ASTTBC Awards Honorary Membership to Kerry Jothen

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T THE ASTTBC Annual General Meeting & Conference, held last May, Honorary Membership was conferred on Kerry Jothen, CEO of Human Capital Strategies. ASTTBC first worked with Kerry 15 years ago when he was CEO of ITAC, on a “Trades & Technology” career awareness strategy. Over the past decade, Kerry has continued to work on several projects for the Association and produced two major strategy documents: Technology Skills 2020: A Technology Human Resources Strategy for British Columbia in 2007, and in 2013: A Strategic Direction for Technology Education and Skills in British Columbia.

Currently Kerry is Workforce Advisor to Chevron Canada on its Kitimat LNG Project and also Co-chairs the Vancouver Board of Trade’s Human Capital Task Force. He chairs the BC Solid Wood HR Committee and is consultant to the BC Shipbuilding and Ship Repair Board. Kerry continues to promote the importance of applied science technologists and technicians to the BC economy.

“I feel very honoured by ASTTBC and I am very proud of my association with your team and the organization,” ASTTBC’s recognition of me is indeed a top highlight in my career,” said Jothen on receiving his award.

Mount Polley: People, Regulations, Standards & Practice

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HE PEOPLE AND THE STANDARDS they work with will emerge as a key focus of the BC Government inquiry into the Mount Polley tailing pond failure and the inspections of tailing pond facilities in the province.

Mount Polley People, Regulations, Standards & Practice

Energy and Mines Minister Bill Bennett (center) announcing details of five investigations into the Mount Polley tailing pond failure and the inspections of tailing pond facilities in the province.

Kerry Jothen (l) presents the ASTTBC 2014 Award to Chevron Canada on its Kitimat LNG Project.

Bill MacPherson, ASTTBC President, and Minister of Environment Mary Polak announce the ASTTBC 2014 AGM & Conference chair.

Bill 18

W ater Sustainability Act:

MINISTER OF Environment Mary Polak introduced Bill 18, the Water Sustainability Act, this Spring. The Act is designed to bring BC’s water laws into the 21st century with a series of changes and updates that balance the needs of all water users. The new legislation replaced the Water Act, which has been in place since 1909. The Bill was applauded by ASTTBC and many others.

That was not the end of the story. To construct, decommission, deactivate, dis-infect a well of 15 metres or greater, a person must be qualified (as a well driller or pump installer) or be under the supervision of a professional engineer or geoscientist. There are regulation-making provisions that provide the authority to develop a regulation that may require the oversight of a professional. ASTTBC expressed concern that, while the legislation does not affect ASTTBC members’ right to actually do the work, it will affect their right to actually do the work, it will affect their right to actually do the work.

Bill 18 continued on page 3

Continuing Professional Development

The ASTTBC Code of Ethics and Practice Guidelines support protection of the public and the environment by requiring that members remain abreast of changes and developments in their discipline. Starting January 2015, all ASTTBC members will need to record their Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activities relevant to their practice. A guide helps determine how many points you can claim for a wide range of activities, including earning points for taking or giving training sessions, attending conferences, volunteering and more. An average of 20 CPD points/year over five years is required to comply with the new policy.

CPD points/year over five years is required to comply with the new policy.

ASTTBC members should record their CPD activities by logging on to their personal login page and entering their CPD points at… www.asttbc.org/login

PROTECTING THE PUBLIC INTEREST

for more info, please visit…

www.asttbc.org

Established in 1958, ASTTBC regulates standards of training and practice of technologists, technicians and technical specialists, to protect the interests of the public under the ASTT Act.

C O N N E C T

Issue #135 July – December 2014

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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 21st 2015.

Bill MacPherson, AsCT Chair, Nominating Committee 10767 – 148th Street, Surrey, BC V3R 0S4 Fax: 604-585-2790 Email: techinfo@asttbc.org

Annual General Meeting

Friday, May 22nd 2015

Please mark your calendar

AGM 2015
Friday, May 22nd 2015
Mark your calendar and make plans to attend!
In the News...

Marcus Ewart-Johns, Vice President, Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME), in British Columbia, met with ASTTBC CEO John Leech, ACSt, to talk about possible connections between CME and ASTTBC and the members of both associations.

“Marcus and I identified several points of contact between CME-BC and ASTTBC,” said Leech. “ASTTBC members are employed by CME-BC firms and ASTTBC members have businesses that are already or could become members of CME-BC.”

They agreed to pursue the natural linkages between the two organizations, including issues such as the need for skilled workers in BC, promoting technology education and careers, the application of technology in manufacturing, and the general profile of manufacturers and exporters. CME is the country’s leading trade and industry association serving as the voice of 10,000 companies. CME also chairs the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters. CM E is the country’s leading trade and industry association serving as the voice of 10,000 companies. CM E also chairs the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters. CM E also chairs the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters. CM E also chairs the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters.

Keeping Government Informed

ASTTBC’s leadership in advancing technology careers in view of the current skills shortage challenge was a topic of discussion between MLA Michelle Stilwell (Parksville-Qualicum) and ASTTBC CEO John Leech, ACSt, CAE.

“The BC Jobs Plan was referenced and the implications for technical workers generally with major projects like LNG. The role of ASTTBC members with regard to issues such as the Monck Polley dam breach took the conversation along a very different path. Michelle was interested in local initiatives in high technology and the linkage with technology education and careers and educational institutions, such as Vancouver Island University and North Island College, and the school districts in her riding.”

Customer Protection

Deputy Premier Rich Coleman, Minister of Natural Gas Development and Minister Responsible for Housing (MLA for Fort Langley-Al Cloverdale), met with ASTTBC and two other associations providing certification of house inspectors to talk about issues planned for the licensing of house inspectors.

The current government regulation places responsibility for licensing with Consumer Protection BC (CPBC) and this will not change, although new regulations to be developed over the next six months will spell out an expanded role for CPBC according to ASTTBC CEO John Leech, ACSt.

“We welcome a more clearly defined and enhanced role for CPBC, working in partnership with professional regulators such as ASTTBC. The changes proposed by Minister Coleman are needed, as the current situation with four separate certification groups and four different standards does not meet the needs of the consumer,” said Leech. ASTTBC, CAHP/BC and others were invited by the Minister to work with Government in crafting the new regulation and defining standards.

Internationally Trained Technology Professionals

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance, Andrew Saxton, MP for North Vancouver, met with ASTTBC CEO John Leech, ACSt, CAE, to review developments, notably ASTTBC’s assistance and support for Internationally Trained Technology Professionals (ITTP).

ASTTBC has been funded over the past three years to develop programs and resources to enhance the assessment of international credentials, inform ITTPs about working in BC and support ITTPs in getting settled in BC.

