Shaping Our Future...

ITUPro's Conference "The Digital Age: Building Technology Careers"

This past summer Carole James opened her door to chat with ASTTBC Executive Director, John Leech, AScT, CAE. Topics included technology education and careers, enrollment challenges at BCIT and the colleges, rights to practice and professional legislation, and the need for strategic leadership for technology education and careers. During the conversation John expressed concern that programs have closed or suspended at Kwantlen University College (Surrey), Thompson Rivers University (Kamloops) and College of New Caledonia (Prince George). John noted that enrolments at BCIT and the other institutions is at best, soft or declining. He indicated that a large part of the problem is low visibility of these career options. ASTTBC initiatives to address this concern were identified. Carole James expressed keen interest in the issues of concern to ASTTBC and promised to follow up...

...in a virtual employment exchange!

BC Housing CEO, Shayne Ramsay (1) met to discuss areas of common interest with ASTTBC's Executive Director, John Leech, AScT, CAE.

BC Housing & ASTTBC

Share Common Interests

BC Housing CEO, Shayne Ramsay, and ASTTBC Executive Director, John Leech, AScT, CAE, got together this fall to compare notes generally... the two shared information about each other’s programs and strategies, and considered ways the two organizations might better link, and in this way, provide better service to British Columbians. Early in the conversation it quickly became apparent that the two organizations share many common interests...

• BC Housing is a strong supporter of ASTTBC registration, with many employees holding ASTTBC certification.
• BC Housing agreed to sponsor ASTTBC's Awards & Recognition Celebration and National Technology Week in BC.
• ASTTBC is a new partner with SAFERhome Standards Society, an organization that is supported by BC Housing. This year ASTTBC developed and published a new brochure and corporate folder for SAFERhome.
• ASTTBC offers a number of services of interest to BC Housing, including CTEN, CareerManager, promoting technology careers and integrating internationally-trained professionals.
• Shayne Ramsay and John Leech recently agreed to formalize the relationship in order to better define where and how we will work together.

Meeting with Leader of the Opposition, Carole James

This past summer Carole James opened her door to chat with ASTTBC Executive Director, John Leech, AScT, CAE. Topics included technology education and careers, enrollment challenges at BCIT and the colleges, rights to practice and professional legislation, and the need for strategic leadership for technology education and careers. During the conversation John expressed concern that programs have closed or suspended at Kwantlen University College (Surrey), Thompson Rivers University (Kamloops) and College of New Caledonia (Prince George). John noted that enrolments at BCIT and the other institutions is at best, soft or declining. He indicated that a large part of the problem is low visibility of these career options. ASTTBC initiatives to address this concern were identified. Carole James expressed keen interest in the issues of concern to ASTTBC and promised to follow up...

...and to stay in touch with ASTTBC.

May 25th, 2007

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Council Nominations

Nominations are requested for election to the Council of ASTTBC. Each nomination must be supported by the signatures of 10 registered members, as well as the consent and signature of the nominee. Nominations properly endorsed must be received by the Nomination Committee Chair by February 24, 2007.

Tim Murphy, ASTTBC
Chair, Nomination Committee

10767 – 148th Street, Surrey, BC V3R 0S4

Fax: 604-585-2990

www.asttbc.ca
Analyzing IT & Education…

LORELEI REIER, ASC T

BUILDING ON HER CURIOSITY as a child for taking things apart, a strong interest in ‘science fiction’ technology and an aptitude for math and sciences, Lorelei saw a world full of opportunity, a full of opportunity, a time when electronics and computers were becoming business and household essentials.

Born and raised in St. John, BC, Lorelei moved to the Lower Mainland with her husband in the mid-80s intent on pursuing studies in electronics at UBC. After a year on the coast, her plans changed and she returned north to Prince George, enrolled in one of the first sessions of the Electronics Engineering two-year program at the College of New Caledonia. It was a natural fit with her interest in electronics and as the first female graduate from the program Lorelei was awarded a scholarship from CN Rail for women enrolled in a non-traditional program. She was a student member in ASTTBC during her studies and received the ASTTBC President’s Award.

While her first job following graduation was not in the electronics field, FMC Chemicals hired Lorelei for her troubleshooting ability and skill set acquired through her education at CNC. FMC provided additional technology skills that enhanced her formal education, including certification as 4th Class Power Engineer, plus training as an industrial firefighter and in human resources.

