



ASTT e-News, October 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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Awards Gala Set For November 7

Each year ASTTBC recognizes outstanding achievements by individuals in the Applied Science and Engineering Technologies. Our awards gala is also a way to say 'thanks' to the many volunteers who contribute to the development of the Association. This year our 'Awards & Recognition Celebration' will be held at the Renaissance Vancouver Hotel Harbourside on the evening of November 7, 2009. Volunteers and award recipients will receive complimentary invitations. All members are encouraged to attend and tickets can be purchased through www.asttbc.com/arc.

RTMgr Certification Board Appointed

ASTTBC Council has now appointed the new Registered Technology Manager (RTMgr) Certification Board. The RTMgr Board is made up of five ASTTBC members including; Bill MacPherson, ASCT; Grant Lachmuth, ASCT; Muhammed A. Amir, ASCT, MBA; Mike Lambert, CTech and Tom Abbuhi, ASCT. Kevin Ramsay, ASCT has been appointed as Special Advisor To The Board. Public Representatives include Don Pourier, MA, MBA of Thompson Rivers University and Jim Hendry, BA, MBA from the BC Institute of Technology.

Liability Insurance As A Component Of Risk Management

Members can reasonably expect that at some point in the course of their professional lives they will make a mistake. The liability for a serious mistake can take a toll on the financial well being of not just you as a member, but your client as well. The Code of Ethics requires that members protect the interests of their clients and this includes protecting them from financial risk related to the provision of your work and services.

Government's interest for increased consumer protection is creating more examples of where mandatory liability insurance is required for licensing. A recent example is the licensing of House Inspectors, who require mandatory insurance prior to being licensed. Having the appropriate liability insurance coverage may also assist in determining whether you are a 'qualified person' for the provision of professional work and services.

Professional liability insurance protects you against claims from parties who allege that you were negligent in providing the appropriate level of services. The protection this insurance provides is not just for covering costs related to damages, should litigation prove you guilty of negligence, but covers your legal defense costs as well. In many cases this could be substantial even if you are determined not to be guilty.

Given the financial risk to your practice, it stands to reason that appropriate management of this risk should include a level of liability insurance coverage. Even if you are an employee of a company and the company does 'save their employees harmless', the employer's insurer may very well have the subrogated right to sue you for any costs that it has had to pay out, regardless of the goodwill of the employer.

It is strongly recommended that members use Liability Insurance as a component of their Risk Management Plan. ASTTBC has a quality and competitive Liability Insurance Plan specifically tailored for our members needs through underwriter CATLIN Syndicate, which is the largest syndicate at Lloyd's of London. Our broker would be pleased to provide quotes for Errors & Omissions (E&O) Insurance, including Comprehensive General Liability (CGL) insurance coverage should that also be required. The broker for the ASTTBC plan is Willis Canada and the contact is Leanne Stier, CAIB, (Tel: 604.605.5601, Email: Leanne.stier@willis.com) the Account Executive responsible for the ASTTBC plan.

ASTTBC Members Recognized as Qualified Reclamation Specialist

While this is not recent news, we were asked recently as to whether ASTTBC registered technologists are recognized by the Oil and Gas Commission as 'Qualified Professionals'. The answer is yes. ASTTBC members are included as 'QRS' with the BC Oil and Gas Commission. The Qualified Reclamation Specialist means an applied scientist or technologist:

- Registered as a member in good standing with a recognized professional organization, which operates under an Act of the British Columbia legislature;
- Who is subject to the organization's Code of Ethics and is subject to disciplinary action by that organization;
- Who has a degree, or technical diploma specifically majoring in land reclamation; who has academic accreditation or the disciplines of soil genesis and classification, soil physics, soil chemistry, geomorphology and soil plant relationships and land reclamation; and who has a minimum of seven years directly related experience in the field of land reclamation.

Membership in organizations suitable for consideration under category (a) include, but are not limited to:

- Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC
- Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC
- Registered Professional Foresters of BC
- BC Institute of Agrologists
- Association of Professional Biologists of BC

An individual registered under a related professional association in another province would need to be registered in an appropriate BC association to qualify. The individual must also fulfill the other stated criteria to qualify as a "Qualified Reclamation Specialist", for the purposes of the information letter.

Onsite Wastewater Training Options Increased

Changes in Section 7.0 of the Sewerage System Regulation by government through an Order in Council will provide more flexibility for the Onsite Wastewater Registration program. The revised Regulation moves the responsibility for accrediting and determining onsite training equivalencies to ASTTBC. It will require that ASTTBC establish learning outcomes for all parts of the education program. These will be determined over the coming months. There is no intent for ASTTBC to provide training. Training will still be provided by the British Columbia OnSite Sewage Association through its Westcoast Onsite Wastewater Training Centre. However other organizations will now also be able to offer the training if approved by ASTTBC.