“I focused much of my time reviewing a number of new programs and services developed for ITTPs that assist those in Canada to get registered as quickly as possible so they can enter the job market with a credential that is accepted by BC employers,” said Leech.

BC Jobs Plan

“Two big thumbs up on the new Skills Plan,” exclaimed ASTTBC CEO John Leech, ACSt, CAE, on attending the announcement of the BC’s Skills for Jobs Blueprint in Victoria. Minister of Education Peter Fassbender talked about changes to the K–12 system, and Minister of Advanced Education Amrik Virk outlined changes planned for post-secondary education. The Hon. John Rustad, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, and others spoke to the benefits of the Blueprint.

The Technology Education & Careers Council (TECC) has been advocating for technology education and careers since it was first established by ASTTBC in 2009. “ASTTBC has provided input to the BC Jobs Plan,” said Leech. “We have also been asking for a longer term strategy designed to focus our efforts to address the needs of industry.”

ASTTBC-TECC Meeting in Victoria: Front row (l to r): Dave Rutherford, President, ASTTBC; Sid Siddiqui, Chair, TECC; Minister Shirley Bond, MLA Whistler-Creekside; Bryan Tisdall, President & CEO, Science World BC; and ASTTBC CEO John Leech. Back row (l to r): Sandy Innes, Vice Chair, TECC and Vice President, TELUS; Andrew Fyfe, Vice President, Okanagan College and Representation for the 15 colleges in BC; Minister Amrik Virk, Minister Peter Fassbender; Harry Diemer, Harry Diemer; and Paul Dangerfield, Campus Dean and Executive Director, New York Institute of Technology and former Vice President, BCIT.

Technology Education & Training

In Victoria, ASTTBC and the Technology Education & Careers Council (TECC) met with Shirley Bond, Peter Fassbender and Minister of Advanced Education Amrik Virk.

“We had a great exchange with the Ministers and their staff,” said TECC Chair, Sid Siddiqui, PhEng. “TECC and ASTTBC presented suggestions as to how technology education and careers could be further enhanced in BC.”

ASTTBC’s President Dave Rutherford, ACSt, BCISL, CSL, said, “ASTTBC has built a solid relationship with key leaders in government and enjoys a partnership in support of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math generally, and technology education and careers specifically. TECC has served a valuable purpose in bringing key stakeholders to the table to share their knowledge, experiences and ideas.”

Discussion centered on math and science in K–12, new and emerging education and training methods, engaging a greater number of First Nations, attracting women and girls into science and technology careers, and promoting STEM subjects and technology education to students and parents. TECC Vice Chair, Sandy Innes, Vice President of Human Resources at TELUS, advised the Ministers that graduate levels in technology programs have been stagnant for the past decade and said the numbers are actually decreasing. As first Chair of TECC, he spoke about industry being more engaged with the education system.

“It was a great day for technology education and furthering our rapport with government through meaningful dialogue,” said MJ Whitmarsh, Special Advisor to the ASTTBC CEO.

Technology Skills

Technology Skills… Get Cooking with ASTTBC is ASTTBC’s new slogan to promote technology education and careers. It was discussed early this summer between ASTTBC Community Representative Henry Murphy, ACSt, and ASTTBC CEO John Leech, ACSt, to review developments, notably ASTTBC’s work in advancing the professional recognition and certification of emerging education and training methods, engaging a greater number of First Nations, attracting women and girls into science and technology careers, and promoting STEM subjects and technology education to students and parents. TECC Vice Chair, Sandy Innes, Vice President of Human Resources at TELUS, advised the Ministers that graduate levels in technology programs have been stagnant for the past decade and said the numbers are actually decreasing. As first Chair of TECC, he spoke about industry being more engaged with the education system.

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In the News... continued on page 6
ASTTBC members should be recognized as Qualified Professionals based on their registration with ASTTBC. ASTTBC advised Ministry staff and the Minister of our concern. The Presidents of BCIT, Camosun College and Okanagan College signed a joint letter to the Minister in general support of ASTTBC’s view. ASTTBC was well received by the Deputy Minister and other staff, as well as Minister Polak. Our views were not successful in its quest to change the Bill.

Minister Polak and Ministry staff pointed out the contribution and value of ASTTBC members. The Minister noted areas where Government currently recognizes ASTTBC members. From the Minister’s letter to the Presidents of the post-secondary institutions:

“The Water Sustainability Act also includes regulatory authorizing authorities that could establish other classes of officials for the purposes of the Act, including professional technicians and technologists. That authority includes providing them with powers, duties and immunities by specifying the provisions of the Act and the regulations that apply in relation to the class of official. There is also authority to prescribe qualifications for persons required to perform audits, studies and assessments, and make reports required under the Act.”

“The Act provides a variety of means by which management of British Columbia’s water resources will continue to rely on persons with Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC (ASTTBC) designation. As you are likely aware, there are numerous situations where ASTTBC members have already been designated as ‘Regional Water Manager’ or Assistant Regional Water Manager’ and exercise the powers of an engineer under the Act within their competence. Also ASTTBC members are routinely designated as ‘Officer’ and ‘Dam Safety Officer’ under the current provisions of the Water Act and the Dam Safety Regulation.”

ASTTBC appreciates the acknowledgement of ASTTBC members and their qualifications. In her letter to the post-secondary Presidents, Minister Polak concluded:

“Government will continue to work with professional organizations, including ASTTBC, as we further develop the professional approach to resource management across the natural resource sector, and develop regulations under the new Act.”

ASTTBC thanked the Minister and Ministry staff for their consideration of ASTTBC views and the contribution made by ASTTBC members.

Google ‘Water Sustainability Act for BC’ to read more on this important piece of legislation.

ASTTBC Budget Submission to Federal Government Focuses on Technical Skills

A meeting between Andrew Saxton, MP for North Vancouver and ASTTBC CEO John Leech led to an ASTTBC pre-budget brief to the Canadian Government. The brief, called ‘Technology Professionals: An Economic Advantage for Canada’, outlines a number of initiatives designed to better understand the economic contribution made by Technology Professionals and specific programming opportunities to enhance awareness.

The brief (posted on the ASTTBC website) says the current gap between employer need and available qualified Technology Professionals requires further attention by the federal government to ensure a sustainable supply of engineering and applied science technologists and technicians.

“This is a real need for a post-Canadian strategy and initiatives to enhance the profile of technologists, technicians and technical specialists,” said John Leech. “It is time to focus programming on technical skills in Canada. The Canadian Government understands the need for Technology Professionals and we hope to see investment in technology career awareness. The BC Skills for Jobs Blueprint points to enhanced technical skills, an important distinction and clear recognition that the BC Government has ‘it in terms of the important role technologists, technicians and technical specialists play. I applaud the BC Government, but more is needed here in BC and at the national level.’”