Electronics being her true passion, Lorelei returned to CNC, as an instructor in the Electronics Department, to share practical experiences that combined with theoretical knowledge. After a challenging incident with a personal computer and an IT company, she turned her focus toward computer technology and following her stint with CNC as an instructor, she spent several years at MagNet Internet refining her computer, networking and web skills. Lorelei continued her membership in ASTTBC as an Associate and achieved her AST designation in 1998.

As her two daughters entered the school system, Lorelei noticed a need for IT professionals in the schools in Prince George. When SD57 put out a call for IT support in 2000, she joined the district as a Technical Analyst. Currently she is involved in daily aspects of district usage and business fit of technology, to current needs and functionality of the schools.

In an effort to keep current and work with the community, Lorelei also operates her own consulting business, matching users with technology to meet their needs and interests.

Lorelei is an active participant at the provincial level with the BCeSS project and sat on the Operational Standards Working Group, a body responsible for developing and setting standards for the province’s student management system. She also volunteers time to assist ASTTBC with events hosted in Prince George, as well as provides input on program renewal, future directions and curriculum at CNC.

Her advice to young women pursuing a career… consider technology as a base, contact knowledgeable people in the field and, most importantly, pursue what interests them.

You Told Us…

“Thank you for your information package outlining activities of ASTTBC… a constant theme in your newsletter is the skilled worker shortage, being experienced in BC. The Conservative Government is taking steps to address this issue… it working towards the establishment of a Canadian agency for the assessment and recognition of foreign credentials.”

(Office of) Hon. David Emerson, Minister of International Trade and Minister for the Pacific Gateway and Vancouver-Whistler Olympics

“Thank you very much for participating as a panelist at this year’s Minerals North Conference in Mackenzie… also for your generous establishment of a multi-year $1,000 bursary for a student enrolled in a technology program at a northern BC college.”

Bob Lane, P.Geol, 2006 Minerals North Organizing Committee

“On behalf of the organizing committee and all the delegates of ‘Producing Influential Leaders’, we extend our sincere thanks… for your generous gift of your time and expertise… you were an integral part of a very successful program.”

Kathleen Sendall, PEng, Honourary Chair, 11th CCWESTT National Conference

“Thank you for renewing your support of FORED. Your support enables us to help teachers throughout BC by providing relevant, factual resources for the classroom.”

Cheryl Ziota, President, FOR Education BC

“I would like to express my appreciation for the chance to meet with you and for the informative talk ( Terrace meeting ).”

Don Varner, ASC T, RFT, Engineering Officer, Kalum District, BC Forest Service

“Get your annual report as well as ASTT News… you guys sure do publishing publications. Very well done… I like it.”

Tom Roemer, Associate Dean, Science, Technology and Health, Okanagan College

Errata…

ASTT News #118, page 2… reference to ‘Keith Tudor, ATE’ should read ‘Keith Tudor, RPF, ATE.

ASTT News #118, page 4… reference to ‘Hon. Keith Falcon’ should read ‘Hon. Kevin Falcon’.

ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY Register early for January evening courses in advanced chemical analysis and instrumentation. A Practical Introduction to Analytical Chemistry, High Performance Liquid Chromatographic Techniques, and/or Gas Chromatographic Techniques.

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LORELEI REIER, ASC T...seeks a brighter future for technology

Group Plans & Services... adding value to your registration!

For more information about ASTTBC’s Group Plans and Services check out the website at... www.asttbc.org/xc

Call for Volunteers

ASTTBC NEEDS YOU…!

AS WITH ANY ASSOCIATION, volunteers play a key role in making things happen at ASTTBC. We are finding that with increasing pressure on everyone’s time, volunteers are not always able to give as much as was once possible. To accommodate changing circumstances, ASTTBC is re-focusing volunteer contributions, including shorter, more focused tasks and briefer stints. This allows members to get involved and know it is very manageable and is not a ‘lifetime sentence’. Your assistance will provide a rewarding experience, enhance your skills and add to your professional development activities.

Willing to give it a try?…

If you’re interested in getting involved, please send a brief note with your expression of interest to… technio@asttbc.org

Take the Next Step in Professional Development, Part-time

Analytical Chemistry Bachelor of Technology in Technology Management

Errata:

Errors & Omissions and Commercial General Liability Insurance for Technology Professionals

Are you covered?