"This opens the door for other education providers in BC as well as outside the province, since we are the regulators of practitioners in this province," says Ron Hein, Manager of ASTTBC's Onsite Wastewater Registration Program. "Not only can this provide more education choices for people in the industry at a regional level, it will help us better evaluate those coming in from other provinces where training programs may be quite different."

CSO Certification Panel Welcomes New Members

Kathy Lange, Executive Director of the Construction Safety Association of BC and Steve Mah, Manager Audit Services with the BC Municipal Safety Association have been appointed to the CSO Certification Panel. Both new members are professionals in the construction safety industry and were enthusiastically welcomed by Panel members at the September 10 CSO Panel meeting.

2009 Construction Safety Symposium

ASTTBC is again a major supporter with Worksafe BC and other members of the construction safety industry, bringing the 2009 *Construction Safety Symposium to Richmond, BC*. The event will be held *November 20 and 21*. On Friday a series of one day certificate courses in safety are being offered. The Saturday symposium covers a range of presentations on safety related topics. All CSOs and TSCs are encouraged to attend this highly informative and educational event. It is recommended members *register early as spaces will fill fast*. Both the one day certificate courses and the day long symposium are *eligible for Continuing Professional Development points*.
<http://cso.asttbc.org/cpd.php>

First Nations Careers Council Calls For Volunteers

The First Nations Careers Council was formed in May 2008 by ASTTBC to assist technologists and technicians to promote technology careers to, and the application of technology in, First Nations communities. The FNCC is now up and running, and building its work plan. The Board is made up of First Nations technologists and technicians. The group wants to augment its expertise by inviting other interested persons who share their goal to get involved. *"We are looking for a few people from industry, education and NGOs to join the board", says FNCC Chair, Tim Duerden, ASCT. "If this is of general interest I encourage you to review our web site at fncc.asttbc.org to learn more and then please send an email to the ASTTBC office at techinfo@asttbc.org and we will connect with you."*

Executive Director's Report To Council

Selected highlights from the Executive Director's Report to Council Covering the Period May 9 to September 18 2009 include:

Professional Legislation & Regulation

- Architects Act changes requested by ASTTBC.
- Government advises APEGBC and ASTTBC should work together to achieve a common position regarding professional legislation and practice rights and to jointly approach government.
- ASTTBC met with the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General about the Association's support for the new House Inspector licensing and a few areas still requiring attention to protect home buyers.
- ASTTBC continues to work with the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport on suggested changes to the Sewerage System Regulation.

Rights To Practice

- Work continues on producing additional Guides To Professional Practice.

Professional Recognition

- Contact with Deans and instructors at BCIT, Okanagan College, Camosun, and Kwantlen College.
- ASTTBC, Okanagan College, technology employers and School District #23 are looking at creating an event in January 2010 to enable career counselors, employers and college faculty to share information and learn about the roles of technologists and technicians.
- ASTTBC participated in the Terasen Gas inaugural 'Technologist Forum'.
- ASTTBC is a sponsor of the APEGBC AGM in October. The ASTTBC President or representative attend APEGBC Council meetings and APEGBC reciprocated at ASTTBC Council meetings and the Executive Directors meet periodically.
- The ASTTBC Executive met with the Consulting Engineers of BC Executive.
- ASTTBC attended a meeting of professional associations with the Health Sciences Association.

Member Services

- New or expanded web sites have been developed for the BC Institute of Property Inspectors, the Onsite Wastewater Registration Program, Construction Safety Officers, BC Women In Technology, the First Nations Careers Council, and the new Registered Technology Manager (RTMgr) certification.
- The results of the Member Compensation Survey have been posted to the ASTTBC web site.
- A Member Satisfaction Survey will be conducted this fall.
- ASTTBC continues to enhance the profile of its members and the Association through a combination of paid advertising and media releases.

Technology Education & Careers

- ASTTBC continues as an active sponsor of the BIG Little Science Centre.
- A full-page ad was placed in a BC Safety Authority special feature in BC Business Magazine and in Business in Vancouver's 'BCTech 2009' publication.
- ASTTBC will take an active role in National Technology Week in November.
- ASTTBC joined the Association of Science, Engineering and Technology Professionals of Alberta in promoting careers in technology for women.
- ASTTBC has a 30 second clip promoting careers in technology running for the duration CKPG-TV's QuizMe program.