OCTOBER 5, 1964, Premiers WAC Bennett officially opened the doors to the British Columbia Institute of Technology. In the 50 years since, BCIT has proven to be an integral part of British Columbia’s education system, producing the skilled graduates who fuel our province’s economy. We haven’t done it alone. BCIT and ASTTBC share a productive history; BCIT has 18 programs accredited with ASTTBC – more than any other BC post-secondary – and provides 35 percent of ASTTBC’s new registrants annually. Our alumni and faculty serve on your executive and council, and are active partners on your committees. BCIT and ASTTBC have provided thousands of technologists and technicians to British Columbia.

Today, we are proud that many of the people who sit on our Program Advisory Committees are ASTTBC members. Program Advisory Committees are the hallmark of BCIT’s design and shape the programs we offer by providing direct input to curriculum development. This input means our students have industry relevant skills when they graduate. The Provincial Government is looking for demand-driven education, and thanks in no small part to ASTTBC members, we’re confident our Program Advisory Committees keep us relevant and connected to the latest developments in industry.

I know that like BCIT, ASTTBC is a committed contributor to the economic and social prosperity of our province. In particular, the obligation – and opportunity – is to take the Province’s Government’s BC Skills for Jobs Blueprint and turn it into action.

Almost 150,000 British Columbians are employed in high-tech occupations, 30 percent of these are technologists and technicians. With the development of BC’s resource sector, plus the expansion of the shipbuilding and high-tech industries, 25,000 new jobs in these technology-related careers are expected by 2020.

While technology is just one of the eight BC Jobs Plan sectors, technologists and technicians are key occupations supporting the growth and viability of almost all of the other sectors – especially forestry, mining, LNG, transportation and international education.

The Blueprint outlines how education funding will be based on demand rather than supply – and we can be certain that the demand for technologists and technicians will be high. Together with industry and post-secondary partners, ASTTBC and BCIT can answer this call.

To do so we must be flexible. We must continue to work collaboratively to improve program quality and expand access. We must continue our work in the K–12 system to improve awareness of technology careers and to transition students into related BCIT programs. We must increase our focus on and investment in online teaching, using technology to reach communities around BC – including remote First Nations communities – to bring learning opportunities to students where they live and will work.

As we have for the last 50 years, BCIT and ASTTBC will move forward together and provide British Columbia with people who know how to get things done.

ASTTBC has been integral to BCIT’s success and to our students’ successes since our inception 50 years ago. We look forward to strengthening British Columbia together over the next 50 years.

A ScT A ScT

“Human capital has and will become the ultimate scarce resource.

Technologists and technicians are a precious commodity because they not only know what needs to be done, but also know how to do it with the right tools and equipment.”

Dr. Roslyn Kunin, Economist

Bill Billops, ACSCT

Key Matako, ACSCT

ViewPOINT…

by Kathy Kinloch

BCIT President

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Outcomes to date from the ASTTBC – BC Government partnership agreements include:

• An ITT website with useful tools and resources.
• Video vignettes of ITTs addressing key issues faced by ITTs as they relocate to BC/Canada.
• Soft skill competencies’ required for professional registration and to sustain these in the workplace.
• Focus groups with just under 100 employers throughout BC to determine their workforce needs.
• e-Portfolio as a web-based software program to capture work experience.
• FQR database to help identify education programs from other countries that meet ASTTBC standards.
• A project with APEGBC to help foreign-trained engineers determine whether their best fit is with APEGBC or with ASTTBC.
• A team from BC, Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario visited the Philippines in 2012 to better understand their education system.
• ITT Leadership Forum to help inform ASTTBC staff on programs and services.

New projects recently launched include:

• Developing competencies for four ASTTBC Technical Specialist Internationally Trained Technology Professionals (ITTTP) in getting their credentials assessed to secure technology careers.
• Rolling out the new e-Portfolio for Technical Specialist Programs.
• Visit by ITT leaders to learn more about their education system.
Highlights Tech Careers

ASTTBC celebrates National Technology Week (NTW) during the first week of November to highlight the rewarding career paths in applied science and engineering technology. During NTW, ASTTBC encourages its members to help foster awareness of careers in technology, and the unique roles of technologists, technicians and technical specialists.

The Kick-off for NTW is the ASTTBC Technology Awards & Recognition Celebration (TARC) gala, this year held on November 1, 2014. The Technology Awards event provides the opportunity for ASTTBC to recognize BC’s Technology Professionals who have demonstrated outstanding achievements, and to show appreciation to ASTTBC’s many volunteers and partners who contribute year after year to the growth and development of the Association.

A highlight of the evening was the Silent Auction fundraiser for the ASTTBC Foundation, which helps to support bursaries and awards for technology students across BC. As well, another fun music video by The Kerplunks to engage kids in math and science was presented at the TARC event.

www.asttbc.org/ntw

ASTTBC on Twitter & Facebook

The number of people following ASTTBC on Twitter continues to grow. We thank all of our followers for their interest and further promotion of our Association.

Join the conversation at…

www.twitter.com/ASTTBC

Please take a moment to LIKE ASTTBC on Facebook at…

www.facebook.com/ASTTBC

Science & Technology Community Update

ASTTBC was a Presenting Sponsor of the Tetra Society of North America 2014 Gismo Awards last May in Vancouver. The Gismo Awards are a celebration of Tetra’s volunteer technicians, technologists and engineers who design and build ingenious devices that overcome barriers in the physical world, bringing independence and opportunities to people with disabilities. Tetra Society is an independent, non-profit society that provides custom assistive devices to people with physical disabilities. The organization was founded by Sam Sullivan, ASTTBC Honorary Member and MLA for Vancouver—False Creek.

The Canadian Wood Council and Wood WORKS! BC announced the appointment of Lynn Embury-Williams to the position of Executive Director, BC. Embury-Williams will oversee the Wood WORKS! BC program with a goal to expand the demand for wood products, engineered and value-added wood components, and wood systems in commercial construction. A respected business leader with knowledge of the wood industry and its partners, Embury-Williams holds a MBA from the University of Western Ontario and is a Registered Professional Forester.

BCIT’s Bachelor of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering received accreditation from the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (CEAB). The CEAB was established by Engineers Canada to examine Canadian undergraduate engineering programs and accredit those that meet the profession’s education standards. Graduates of accredited programs are considered to have the necessary academic qualifications to be licensed as professional engineers in Canada. At the same time, BCIT’s Bachelor of Engineering in Electrical Engineering was reaccredited for a six-year term. The BCIT Bachelor of Engineering in Civil Engineering, first accredited in 2010, received a six-year renewal of its accreditation in 2013.