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ASTTBC REACHES OUT WITH AD CAMPAIGN

IN THE 2005 ASTTBC Member Survey the members indicated that they wanted ASTTBC to address two key priorities: enhancement professional recognition and practice; and, enhance ASTTBC and member profile. During 2006 ASTTBC has been doing both...in a fairly significant way. ASTTBC’s Executive Director John Leech, AScT, CAE, has lead a special campaign to reach out strategically with ASTTBC messaging designed to enhance profile and information for the public and other key stakeholders.

Initiatives included:
• Full page ad in Business in Vancouver HighTech Directory. Great positioning on page 7 opposite the Editor’s Message
• Spot ads for CTEN in BIV HighTech Directory
• Full page ad in BC Business magazine feature on the BC Safety Authority
• Focused on the BC North and Okanagan, with some effort on Vancouver Island
• Sponsored Technology Leadership Award for women in BC’s North (community of 100 Mile and north and west)

Northern BC and the Interior are two regions of primary focus for ASTTBC’s marketing initiatives in 2006. Building on the success of 2005, the Association again participated in the BC Natural Resource Forum & Trade Show (TECH 2006) as an event sponsor and sponsor of the ‘Technology Provider of the Year’ award. The event gives ASTTBC the opportunity to meet with leaders and stakeholders in resource-based businesses and industries in northern BC, including the Hon. Pat Bell, Minister of Agriculture and Lands, and MLA for Prince George North.

• Sponsored the Technology Provider of the Year for Northern BC Business and Industry Show
• Ads in Black Press newspapers in northern BC communities leading up to the two foregoing special events
• Special ad featuring ASTTBC female technologists in Prince George Free Press (Black Press paper)
• Ads in connection with National Technology Week (NTW). Banner ads in 28 Black Press newspapers around BC
• Banner ad in Vancouver Sun to announce NTW
• Ad in Journal of Commerce special feature on training
• Ad in Building Officials’ Association of BC newsletter

While the foregoing is not all, it captures the key advertising placed by ASTTBC in the past year. It adds up to a lot of coverage and, we hope, a lot more visibility for technology careers, ASTTBC and its members. 

ASTTBC AWARDS IN NORTHERN BC

Technology Provider of the Year

Technology Leadership Awards (TWA), an event focused on women in business and industry, hosted in Prince George in September. The Association sponsored the ‘ASTTBC Technology Leadership Award,’ presented to a woman who has demonstrated outstanding performance in her career and is providing leadership by serving as a role model and promoting careers in technology. ASTTBC promoted involvement via northern BC community newspapers as a means to raise the profile on women in the field and to promote technology as a preferred career choice.

Van Scoffield, RPF
‘Top Brass’ Changes at ABCFP & APEGBC

After a long career in forestry and over a decade as Executive Director of ABCFP, Van Scoffield, RPF, is retiring. An Honorary Member of ASTTBC, Van was instrumental in bringing about many significant changes at the Association of BC Forest Professionals, one of the most significant being the change to the Forest Act and the inclusion of Forest Technologists within the association, which was required to accommodate the major change in membership.

Anne Garrett, PEng, completed a three-year contract as Executive Director of APEGBC and moved on to other career opportunities following the APEGBC AGM in October. Anne was instrumental in guiding APEGBC through new governance structure and enhanced profile for APEGBC with elected officials.

Fire Services Bylaw...ABBOTSFORD CALLS FOR FPT

The City of Abbotsford has adopted a Fire Service Bylaw that calls for the inspection of fire protection equipment in public buildings to be done by a Fire Protection Technician who is registered with ASTTBC. Abbotsford joins the following municipalities that have enacted a Bylaw requiring a Registered Fire Protection Technician to carry our inspection and testing on fire protection systems: Chilliwack, Courtenay, Delta, North Vancouver, Richmond, Sechelt, Squamish, Vancouver and White Rock.

Fire Protection Passes 1,000 Mark

ASTTBC’s Special Certification program for Fire Protection passed a milestone this Fall with FP1000 being issued to Richard Maranda, RFP. This program assures municipal authorities and others that the technicians conducting inspection and testing on fire protection systems have the required knowledge and training, provide inspection and testing as required by code and are professionally certified.