Public Policy

- The 'Roundtable On Technology Skills Shortage III' has been arranged for October 14 2009. Two mini roundtables on First Nations Careers Council and BC Women in Technology will be held immediately following.
- Meetings were held with several BC cabinet ministers, MLA's and federal MP's.

Governance & Management

- ASTTBC completed a year-long celebration at 50th AGM in May 2009.
- The Awards & Recognition Celebration is slated for November 7 2009.
- The 2010 work plan is being finalized.

Both the Executive Director Reports and the Registrar's Reports are posted to the ASTTBC web site. www.asttbc.org/about/corporate/minutes.php

Minister of Labour Hears From ASTTBC Re WorkSafe Regulations

Minister of Labour, Murray Coell, is well known to ASTTBC as he served for many years as Minister of Advanced Education and Minister Responsible for the ASTT Act, Engineers and Geoscientists Act and Architects Act. During his time as Minister of Advanced Education, Minister Coell came to appreciate ASTTBC's issues regarding practice rights and restrictions, the need to enhance awareness of technology education and careers and special initiatives such as First Nations Careers Council and Women in Technology. On September 20 2009 ASTTBC's Keith Trulson, ASCT, EngL, Chair, Practice Review Board; Sarah Campden, CTech, Chair, BC Women in Technology; and John Leech, ASCT, CAE, Executive Director met with Murray Coell, now Minister of Labour. In addition to a quick update on ASTTBC's work to enhance career awareness with women and First Nations, ASTTBC also spoke about the need to recognize ASTTBC within WorkSafe BC Occupational Health and Safety Regulations. *"Our purpose was to advise the Minister of ASTTBC efforts to secure appropriate recognition with the OH&S Regs. We promised to keep the Minister posted on our discussions with WorkSafe which has, to date, not accepted ASTTBC's members as 'qualified professionals', said John Leech. "We will continue to seek fair and equitable recognition of ASTTBC-registered technology professionals."*

Minister of State for Mining Meets ASTTBC Leaders

Randy Hawes, MLA for Abbotsford – Mission, and Minister of State for Mining, met in September with ASTTBC's Executive Director, John Leech, ASCT, CAE; Chair of the Practice Review Board, Keith Trulson, ASCT, EngL; and Chair of BC Women in Technology, Sarah Campden, CTech. In addition to talking about ASTTBC's role in regulating technology professionals and some of the key practice rights issues of concern to ASTTBC, Sarah spoke about ASTTBC's work to promote women in technology and Keith highlighted ASTTBC's critical role in protecting the public interest. John Leech briefly mentioned ASTTBC's role in registering 'technical specialists' and suggested that ASTTBC might be a good fit for the needed certification of mineral assayers. The Minister was also interested in the progress made with Onsite Wastewater certification and some of the additional changes being considered to enhance the program.

MLA John van Dongen Welcomes ASTTBC's Executive Director

Over the years ASTTBC has developed a solid connection with John van Dongen, MLA for Abbotsford South, who took the lead on licensing of house inspectors in BC when he was Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General. ASTTBC's Executive Director, John Leech, ASCT, CAE, met recently with the MLA, and during their visit Leech again congratulated van Dongen on his work in bringing in legislation to license inspectors. John Leech also talked about ASTTBC concerns regarding rights to practice and current restrictive legislation such as the Architects Act and the need for Government to recognize all practitioners based on their competencies. Leech said in a recent interview, *"John van Dongen has always maintained an open door for ASTTBC. He is genuinely interested in learning about the issues affecting the professional regulation of BC's technology professionals."* Leech and van Dongen also talked about ASTTBC's new First Nations Careers Council and BC Women in Technology initiatives.

ASTTBC Hosts MLAs To Lunch

John Rustad, MLA for Nechako Lakes, assisted ASTTBC's Executive Director, John Leech, ASCT, CAE, to bring together five newly elected Members of the BC Legislature to join ASTTBC leaders for lunch. MLAs attending included John Rustad, Stephanie Cadieux, Marc Dalton, Terry Lake, Norm Letnick and Jane Thornthwaite. ASTTBC's Keith Trulson, ASCT, EngL and Sarah Campden, CTech joined the Executive Director in providing an overview of ASTTBC as a self-governing professional association as well as focusing attention on ASTTBC's role in professional regulation and career initiatives such as BC Women in Technology. Keith is Chair of ASTTBC's Practice Review Board and Sarah is Chair of ASTTBC's BC Women in Technology.

