup'. ASTTBC is a sponsor for the science & technology section of the program. Running on CKPG Television, the show airs Sundays at 7:00 p.m., with repeat broadcasts on Mondays at 6:00 and Saturdays at 5:00. ASTTBC promotional advertising will highlight technology careers, focusing on several of the Association's members in Prince George including: Doug Carter, CTech; Colin Dix, ASCT, EngL; Heather Andreychuck, ASCT; Lorelei Reier, ASCT; and Scott McLaren, ASCT.

Promoting Technology To Kids

The 'Kids Page' is running twice a month in the Prince George Free Press. ASTTBC is sponsoring the science and technology section. What's more, ASTTBC is running a kids contest in conjunction with the newspaper feature, with one iPod prize being awarded each month. www.asttbc.org/docs/asttbckidsad.pdf

Girls Attend Technology Camp

On July 25 2008, Jason Jung, ASCT, Manager, Technology Careers for ASTTBC was on hand at BCIT to help celebrate the annual Girls Exploring Trades & Technology Camp. BCIT Instructor Anabelle Paxton along with staff and volunteers lead two groups of girls through a week-long camp. It gave them the opportunity to explore the world of trades and technology by having teams design and construct soapbox go-carts from scratch. The teams were then judged in several different categories such as coolest cart and best construction. *"The GETT camp is a great event," says Jason. "It gives young girls a unique opportunity to experience trades and technology."*

Technology Education & Careers Council Update

The ASTTBC-initiated TECC has now appointed its leadership. Sandy Innes, Vice President, TELUS is the Chair and Jan Marston, Vice President, Terasen, is the Vice Chair. The Technology Education & Careers Council convened its second formal meeting and is developing a statement as to its primary role and what success will look like at the end of its three-year mandate. www.asttbc.org/careers/tecc/

ASTTBC Initiatives In Technology Education & Careers

ASTTBC has added a section to its web site, highlighting initiatives in technology education and careers. *"Currently, the site provides a '100,000 foot' overview of ASTTBC activities," says Richard Mayer, ASCT, Manager, Corporate Identity. "New pages will be added as projects and initiatives roll out."* www.asttbc.org/careers/awareness/

TechPRO - Frank Blues, ASCT

Ask Frank Blues, ASCT, why he became a technology professional and he replies *"I enjoy being involved in building things. In civil engineering your work remains on public display for many years and hopefully reflects the talents you have contributed to the project."*

Frank is Asset Manager for the City of Prince George. As such, his job involves developing and supporting sustainable approaches to maintenance and new construction.

A member of ASTTBC for 25 years, he was educated and worked in the UK before moving to British Columbia in 1981. His first job here was with a consulting engineering company as a construction inspector. Since joining the City of Prince George his positions have been: Supervisor of Inspection and Survey; Manager of Public Works Operations; Transportation Manager; and currently Asset Manager.

He has written and presented many papers on snow management at regional, national and international events.

Frank also stays active in his community. He served on Parent Advisory Councils at both the

elementary and secondary school levels. He has completed two Ironman Canada events, is active in the Prince George Roadrunners and swims with the Barracuda Masters Swim Club. Frank Blues, ASCT, was also a co-founder of the PG Iceman in 1988, a popular multi-sport winter event that takes advantage of the winter climate and facilities in Prince George.

TechGREEN News

ASTTBC's mission is to serve the public by regulating and supporting technology professionals' commitment to a safe, healthy and sustainable society and environment. The TechGREEN column in ASTT e-News provides sustainability related information

- **Climate Benefits Of Trees**

The BC forestry industry and government are working to raise global awareness around the role forest products can play in mitigating climate change. BC's forest products store vast amounts of carbon that would otherwise be released into the atmosphere. BC's forest industry has established the unprecedented goal of achieving carbon neutrality across all operations and all sectors by 2015 – without the purchase of carbon offset credits. The BC Government is pursuing a goal of zero net deforestation by 2015, and will put that goal into law by 2010. The Province is also launching a new 'Trees for Tomorrow' urban program which will see new trees planted in public spaces. For information on reducing your carbon footprint, visit www.livesmartbc.ca

- **'Emission Offsets Regulation' Comments Posted**

The Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act legislates BC's commitment to reduce greenhouse gases by at least 33% below current levels by 2020 and to achieve a carbon neutral public sector by 2010. The Emission Offsets Regulation forms part of the work undertaken by the Ministry of Environment to support these commitments. For a summary of written comments received during the consultation period, visit www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/codes/ggrta/offsets_reg.htm