Lorelei Reier, AScT, (l) spoke with delegates at the Northern BC Today’s Woman Awards & Leadership Conference.

ASTTBC Technology Leadership Award recipient at TECH 2006, Debbie Macdonald, a clinical technician with Northern Health, with John Leech, AScT, CAE, ASTTBC (award sponsor), and, Robert Stark, Remote Security
ASTTBC Connects With Victoria

A S PART OF ASTTBC’S ROLE IN regulating technology professionals the Association is in regular contact with the BC Government … at all levels. Contact with Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) is important as ASTTBC works to ensure our elected officials have a good understanding of who we are, what we do, issues that affect public policy in applied science and engineering technology, technology education and careers in general. To that end ASTTBC has met recently with a number of government Ministers.

Minister of Forests and Range, Rob Coleman (centre) met with ASTTBC Director, Professional Registration & Practice, John Leech, AScT, CAE, (behind the camera) met with Minister of State for Intergovernmental Relations, the Hon. John van Dongen.

The Hon. John van Dongen (Abbotsford–Clayburn), Minister of State for Intergovernmental Relations, has an interest in several subjects of interest to ASTTBC, including the BC – Alberta Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) and ASTTBC’s proposed ‘umbrella legislation’. The Minister met this fall with ASTTBC President, Keith Switzer, AScT, and Executive Director, John Leech, AScT, CAE, to hear from ASTTBC on these and other issues, and to consider ways of advancing matters of common interest. During the conversation, Keith and John informed the Minister of ASTTBC’s belief in a new professional regulatory framework in which appropriate professional legislation would be ‘bundled’ under one major statute, similar to the Health Professions Act. The Minister expressed interest in this, as well as ASTTBC’s efforts to promote technology education and careers, and to secure full and fair rights to practice for ASTTBC-registered technology professionals.

Public health and safety relating to fire protection and the licensing of house inspectors were two key topics when ASTTBC’s Executive Director, John Leech, AScT, CAE, met with the Hon. John Les ( Chilliwack–Sumas), Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General. John Leech informed the Minister of ASTTBC’s efforts over more than a decade to enhance public safety in the inspection and testing of fire protection equipment by providing a professional certification program that evaluates practitioner qualifications, requires that those certified with ASTTBC as a Registered Fire Protection Technician (RFT) abide by a Code of Ethics and standards of practice, and are held professionally accountable for their services. As well John Leech spoke about ASTTBC’s professional certification program for house and property inspectors. ASTTBC has been certifying in BC for over a decade, offering the highest standard for professional certification in this field. ASTTBC’s program meets or exceeds in most areas the recently developed national occupational standard for house inspectors. Minister Rich Coleman announced in April 2006 that Government will require licensing of house inspectors and since that announcement ASTTBC has been working with government officials to ensure the best and most appropriate professional licensing program. Minister Les was also the keynote speaker at the AGM of the Building Designers Institute of BC (BDIBC) convened in September in Harrison Hot Springs.

Minister of Health, George Abbott (Shuswap), met this Spring with the British Columbia On Site Sewage Association (BCOSSA) President, Frank Hey (central), and Executive Director, John Rowe, CPHIC. The Executive Director for ASTTBC, John Leech, AScT, CAE, was invited to sit in on the meeting. Frank and John Rowe informed the Minister of ASTTBC’s efforts to promote technology education and careers, and to secure full and fair rights to practice for ASTTBC-registered technology professionals.

Do you need skilled workers in construction?

Are you looking for FLEXIBLE skilled tradespeople and apprentices?

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- We provide a sub-type to employers for on-the-job training to skilled intragrade applicants
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- We train the right candidates for your trades, apprenticeships and superintendence programs

The Bambo Network for Construction Can Help
Contact: victoria@bambonetwork.org
ID: 005-379-2377 Ext 2355

ASTTBC Meets Forest Exec

Ministry of Forests and Range executives have an ‘open door’ policy and have welcomed discussions with ASTTBC on matters of common interest. Chief Forester for BC, Jim Snetsinger, RPF, and Assistant Deputy Minister, Tim Sheldon, RFT, have engaged with ASTTBC on a number of matters, including forest certification; expansion of forest measurements certification to include waste surveying, vegetation resource inventory and scaling; recognition of ASTTBC professional registration generally as the Ministry recognizes professionalism within the concept of professional reliance; recognition of ASTTBC certification within MoFR personnel policies; and, recognition of ASTTBC members within the fast lane for certification.