ASTTBC and its members have many points of connection with the Building and Safety Standards Branch (BSSB), and ASTTBC meets with key staff in the branch for regular updates. Topics in a recent meeting included: ASTTBC’s registration of fire protection technicians and special new programs like the verification of fire alarm installations; onsite wastewater filings and the link with building permits; the certification and licensing of house inspectors; the proposed licensing of building officials; and the Ministry’s Modernization Project.

“At a professional regulatory body with a variety of engineering technology fields and technical specialties in our mandate, we have a lot to cover in these meetings,” said ASTTBC CEO John Leech, AScT. ASTTBC works to align its services with that of government, and the needs of industry and technology professionals. “On most matters we are in complete alignment, and where there is a need for further review, we have to the Building and Safety Standards Branch a partner interested in working with us to find solutions that best serve the public interest,” said Leech.

ASTTBC Student Excellence in Technology Awards presentation at Selkirk College (l to r): SEG Instructor Rena Vandenbos, ASTTBC Regional Manager Bruce Stevens, AScT, award winner Laura Smith, award winner Suzanne Fordey, and Selkirk College School of Environment & Geomatics Chair Dr. Brenda Wilson.

At the 2014 Selkirk College Convocation Ceremony in Castlegar, ASTTBC presented four graduating students with ASTTBC Student Excellence in Technology Awards. “Selkirk College’s School of Environment and Geomatics (SEG) has a unique student conference model where graduating students present a summary of their final projects to a gathering of peers, instructors and invited members of industry,” said ASTTBC Regional Manager Bruce Stevens, AScT, who presented the awards.

The Association of British Columbia Land Surveyors

Attention Geomatics Technologists and Technicians

The Association of British Columbia Land Surveyors invites you to consider a career as a commissioned professional land surveyor. If you are working in the field of cadastral land surveying and are not currently registered as a Survey Student and are working in the field of cadastral land surveying and are not currently registered as a Survey Student, please contact the Registrar at the Association office in Sidney (250) 655-7222 to sign up today.

For more information, check out our web site at...

www.abcls.ca
A ST T B C  President
Dave Rutherford, A ScT, B CLS, C LS, presents his President’s Report at the 2014 AGM and Conference.

A STTB C’s 55th AGM & Conference
M O R E THAN 200 MEMBERS and stakeholders joined the ASTTB C Council and staff for the 2014 Annual General Meeting & Conference that took place May 23, 2014 at the Sheraton Vancouver Guildford Hotel in Surrey. An additional 100 participants registered to join us from across the province by webinar.

The event theme ‘TECHNOLOGY SIZZLES... Get Cooking with ASTTB C’ highlighted the essential role Technology Professionals play in building BC’s economy. The AGM Business Session reviewed ASTTB C’s activities for the year 2013 and attended to business items for the coming year. It was another busy, successful year for your Association, and attendees heard all the highlights.

The ASTTB C Council 2014–2015 was introduced at the AGM 2014, and attendees had the opportunity to meet them individually. Two panel discussions featuring leaders from education and industry shared strategies on building BC’s capacity through technology education and careers that fit the skills needs of today’s workplace. The event also celebrated the commitment of ASTTB C members to their Association and to their communities, and recognized some very special people. Congratulations to the following who received ASTTB C Awards at the AGM:

• Kerry Jothen, BA, MA – Honorary Member
• Pete Jackson, C Tech – Service Award
• Robert Barrett, REPT – Service Award
• Paul Dangerfield, BSc, MBA – Certificate of Appreciation
• Bruce Jackson – Certificate of Appreciation
• Larry Bentuzzi, A ScT, FEC, PEng – Top in Technology

ASTTB C extends warm appreciation to our AGM 2014 event partners and all of our sponsors for helping to make this year’s event so enjoyable.

ASTTB C Technology Professionals

ASTTB C Executive & Council 2014 – 2015
The ASTTB C Council 2014 – 2015 was introduced at the Annual General Meeting 2014:

OFFICERS
President
Dave Rutherford, A ScT, B CLS, C LS
Vice-President
Keith Trulson, A ScT, EngL
Secretary-Treasurer
Trent Reid, C Tech
Past President
Bill MacPherson, A ScT

COUNCIL DIRECTORS
Heather Andreychuck, A ScT
Sarah Campden, C Tech, RTMgr
Toni-Lynn Card, A ScT
Richard Cave, A ScT
Russell Dobie, A ScT, P M P
Dmitri Gulak, A ScT, PQS, MRICS
Kai Hui, A ScT
Grant Loyer, A ScT, C MC
David Spagnese, A ScT, CPW I 3

PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES (appointed)
Brian Carr, PhD
James Coble, MA
Tim Smith, PGeo, EngL

40 year ASTTB C members (l to r): Harry Watson, C Tech; Dennis Connally, A ScT, RTMgr, GSC; Harry Hansen, A ScT; Inderjit Sobhi, A ScT; and James Vandenblick, C Tech, with ASTTB C President Dave Rutherford, A ScT, B CLS, C LS.

Was this helpful? 1

Did You Know?
ASTTB C has awarded 40-Year Membership Certificates to a total of 234 members since the Association was established in 1958. As well, 12 members have earned 50-Year Certificates for 50 consecutive years of committed membership in ASTTB C.

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**Where to find us**

ASTTB C is located in downtown Vancouver at 435 West Georgia Street, Suite 600.

**Contact us**

Phone: 604.687.2225
Fax: 604.687.2267
Email: info@asttbc.org
Website: www.asttbc.org
The Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) brought a delegation to Victoria last Spring to learn about key initiatives of the BC Government and to further develop connectivity between the provincial and state governments affiliated with PNWER. ASTTBC sponsored an executive board dinner and attended a full day of meetings with various Cabinet Ministers, MLAs and Government staff.

ASTTBC CEO John Leech, AScT, took the opportunity to present PNWER Chair Senator Kevin Ranker (Washington) on an eagle feather carved by Salish artist Len McKay.

The BC Government liaison to PNWER is the Minister of Agriculture Norm Letnick (MLA for Kelowna–Lake Country). “Norm was a great host and ambassador for BC,” said Leech. “The BC Government has provided solid leadership as a member of PNWER.” ASTTBC also participated in the PNWER Summit in Whistler in July 2014. PNWER has taken a lead on a number of initiatives including tourism, cross-border travel, energy and portability of professional registration.