TechLINKS

- **Invent The Future Contest.** Two grand prizes of \$2,500 and several iPod's for runners-up. Video or written entries that show and explain any idea re energy conservation. Open to BC residents age 13 – 29. Sponsored by BC Hydro. Deadline October 31 2008. www.inventthefuture.ca
- **Civil Engineering Coop Students available.** Camosun College Co-operative Education invites you to interview and hire Civil Engineering Coop Students for the January 2 – March 27 2009 work term. camosun.ca/services/coop/
- **CSA Standards Now Online.** WorkSafeBC and its partners in the regulation of workplace health and safety across Canada have teamed up with the Canadian Standards Association to fund a two year pilot project to give online access to CSA standards referenced in OHS legislation. www.csa.ca
- **BC Innovators Network Launched.** The BC Innovators Network is a point of connection for members of industry and academia in: information and communication technologies, ocean sciences and energy, life sciences, clean-tech and creative industries. The British Columbia Innovation Council has created the BC Innovators Network as a vehicle to engage talented individuals in advancing commercialization of science and technology companies throughout BC. www.bctic.ca/innovators-network/participation
- **Rural Clean Energy Funding Available.** BC will provide a further \$25 million to develop clean energy projects in BC's rural communities through the Innovative Clean Energy Fund. The ICE Fund is open to municipalities, regional districts, school boards, hospitals, First Nations, not-for-profit societies, post secondary institutions, Crown corporations, public utilities and companies. The ICE Fund will showcase BC technologies to the world and drive solutions to climate change while supporting the government's goal of electricity self-sufficiency by 2016 and cutting greenhouse gas emissions by 33 per cent by 2020. www.gov.bc.ca/tted/popt/innovative_clean_energy_fund.html
- **BC Health Web Portal Established.** The BC Academic Health Council has launched a web portal that provides a single entry point to a repository of information, linkages, networking opportunities, knowledge exchange and an open space for collaboration. www.bcahc.ca

TechEVENTS

- **ASTTBC 'Awards & Recognition Celebration'**, October 25 2008, Vancouver. An evening of celebration, awards and music. Network with stakeholders in BC's science and technology community. This event will also profile National Technology Week dedicated to raising awareness of careers in technology, technologists and technicians. Runs concurrently with the AGM of the Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists. www.asttbc.org/arc
- **Software Teamwork**, November 4 – December 2 2008, Vancouver. For software managers, team leads, analysts and anyone involved in technical projects and teamwork. reg.cstudies.ubc.ca/session_info_2.cfm?sessionid=IE535%5D
- **Canadian Summit on the Mature Workforce**, November 5 2008, Calgary. The impact retiring baby boomers are having on organizations throughout the Western World and what to do about it. www.workplaceinstitute.org
- **Science & Technology Awareness Network Conference**, November 5 - 6 2008, Ottawa. 'Building the Talent Pipeline – From Research to Practise' will explore the opportunities and challenges that face Canada in building a science, engineering and technology based 'talent pipeline'. www.scienceandtechnologynetwork.ca
- **MISTIC Science, Technology & Innovation Awards**, November 6 2008, Nanaimo. This gala highlights the achievements of individuals or businesses in twelve categories including the ASTTBC Leadership in Technology Award. ASTTBC members are encouraged to nominate deserving candidates (deadline for Call For Nominations deadline is October 3 2008) and to attend the gala. www.mistic.bc.ca/awards.asp
- **Construction Project Management**, November 6 – 7 2008, Richmond. How to plan and control a project from initial justification to commissioning. Offered by Dalhousie University College of Continuing Education. www.dal.ca/cce
- **2008 Construction Safety Symposium**, November 14 -15 2008, Richmond. Training, displays, lectures and networking for construction safety professionals. Certificate training available on the 14th. For information, email Urvi@safetynetwork.bc.ca
- **Early Stage Financing**, November 18 – 19 2008, Kelowna. Clear, concise, comprehensive and co-ordinated steps to success for Small Medium Enterprises. Sponsored by Okanagan Science & Technology Council. www.ostec.ca
- **'Adapting to Change (Regulatory, Ecological and Social)' conference**, November 19 - 20 2008, Richmond. Sponsored by the Integrated Vegetation Management Association of BC. www.ivma.com
- **Regional Economic Leadership Forum**, November 20 - 21 2008, Whistler. Sponsored by the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region, this leadership forum will look at effective and relevant ways to promote greater opportunities for all citizens of the northwestern states and provinces. www.pnwer.org
- **Bridge Asset Management**, November 20 – 21 2008, Richmond. Guidance on how to quantify bridge infrastructure deficit and prioritize investment. Offered by Dalhousie University College of Continuing Education. www.dal.ca/cce
- **Construction Solutions Conference: Proactive Solutions for Healthy & Sustainable Buildings**, November 20 2008, Vancouver. Constructive and preventative solutions for building envelope and ventilation. Seven seminars and trade show. www.constructionsolutionsconference.com
- **BOABC Fall Educational Conference**, November 20 – 22 2008, Richmond. Details to be announced. www.boabc.org
- **WoodWORKS! Fall Luncheon Conferences**, November 28 2008 in Kelowna, December 2 in Victoria. 'Raising the Roof' includes presentations on: the architectural, code and structural challenges that need to be addressed to permit the use of wood in 5-8 storey buildings; the design and construction of the roof on the Richmond Speed Skating Oval; evolution of the wood truss. Contact imalone@wood-works.ca
- **CEBC Awards Gala**, March 7 2009, Vancouver. The annual Consulting Engineers of BC Awards Gala is the association's premiere professional and social event of the year. www.cebc.org/subcalendar/upcomingcalendar.html
- **ASTTBC AGM**, May 22 2009. Details to follow, please mark your calendars now. www.asttbc.org
- **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
- **World Forestry Congress**, October 18 – 25 2009, Buenos Aires. Call for papers under the theme 'Forests in development – a vital balance'. www.wfc2009.org

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

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

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Reminder...

Do we have your current contact information? To change email, mail, phone and employer information, please login at www.asttbc.com/registration/contactupdate.php

Haven't paid your dues yet? Time is running out to maintain your professional status. Please phone ASTTBC at 604-585-2788 or pay on-line at <https://secure.asttbc.com/registration/dues/paydues1.php>