ASTTBC Member Appointed to Osoyoos Design Panel

Lloyd LeMoignan, AScT, RBD, has been appointed to the Osoyoos Advisory Design Panel (ADP). The members of the ADP are appointed by the Osoyoos Council. The panel consists of 7 regular members, all of whom consist of persons experienced in the fields of architecture or building design, landscape architecture, civil or structural engineering. The ADP is authorized to review and provide recommendations on development applications made under the provisions of sections of the Local Government Act, RSBC 1996. Lloyd a self-described architectural building designer and operates as Wine Country Homes.

Premier’s Technology Council

THE HUMAN RESOURCES GROUP of the Premier’s Technology Council (PTC) continues to meet, to seek the advice of ASTTBC as they prepare their next report. ASTTBC’s Executive Director, John Leech, AScT, CAE, met with the PTC Director of Operations, Andrew Wynn-Williams and subsequently with members of the HR Group to talk about technology education and careers. The message is the same ASTTBC is communicating to others … technology careers are ‘invisible’; technology enrollments are at best holding their own and some have been cut in recent years; there is a real need to promote technology careers; professional regulation needs attention; some parts more than others; and, some form of ‘umbrella legislation’ is needed to better regulate professionals and enable all practitioners. ASTTBC is asking the PTC to include references to these key issues as they write their next report.

AB–BC TILMA Update

WE REPORTED THIS SUMMER on the Alberta – BC Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA), signed April 28, 2006, by BC’s Premier Gordon Campbell and Alberta’s Ralph Klein, together with the Hon. Colin Hansen, BC’s Minister of Economic Development and Alberta’s Minister of Intergovernmental Relations, the Hon. Gary Mar. The agreement is to be fully implemented by 2009. ASTTBC has met with key Ministry staff to inform the Ministry of key issues of concern to both Government and ASTTBC.

The Hon. John van Dongen (Abbotsford–Clayburn), Minister of State for Intergovernmental Relations, has an interest in several subjects of interest to ASTTBC, including the BC – Alberta Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) and ASTTBC’s proposed ‘umbrella legislation’. The Minister met this fall with ASTTBC President, Keith Switzer, AScT, and Executive Director, John Leech, AScT, CAE, to hear from ASTTBC on these and other issues, and to consider ways of advancing matters of common interest. During the conversation, Keith and John informed the Minister of ASTTBC’s belief in a new professional regulatory framework in which appropriate professional legislation would be ‘bundled’ under one major statute, similar to the Health Professions Act. The Minister expressed interest in this, as well as ASTTBC’s efforts to promote technology education and careers, and to secure full and fair rights to practice for ASTTBC-registered technology professionals.
EXPLORING EXPLOSION CAREERS

By Don Jepson, RPE, President & CEO Association for Mineral Exploration BC

THE MINERAL EXPLORATION and mining industry in Canada is undergoing an exciting period of expansion and development. The catalyst driving the movement is the combination of a strong upswing in metal prices and an intractable global demand for minerals. An estimated 80,000 new workers will be required in this sector alone over the next ten years which means an abundance of career opportunities awaits qualified technologists and technicians.

A career in exploration/mining offers the best of all worlds: the jobs are high tech, high paying, there is ample opportunity for advancement and it is the safest heavy industry. Government and industry are investing heavily in research on new methods of exploration, extraction, processing and analysis. The range of options is immense: you can choose to work in an office setting in a city, in a lab at a diamond mine in the north, or in an exploration camp high in the Andes or somewhere in between. If travel is your passion, no other industrial activity offers the option to work in other countries than does the exploration industry. Canadian trained technologists are highly respected around the world. Paul Hébert, Executive Director, Mining Industry Human Resources Council (MIHR) says, “The mining industry offers a myriad of long-term, rewarding career opportunities. The modern mining industry is high-tech, challenging and offers individuals the chance to acquire skills and knowledge that are sought after in many sectors of the economy. From finance to law to engineering and skilled trades—mining has something for everyone.”