If you have made a change in your career or employment, or are doing something that your peers would find interesting, ASTTBC would love to hear from you! Please email… editor@asttbc.org

www.ASTTBC.org

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**Work Plan 2015 – 2016**

**ASTTBC COUNCIL HAS APPROVED the Chief Executive Officer’s proposed Work Plan for 2015 – 2016, which points to another forward-looking agenda for the two years ahead. Key elements of the Plan include:**

- Reach agreement with Government, APEFGBC and other stakeholders to enact PTech in BC.
- Secure new Qualified Professional (QP) recognition for ASTTBC members.
- Reach agreement with APEFGBC on ASTTBC Professional Practice Guide.
- Support and assist BC Government 5-Ministry ‘Professional Reliance’ initiative.
- Enhance professional regulation and accountability… enhance Professional Practice & Ethics Program & Exam; inform members on risk management; research and prepare report on policy with regard to mandatory E&O where such would best serve the public interest; launch discussion regarding possible mandatory secondary insurance; extend practice and peer assessments, and auditing program; inform members on use of stamp/seal; develop policy and program for digital signature; develop ‘best practice’ policy for client contracts; further develop CPD mandatory reporting and audits; formulate practice guides for various Technical Specialist programs, notably Onsite Wastewater, House & Property Inspection and Fire Protection; participate in national study on professional certification and registration; help frame a more effective management program for the National Technology Benchmarks; and, consider APEFGBC guidelines and determine possible tie to ASTTBC members’ practice.
- Implement new initiatives to assist Internationally Trained Technology Professionals… Foreign Credential Recognition Database; develop competencies and e-Portfolio for Technical Specialist programs; complete education harmonization mission and sign Mutual Recognition Agreement with India.
- Increase by at least 25% the number of CPD listings on the ASTTBC website.
- Study and report on ASTTBC’s role in supporting and assisting members achieve CPD.
- Collaborate with First Nations in the development of technology education and careers appropriate for their communities.
- Implement new branding for ASTTBC, notably for websites and e-News.
- Launch Volunteer Leadership Program.

“In preparing the Work Plan for ASTTBC Council it seemed timely that we take a little longer view than the usual one-year Work Plan and as a result Council received and approved a Work Plan covering 2015 – 2016,” said ASTTBC CEO John Leech, AScT, CAE. “The reality is that it is often not practical to define and achieve key programming and initiatives within a 12-month period.”

The complete Work Plan is posted on the ASTTBC website.

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**Report of ASTTBC Council Public Representatives 2013**

**P**ublic representatives serve on ASTTBC Council to assure public interests are reflected in ASTTBC values, policies, certification standards, membership accountability, and decisions pertaining to public safety, public health and environmental protection.

There are three Public Representatives on Council: Brian Carr, P.Eng., and Tim Smith, PEng, Eng., who were appointed in 2012; and James Coble, MA, who was appointed in 2014.

The Public Representatives Report for 2013 was presented at the Annual General Meeting on May 23, 2014. The report focuses on ASTTBC’s primary role as a professional regulatory body to serve the public interest. Here are the highlights of the report:

- The role of public representatives on ASTTBC Council is to ensure that public interests are represented in ASTTBC values, policies and certification standards, and in membership accountability pertaining to public safety, public health and environmental protection.
- ASTTBC is to be commended for its ongoing efforts to improve public, educator and employer awareness of the unique role of technologists, technologists and technical specialists to the applied science and engineering teams, and for promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) in K-12.
- ASTTBC and APEFGBC are strongly encouraged to establish a framework for the scope of practice and approval responsibility between technicians, technologists and engineers.
- A national forum is essential to the public interest and professional recognition nationally and internationally. The mobility of certified members, and the mechanism to protect public safety in this transferability, is an essential strength that must prevail.
- ASTTBC continues to perform in a professional and suitable manner in representing its members and in respecting the importance of public trust and safety.

The Report of the Public Representatives 2013 was sent to the Honourable Amrik Virk, Minister of Advanced Education and Minister Responsible for the ASTT Act, and all the other BC Government MPs and MLAs.
New Developments & Websites for TAC and TPC

Technology Accreditation Canada (TAC) and the organization that founded it, Technology Professionals Canada (TPC), have seen a number of new developments over recent months, including the successful achievement of another milestone in TAC’s progress and the launch of websites by both organizations.

TAC, which is poised to officially begin accrediting engineering technology and applied science programs at post-secondary educational institutions in January 2015, completed a successful pilot project site visit at a Canadian college in August. The site visit involved a TAC audit team comprised of members from Ontario and BC, all of whom completed TAC’s comprehensive online training program. Observers from TAC and the provincial professional association Registrar were also in attendance. The site visit’s purpose was to confirm the legitimacy of the college’s submission, which the audit team had reviewed previously. The audit team met with college administration, faculty, representatives from program advisory committees and alumni, and received exposure to college classes, labs and support services. They examined equipment, students at work, and safety components such as appropriate signage and student accessibility to equipment and labs. “As an observer, I was pleased with the activities and outcome of the site visit. TAC will be examining feedback from all those participating in the pilot to assess what works and what doesn’t so that we can make any necessary changes to the accreditation process,” said Barbara Chappell, TAC Executive Director.

At press time, the audit team’s efforts were focused on the preparation of a preliminary report for the college. The college will, in turn, have a chance to clarify questions and/or provide further affirmation that TAC is officially open for business,” said the TAC news section brings viewers up to date on the latest TAC news releases, announcements and media coverage. “The website is further affirmation that TAC is officially open for business,” said Barbara Chappell, TAC Executive Director.

Earlier in the summer, both TAC and TPC debuted their websites. The TAC website – www.technologyaccreditation.ca – introduces stakeholders and the public to TAC, and the benefits it offers the profession. It explains the importance of accreditation while providing the requisite instruction and documentation for educational institutions to apply for accreditation. As well, it describes the criteria and steps for becoming an auditor. The TAC news section brings viewers up to date on the latest TAC news releases, announcements and media coverage. “The website is further affirmation that TAC is officially open for business,” said Barbara Chappell, TAC Executive Director.

Around the same time, TPC unveiled its website refresh with a smart design and updated content at www.technologyprofessionals.ca. It’s a significant move forward in advancing the profile of TPC which first emerged on the engineering technology and applied science profession scene four years ago. “The goal was to revitalize a website that was outdated and required more functionality. We are pleased with the result,” said TPC Managing Director Jamie Brolt. The TPC website conveys in detail what the profession does, as well as educational requirements and designations. It connects visitors to employment opportunities and educational institutes that offer training for the profession, and discusses the importance of accreditation and the TPC-commissioned Canadian Standards Association (CSA) 2011 report. The site visit involved a TAC audit team comprised of members from Ontario and BC, all of whom completed TAC’s comprehensive online training program. Observers from TAC and the provincial professional association Registrar were also in attendance. The site visit’s purpose was to confirm the legitimacy of the college’s submission, which the audit team had reviewed previously. The audit team met with college administration, faculty, representatives from program advisory committees and alumni, and received exposure to college classes, labs and support services. They examined equipment, students at work, and safety components such as appropriate signage and student accessibility to equipment and labs. “As an observer, I was pleased with the activities and outcome of the site visit. TAC will be examining feedback from all those participating in the pilot to assess what works and what doesn’t so that we can make any necessary changes to the accreditation process,” said Barbara Chappell, TAC Executive Director.