For more information on this and other ASTTBC government liaison, visit <http://www.asttbc.org/services/whatsnew.php>

ASTTBC Sponsors QuizMe on CKPG-TV

In 2003, a University of Northern British Columbia chemistry professor approached CKPG TV with a proposal to produce a weekly quiz show, based loosely on the model of 'Reach for the Top' with contestants drawn from local elementary schools. And so was created 'QuizMe!' ASTTBC is again sponsoring the program. It airs on CKPG TV Thursdays at 7pm for 15 weeks. There is also a repeat Sundays at 5pm. Tied to the program is an ASTTBC commercial that runs once each show. ASTTBC also receives credit as sponsor of the science and technology segment in promos that run outside of the program.

"We are so pleased to have ASTTBC on board for a second year," says CKPG's Creative Director, Brenda Clotildes. "This sponsorship shows that QuizMe! has wide appeal, even outside of our broadcast area...and ASTTBC members can be very proud of supporting bright young minds!"

Kootenay Roundtable Follow-up Meeting

On September 24 2009, ASTTBC's Executive Director, John Leech, ASCT, CAE and the Association's Okanagan Region Manager, Bruce Stevens, ASCT, took part in a follow up meeting in Castlegar to the Kootenay Roundtable on Technology Skills Shortage. Using the Kootenay Roundtable Report that was produced by ASTTBC, representatives from industry, education and government worked towards an action plan for the Kootenays.

ASTTBC Councilor Named To Technical Advisory Committee

Cathy Lange, Executive Director, Construction Safety Association of BC, is pleased to announce the appointment of John Murphy, Manager, Underwriters Laboratories of Canada, to the Technical Advisory Committee. John has a diverse background in multiple technologies as an elevator technician/inspector, marine engineer, logging and mining equipment technician, and senior management positions in Safety Engineering. John's technical and safety management career, and his current role as a Public Representative on ASTTBC Council, place him in a position to make a positive contribution as a member of the CSABC - TAC.

Fire Prevention In BC

Last year in British Columbia the Office of the Fire Commissioner received reports of 31 deaths and a further 138 people being injured as a result of residential fires. In most of these tragic cases, a smoke detector was not installed or was not functioning. 'Stay Fire Smart, Don't Get Burned' is the theme for Fire Prevention Week in British Columbia October 4-10 this year.

"Fire can spread rapidly in a home and families may have only moments to escape to safety," said Kash Heed, Minister of Public Safety. "A working smoke alarm can provide that critical early warning that can mean the difference between life and death." Since 1979, the BC Building Code has required builders to install smoke alarms in all new home construction.

Fire remains one of the top five leading causes of unintentional death around the world, according to John Murphy, Manager, Local Engineering Services, in the Richmond office of Underwriters Laboratories of Canada. (John is also a Public Representative on the ASTTBC Council.) *"UL has known this since the very beginning, as embodied in our early credo 'Ignis Servus Non Dominus - fire is servant, not master' ", he says "To control fire, we must understand fire. To prevent fire and fire-related deaths and injuries, we must first learn about fire. Safety education and preparedness are key."*

During October, Disney and UL are pleased to offer free viewings of UL's newest safety education DVD, 'Wild About Safety: Timon and Pumbaa Safety Smart About Fire!'. ASTTBC members are encouraged to invite family, friends, and neighbors to join in fire prevention and watch the on-line video. Through the web site, you can also download and print family activities. 'Wild About Safety:

Timon and Pumbaa Safety Smart About Fire!' will also be available on November 16, 2009 through BarnesandNobel.com, Amazon.com and ULUniversity.com. The DVD and associated activities have been translated into 16 languages: Castilian, Chinese, Danish, English, French, German, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Kannada, Korean, Marathi, Portuguese, Spanish, Tamil and Vietnamese. Visit www.safetysmartdvd.com

TechPRO – Bob Prasad, CTech

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

Note: **Why not visit TechPRO to see the posts of your colleagues** – this month's 'editor's pick' is Bob Prasad, CTech, Manager, Business Development with CH2M HILL Energy Operations. Bob is interested in pursuing the new Registered Technology Manager (RTMgr) designation soon to be offered by ASTTBC. He also sees value in becoming a volunteer. In 2009 Bob was the recipient of an ASTTBC 'Top In Technology' award. Visit his TechPROfile at <http://www.techprofile.ca/techprofile.php?4aa1598f>

TechLINKS

- **Construction Industry Forecast.** A complimentary webcast October 22 2009 will provide an insider's look at the recovery of the construction industry with analysis from leading industry experts. The webcast titled, 'The Year Ahead for Construction: A Perfect 10?' will be presented by Reed Construction Data, the AGC of America and the American Institute of Architects. www.reedconstructiondata.com/events/2009/10/construction-forecast-webinar-october-22-2009/?nid=3793
- **Bachelor of Trades and Technology Leadership.** This Thompson Rivers University degree program is aimed at allowing certified trades people and technologists to gain the business and leadership knowledge needed for management and other advanced positions. Delivered primarily on-line (along with two short, on-campus courses) so trades people or technologists wishing to advance in their careers can benefit from flexible learning options. www.tru.ca/trades/btechttl.html
- **Consumer Protection BC new web site.** This new web site allows Consumer Protection BC to implement industry specific web pages for consumers and licensees. Watch for updates on home inspections. www.consumerprotectionbc.ca