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The ASTTBC Foundation offers annual bursaries and awards to qualifying first or second year students in ASTTBC-accredited technology programs in BC. The Foundation provides $30,000 in student support each year, and also helps to fund science and technology education and awareness in BC.

Thanks to the generous support of ASTTBC members since the Foundation was established in 1990, the Foundation’s endowment has topped $550,000. This endowed Fund will help the youth of today to become the technos of tomorrow, for generations to come.

YouToldUs...

“Recently, Mr. Dave Rutherford wrote to me advising me that I had reached my 40th year as an ASTTBC member and in recognition of this achievement, I will be awarded a special commemorative certificate. I am pleased to be presented with this award and grateful for the offer. In addition to maintaining my regular membership as a Mechanical Technologist with an AST designation with ASTTBC, I wish you to know that I have furthered my qualification and extended my membership to the Home Inspection CH(HP) arm of ASTTBC and expect to receive my certification soon now that I have completed my pre-qualification assessment requirements.”

Ray Cox, AST-40 Year Certificate

“I received my Registered Construction Safety Officer (RCSO) certification in the mail today and it is truly an honour belonging to this Association. I have enjoyed attending the meetings and the CPD days, I have a new position at Kooten Lake, Alberta, and I will be involved with the electrical commissioning of a new plant. It is a camp job and we will be working 12 hours a day. As always, I have been very involved with safety and will continue that at this site.”

Ron Blasko-Cooko

TechJOBS Career Listings Online

Looking for a new challenge or job opportunity? ASTTBC has a job listing service called TechJOBS where you can view active listings at… www.ASTTBC.org/jobs

In addition to the CIEN national job posting service, TechJOBS is a member service whereby employers post new career opportunities on the ASTTBC website every week. The high number of unique and return visitors to the page has kept it one of the top visited pages.

EMPLOYERS… find pricing details online. To book a posting, please contact techinfo@asttbc.org

YouToldUs...
David Sparanese, AScT, CPWI 3
Committed Professional & Volunteer

DAVID SPARANES, AScT, CPWI 3, is Manager of Street Operations for the District of Saanich, and a newly-appointed ASTTBC Council Director. David holds a diploma in Civil Engineering Technology from Camosun College supplemented with several leadership and management courses. His career started with the engineering firm JE Anderson and Associates, and then joined the Ministry of Transportation & Highways District Office in Williams Lake, BC.

He spent 12 years with the City of Victoria before moving to his current position. Besides his work with ASTTBC, David is also involved with other organizations. He is a member of Public Works Association of BC (PWABC). He is Past President and Liaison for CPWA/APWA BC Chapter, and also Chair of CPWA National Public Works Week (NPWW).

In his college days, David was encouraged by his brother, who is an engineer. “My brother said ‘If you’re going to be a Civil Engineering Technologist, then be the best Civil Engineering Technologist you can be,” says David. “I have always been interested in technology and have been passionately involved in it for over 20 years of my career.”

Over the last 17 years, Samuel has seen firsthand the positive changes that have occurred with increasing focus on safety in construction. The ASTTBC-certified Construction Safety Officer plays a vital, unique role on work sites as the safety coordinator and information resource to employers.

BCIT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

BCIT just turned 50, and we’re celebrating the great partnerships we’ve made along the way. ASTTBC, our members are your members, too.

Members of the BCIT Alumni Association receive access to a variety of services, including:

> Benefits and preferred rates through the BCIT Alumni Card
> Invitations to special events
> Preferred rates through the Alumni Affinity Program
> Networking opportunities including reunions

Join us and tap into a community of over 155,000 alumni living and working across the globe.

TechPRO file is an online showcase of technology professionals registered with ASTTBC … www.TechPROfile.ca

MORE THAN READY TO STAY CONNECTED

Nominate Someone for an ASTTBC Award

DO YOU KNOW OR WORK WITH an outstanding Technology Professional who is worthy of recognition for his or her contributions to technology, the profession of technology or through volunteering?

ASTTBC has a number of awards that recognize exceptional leadership and achievement, which are presented at our AGM in May, at the Technology Awards & Recognition Celebration in November, and at regional meetings year-round. Here are some examples:

• Professional Achievement
• Service Award
• Professional Leadership Award for Women in Technology
• TOP in TECHNOLOGY
• TechGREEN

To nominate a well-deserving person, including yourself, contact Cindy Aitken, Manager, Governance & Events, caitken@asttbc.org

Do You Practice Professional Engineering? Consider EngL Designation

ASTTBC REGISTRATION members who wish to practice ‘Professional Engineering’ are encouraged to consider a ‘Limited Licence’ issued by APEGBBC. The licence is designed to recognize ASTTBC members and others with a combination of education and experience, and allow them to assume responsibility for certain functions within the field of ‘Professional Engineering’. The Limited Licence is qualified to use the designation ‘Engineering Licen- see’ (EngL). A similar licence is avail- able for ‘Professional Geoscience’. For information on the EngL and Geol. and current Licensees, visit...

www.apeg.bc.ca > Member Directories > Limited Licensees and Scopes of Practice

Do you practice professional engineering? Consider EngL designation. For more info, visit www.asttbc.org

CPI CHI RRFA
YOUR PROFESSIONALS OF CHOICE

You can access numerous services and benefits through your Alumni Card, including:

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• Invitations to special events
• Preferred rates through your Alumni Affinity Program
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Join us and tap into a community of over 155,000 alumni living and working across the globe.

bcit.ca/alumni
Feedback from ASTTBC Members

Ptech in Alberta Should Transfer to BC as PTech:

ASTTBC members have indicated they want to see the Alberta ‘Professional
Technologist’ (PTech) and the Ontario ‘Licensed Engineering Technologist’ (PTech) as a PTech. 79% of the members attending a recent ASTTBC Council webinar indicated in the affirmative, with 11% indicating ‘No’ to the question and 10% unsure or not applicable. This outcome supports the sentiments of ASTTBC members in every other survey dealing with the PTech designation.

ASTTBC members want to see the PTech designation in BC. The Alberta PTech has now been in law for three years and there are more than 500 technologists registered as PTech under the 1 Act – 2 Association model in that province. The Ontario LET designation will likely roll out in 2015 – 2016.

ASTTBC Members Say ‘Yes’ to Practice Rights:

During a recent ASTTBC Council Update webinar, participants were asked questions regarding rights to practice and ASTTBC’s regulatory framework. Not surprisingly, given past surveys of ASTTBC members on the webinar say ‘Yes’ to rights to practice independently where members have the competencies.

On a related question, 77% indicated that ASTTBC should enhance the Association’s regulatory framework and acquire added Qualified Professional (QP) status. ‘ASTTBC members have consistently said that they should have rights to practice in keeping with their competencies,’ said ASTTBC President, Dave Rutherford, ASCT, BCLS, CLS.

“The ASTTBC Council continues to work on this as part of its role in meeting the mandate assigned to ASTTBC by the ASTT Act.”

Public Understanding of Technicians and Technologists:

Every two years, ASTTBC conducts its Member Satisfaction Survey. Dating back to 2005, members have reported on their opinion for the level of understanding the public has for the roles of technicians and technologists. Aside from a small decrease noticed in 2011, ASTTBC members indicate a 16.9% increase in the public’s level of understanding since 2005. This is a strong indication of the impact our Association has in industry and the role members have played in building BC’s economy.

Public Understanding of the Roles of Technicians and Technologists

ASTTBC & Health Ministry to Harmonize Onsite Wastewater Standards

THE BC GOVERNMENT provided funding to ASTTBC to ensure common qualifications and licensing standards for workers installing septic sewage systems.

“Onsite wastewater accounts for a large portion of sewage disposal in British Columbia,” said Health Minister Terry Lake.

“Whether located in municipal subdivisions with many systems in a fairly small area, or one system for many kilometres in rural regions, they need to be properly designed, installed and maintained to assure our health and safety. Funding will enable the organization to review licensing requirements in other jurisdictions.”

Registered Onsite Wastewater Practitioners (ROWP) certified by ASTTBC are designated along with professionals under provincial government regulation to assume responsibility for systems installed in BC. Systems not designed and installed by an authorized practitioner are illegal and the owner is subject to serious penalties.

Sometimes applicants come to BC with training and licensing from another jurisdiction, and in these cases ASTTBC is obligated under a federal agreement to certify the workers. The challenge for the Association is that the qualifications and competencies of these practitioners may not be the same as those trained and certified in BC.

“With municipal health boards needing maintenance, and more systems being added, this initiative will provide greater assurance of public health and safety.”

ASTTBC will develop a standard set of competencies in collaboration with other provincial licensing agencies that will ideally become the national standard.

ASTTBC, a professional regulatory body of more than 10,000 technologists, technicians and technical specialists, evaluates the credentials of applicants seeking certification. There are more than 500 ROWPs in British Columbia.

RTMgr

What is the RTMgr Designation?

ARE YOU MANAGING OR SUPERVISING in an engineering or applied science technology field? Recognition for this role is available through the Registered Technology Manager (RTMgr) title.

LEADER. An RTMgr has a proven track record of success as a manager and a leader in a technology environment.

TRAINED & EXPERIENCED: An RTMgr has demonstrated their ability to apply the principals of technology management, having been evaluated against a set of competencies that cover all key aspects of the role of manager and leader.

PROFESSIONAL. An RTMgr is bound by the strict Standards of Conduct and Code of Ethics expected of every member registered with ASTTBC.

A Technology Professional’s knowledge of applied sciences allows them to be the link between concept and reality. Technologists and technicians are also innovators, planners and leaders. This unique set of skills is essential to managing and leading in a technical environment.

As a Registered Technology Manager (RTMgr) you will also be an ASC or CTech member of ASTTBC, managing in a technology environment and meet the required standards for academics, training and experience.

ASTTBC website: www.asttbc.org

Contact: rtmgr@asttbc.org

AScT CTech

Why Keep Your Certification If You Don’t Work With It?

EVEN IF YOU NO LONGER USE your professional certification in your daily work, it’s still valuable. ASTTBC certification gives you an edge and shows you have a broader knowledge set.

Valuable professional recognition for career: Letting your certification expire means you may be less marketable as you try to advance your career. Retaining your certification sends a signal to employers that you consider yourself a professional and value the meaning of a professional designation.

Good resource to fall back on: The certification you worked so hard for gives you a competitive edge and can mean the difference between landing an interview and having to explain why you’re competitive even though you’ve been out of the field for so long – especially if it’s a technical specialist certification.

Invested time and money to obtain certification: The amount of time and money you invested to get certified is an important reason why you should stay certified. Retaining and certification exams are costly and can take months or years to complete.

Perks and benefits: ASTTBC certification provides you with access to valuable group benefits and discounts on products and services; job postings in BC and across Canada, professional networking opportunities; and, training courses and events that are only open to ASTTBC technology professionals. ASTTBC has registries of members and employers will often check these registries for local candidates with credentials they require.

83% of the 75 ASTTBC members attending the Lower Mainland member meeting on September 24, 2014, some stayed behind to join Staff for a group photo. In addition to being updated on the Association’s affairs and networking with professional peers, four members were presented Top in Technology awards, including Ken Lee, ASCT, T; Henry Yamashita, ASCT, Wayne Houten, CTech, and Randy Nesvogar, ASCT.

Right: At the 75 ASTTBC members attending the Lower Mainland member meeting on September 24, 2014, some stayed behind to join Staff for a group photo. In addition to being updated on the Association’s affairs and networking with professional peers, four members were presented Top in Technology awards, including Ken Lee, ASCT, T; Henry Yamashita, ASCT, Wayne Houten, CTech, and Randy Nesvogar, ASCT.
FOCUS 2015: Practice & Accountability
Technical Specialists Update

Building Design
With recent decisions by AIBC to roll all ‘Associates’ into three classes, the building designers are again looking to ASTTBC to lead their quest for professional rights to independent practice. ASTTBC will bring together a steering committee to help guide future developments.

Construction Safety
The ASTTBC Construction Safety Officer Certification Program has undergone a series of significant changes, including adding the new designation of ‘Registered Construction Safety Officer’ – RCSO. In 2013, applications for ASTTBC certification increased 20%.

Fire Protection
A renewal initiative to refresh and enhance ASTTBC’s professional regulatory framework and better engage stakeholders continues to roll out under the guidance of an advisory group:
- Mandatory reporting of CPD is rolling out later this year and early 2015.
- Practice Assessment Reviews of RFTs will commence in 2015.
- Attendied annual meetings of Fire Prevention Officers’ Association and Fire Chiefs’ Association.
- First of regular Fire newsletters issued early summer.
- Working with LandlordBC to assure property managers and owners of fire-safe buildings.

Onsite Wastewater
Solid progress on initiatives to address Focus 2015, including:
- Auditing of mandatory reporting of CPD will commence in 2015.
- Onsite Wastewater Practice Guide will be issued this Fall as a draft.
- Onsite Wastewater Advisory Roundtable to guide ASTTBC decision-making.
- Practice Assessment Reviews commencing.
- Workshops for SPMP 3 roll out this Fall and early 2015.
- Signed MOA with WCOWMA (see article on this page).
- First of regular Onsite Wastewater newsletters issued early summer.