TechEVENTS

- **FrankenScience 3**, October 24 2009, Kamloops.
The open house of the BIG Little Science Centre runs from 11am to 4pm at the Bert Edwards Science & Technology School. Demonstrations and hands-on events for the whole family. www.blsc.org
- **CSAP Exam 2009 Preparation and Refresher Workshop Series**, November 5 2009.
The Contaminated Sites Approved Professional Society is sponsoring workshops on exam preparation and a workshop to review technical issues faced by Approved Professionals. GeoEnviroLogic Professional Development has been contracted to deliver the workshops under the direction of the CSAP Society. <http://www.geoenvirologic.ca>
- **MISTIC Science, Technology & Innovation Awards**, November 5 2009, Nanaimo.
This gala event will highlight the achievements of individuals or businesses in thirteen award categories including the ASTTBC Technology Leadership Award. www.mistic.bc.ca
- **ASTTBC Awards & Recognition Celebration**, November 7 2009, Vancouver.
This gala recognizes award winners in technology, thanks the Association's many volunteers, and

provides an evening of entertainment. It coincides with National Technology Week.
www.asttbc.org/arc

- **Federal Halocarbon Regulations**, November 17 2009 Vancouver; November 18 Victoria. Environment Canada is hosting complimentary information sessions on the Federal Halocarbon Regulations 2003. The purpose of FHR 2003 is to reduce and prevent emissions of ozone-depleting substances and their halocarbon alternatives. www.ec.gc.ca/ozone
- **'Durable Wood Exteriors', BC Fall Wood Design Luncheon Conferences**, November 18 Kelowna; November 19 Kamloops; November 24 Victoria. Sponsored by the Canadian Wood Council / Wood WORKS! the series provides information on the do's and don'ts of exterior wood detailing; durability by nature and by treatment; and durability and protection. www.cwc.ca
- **Erosion and Sediment Control Conference**, November 18 -19 2009, Delta. Learn and share 'best management practices' and how to prevent erosion and ensure sediment control on construction sites. Hosted by the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the International Erosion Control Association in conjunction with the City of Surrey and the Township of Langley. www.pnwieca.org/ESCmetrovancover
- **Construction Safety Symposium**, November 20 – 21 2009, Richmond, BC. ASTTBC is again a major supporter with Worksafe BC and other members of the construction safety industry, for the 2009 *Construction Safety Symposium*. On Friday a series of one day certificate courses in safety are being offered. The Saturday symposium covers a range of presentations safety related topics. All CSOs and TSCs are encouraged to attend; it is recommended members *register early as spaces will fill fast*. Both the one day certificate courses and the day long symposium are *eligible for Continuing Professional Development points*. cso.asttbc.org/cpd.php
- **Festival of Trees**, November 20-29 2009, Nanaimo. The 15th annual Vancouver Island University 'Festival of Trees' starts with a gala dinner, auction and dance. The Festival includes activities for children, families and seniors. www.viu.ca/festival
- **SustainaBUILD Conference**, November 24 2009, Vancouver. Formerly the Construction Solutions Conference, this newly branded conference focuses on providing information and showcasing materials and products for healthy and sustainable buildings of all types. www.sustainabuild.com
- **26th Angel Forum**, November 24 2009, Vancouver. For companies seeking up to \$1.5 million to present and exhibit to more than 70 pre-screened private equity investors. Sponsored by: Business Development Bank - Venture Capital; PricewaterhouseCoopers; TSX - Venture Exchange; Fasken Martineau. www.angelforum.org
- **Awards For Public Safety**, November 25, Vancouver. The 5th Annual Lieutenant Governor's Awards for Public Safety is hosted by the BC Safety Authority. ASTTBC is a silver level sponsor of the gala. www.safetyauthority.ca
- **Roads to Prosperity Transportation Conference**, January 27 2010, Richmond. Socio-economic returns on investment in the transportation sector. Organized by the Consulting Engineers of BC in association with the BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. www.cebc.org
- **Building Envelope Systems and Technologies**, June 27 – 30 2010, Vancouver. ICBEST 2010 provides a worldwide forum for the exchange of information and discussion of recent developments in building envelope engineering. www.icbest.ca

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