Receiced BC Government grant to ‘harmonize’ practitioners’ competencies in Canada. Work started. (See article on this page 10).

House & Property Inspection
- ASTTBC met with Minister Coleman and other regulatory bodies to learn of Governments plans for the future of house inspector licensing. (See article on page 2).
- Consumer Protection BC will take on direct role in setting standards for certification, practice and professional accountability.
- Connected with the Real Estate Council of BC and BC Real Estate Association.
- Working with LandlordBC to encourage use of ASTTBC certified property inspectors.
- First of regular Property Inspection newsletters issued early summer.

Site Improvements Surveys
The designation of Registered in Site Improvements Surveys (RSIS) added to the BC Government’s Professional Reliance Program listing. Working with Ministry of Transportation to recognize ASTTBC RSIS certification.

Public Understanding of the Role of Technical Specialist:
Increasingly, ASTTBC Technical Specialists are being counted on to bring a high level of safety to BC’s public. Accordingly, the public’s understanding of their capabilities and roles has increased by 82.7%, up almost 16% in the past 5 years alone.

ASTTBC & WCOWMA-BC Sign Agreement
ASTTBC and the Western Canada Onsite Waste Management Association of BC signed a Memorandum of Agreement at a meeting of the WCOWMA-BC Board in Nanaimo this past summer. “This agreement sets the foundation for a collaborative partnership that will deliver high standards of professional registration and services for the public and practitioners,” said ASTTBC CEO John Leech, AScT. “ASTTBC benefits when we have a close cooperative working relationship with our key stakeholders.”

Brent Dennis, PEng, WCOWMA-BC President said, “Many thanks for everything leading up to the MOA and your time today to drive it home. Our continued partnership will be very powerful. I’m sure. From the meeting came many great ideas and initiatives with much to be realized, with the 2015 convention of course. It will be a very good year for us both.”

ASTTBC Employer Partner Program
The Applied Science Technologists & Technicians of British Columbia has 10,000 active members registered annually. The ASTTBC Employer Partner Program promotes employer awareness and buy-in of the unique and valuable role of ASTTBC, technologists, technicians and technical specialists on the applied science team.

ASTTBC supports employers by:
- Assuring the professional competence of ASTTBC-registered members.
- Providing employment search services through the national CTEN service at www.cten.ca and ASTTBC’s TechJOBS at www.asttbc.org/jobs.
- Promoting technology education and careers in BC.
- Actively addressing the BC skills shortage.
- Engaging government and industry to work together to foster a science and technology culture in BC.
- Assessing the qualifications of Internationally Trained Technology Professionals.

Employers support ASTTBC by:
- Supporting and encouraging ASTTBC professional certification.
- Calling for ASTTBC registration in job descriptions and career ads.
- Hiring ASTTBC-registered members.
- Paying for annual membership dues.
- Encouraging Continuing Profession Development (CPD).
- Accommodating staff who volunteer with ASTTBC.
- Making a charitable donation to the ASTTBC Foundation to help fund bursaries and awards for technology students across BC.

Perform or Need to Perform Electrical Work? A New Option
NOW FOR SUITABLY QUALIFIED and experienced Applied Science Technologists and Certified Technicians there is a new option for those who perform or need to perform Electrical Work – certification by ASTTBC and licensing by the British Columbia Safety Authority (BCSA) as an Electrical Work Practitioner (EWP). This recognition allows you to legally perform that limited and specialized electrical work, typical for those in the Electrical, Electronic and Bio-Medical Disciplines. An EWP licence is not, nor is it intended to be, a substitute for, or equivalent to, the permitted broad scope of work of a trade-qualified electrician. It is designed to enable certain members of ASTTBC to perform that limited scope of special electrical work that is usual to their discipline.

If you are unsure of your legal position in regards to electrical work, please contact BCSA for specific information and clarification and/or WorkSafeBC Regulations Part 19 for definitions of who is qualified to perform electrical work.

For more information on this program: www.asttbc.org > Members Registration > Technical Specialists > Electrical Work Practitioners
BC Women in Technology Update

BC WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY (BCWIT) is a core group of women, members of ASTTBC, representing various disciplines in the technology field. ASTTBC Council Director and BCWIT Chair Sarah Campden, CTech, RTMgt, along with her daughter Thea, facilitated three BCWIT workshop sessions for the Girls Exploring Science and Technology (GUEST) Event at Vancouver Island University in Nanaimo. They prepared a hydraulics workshop for 60 girls, aged 9 – 11 from Sooke, Sidney, Victoria, Langford, Nanaimo, Campbell River and Salt Spring Island. The girls, in groups of four, used a set of supplies to move water from one place to another. “When presented with problems, they worked together to achieve their goal,” said Campden. “At the end, they were smiling and laughing, and participating in engineering with great enthusiasm.”

BCWIT provides support and information to promote awareness to women in technology careers, and to women seeking new career opportunities. Activities include attending events and speaking with other women and girls about what ASTTBC members do; using social media and networking connections to engage young women in the technology field; and facilitating workshops with such relevant groups as the Girls Guides. BCWIT is well represented geographically in BC, with members in engineering and transportation, municipal government and mining.

John Leech, ASTTBC Chief Executive Officer (l) presents Jean Crowder, MP, Official Opposition Critic for Aboriginal Affairs, with an eagle feather carved by Salish artist Len McKay.

ASTTBC Promotes Tech Careers for First Nations

FEDERAL MEMBER of Parliament Jean Crowder (Nanaimo–Cowichan) met this past summer with ASTTBC CEO John Leech, AScT, to talk about ASTTBC’s work with Aboriginal people. The federal Opposition Critic for Aboriginal Affairs, Jean Crowder talked with Leech about ASTTBC’s efforts to enhance the level of awareness of technology education and careers for Aboriginal people. Leech pointed to the First Nations Careers Council (FNCC) established by ASTTBC to engage ASTTBC First Nations members in the promotion of technology careers. Since its inception, FNCC volunteers and ASTTBC staff have attended many career fairs, provided information to interested youth, parents and the general public, and engaged with stakeholder agencies. ASTTBC First Nations members have served as role models to Aboriginal youth.

“Jean was keen to know all about ASTTBC efforts and to work with ASTTBC/FNCC in advancing technology careers for First Nations,” said John Leech. “We had a great chat, covering the role and contribution of ASTTBC members to the BC economy.”


Bill Bagley, FNCC Chair (l), promoting careers in technology for First Nations at the ASTTBC Annual General Meeting 2014.