In British Columbia, the industry has a long and lustrous history and a very bright future. Vancouver is the world’s largest centre of mineral exploration companies, both in Canada and abroad. The Association for Mineral Exploration British Columbia supports the mineral exploration industry in British Columbia and works with related organizations and community groups to promote sustainable mineral development. “The exploration sector in BC has entered a new era of responsible, sustainable development. We are enjoying an unprecedented level of activity and we need qualified people to join our profession to make it happen. This is an opportune time for associations as AME BC and ASTTBC to work together to ensure that all technologists and technicians are aware of the vast array of rewarding opportunities that exist in the mineral exploration sector,” says Rob Pease, Chairman of AME BC and President & CEO of Terrane Metals Corp. ■

For more information on career choices in this sector, please visit… www.mihr.ca

For more information about AME BC please visit… www.amebc.ca

1. EXPLORE A CAREER IN EXPLORATION

IN MAY 2006 the Architectural Institute of BC (AIBC) decided to call off their negotiations with the AIBC-ASTTBC JTF citing an inability on the part of AIBC and ASTTBC to reach consensus on a regulatory model on a regulatory model. The JTF as formed during the time ASTTBC was involved in merger discussions with APGBC to consider the future regulation of ASTTBC-registered building and residential designers. Throughout the work of the JTF the AIBC proposed a ‘One Act – One Association’ model as the only model AIBC would consider. While acknowledging AIBC’s views on professional regulation, ASTTBC has indicated it has much too early to decide on the most effective, fair, equitable and appropriately form of professional regulations for AIBC-registered building designers. ASTTBC has also indicated that it includes some form of ‘umbrella’ legislation should be considered as new regulatory models are considered. ASTTBC’s approach is generally consistent with the positions taken by BC’s other professional organizations (CEBC). In making the decision to discontinue their dialogue with ASTTBC, the AIBC indicated an interest in continuing discussions with the Building Designers Institute of BC (BDIBC), an institute established and operating under the ASTTBC umbrella. The BDIBC Board agreed they wish to pursue discussions with AIBC to bring to a conclusion the earlier work of the AIBC–ASTTBC Joint Task Force. ASTTBC Council agreed that these discussions can continue with the ‘blessing’ of ASTTBC Council, provided ASTTBC is not restricted or in any way limited in its ability to continue to pursue other legislative models. To facilitate the AIBC–BDIBC discussion and be clear as to ASTTBC’s position and connection between BDIBC and ASTTBC, the BDIBC and ASTTBC leaders, with the approval of their respective boards, signed an agreement. The ASTTBC–BDIBC Agreement recognizes BDIBC’s interest in continuing the dialogue with AIBC to finalize the scope of practice and further explore the professional regulatory model proposed by AIBC. At the BDIBC AGM this September, BDIBC and AIBC also signed a joint agreement, the basic framework and key content of which was vetted by ASTTBC Council. The agreement indicates that the two will continue discussions on professional regulation of building designers and possible incorporation of building designers within a revised Architects Act. ASTTBC recently briefed Minister of Advanced Education, Murray Coell, as well as Ministry staff as to the current ‘lay of the land’ and to outline ASTTBC’s general expectations for professional regulation and practice recognition for ASTTBC-registered technological professionals.

The BC Safety Authority (BCSA) invites stakeholders in various industry sectors to meet to reflect on the state of the industry, identify issues requiring attention and recommend future directions for BCSA that will ensure it is a world-class safety organization. Representing ASTTBC at the Electrical Stakeholder Workshop was Darryl Amos, AScT, Facility Manager, Vancouver Island, for SNC-Lavalin Profac. Darryl is a BCT graduate (1976, Electrical Power) and a member of ASTTBC for over 30 years. His career started at BC Tel and continued with Wesco Ltd, E.P. Church and Associates, BC Buildings Corporation, Public Works and Government Services Canada, and now SNC-Lavalin Profac, where he directs consultants and electrical contracting firms in maintenance activities and plans for larger repair or construction projects. ■

BCSA Executive met with a range of stakeholders to discuss current education, training and regulatory needs for the electrical industry. Left to right… Darrin Heider, AScT, ASTTBC Councilor, Angus English, PEng, CIBC Director, Bob Harmer, AScT, Past President, CEBC; and Daryl Amos, AScT, President, ASTTBC; Francois Mercey, Vice President, CIBC; Arnold Radde, PEng, President, CIBG; and Glenn Martin, Executive Director, CIBC. AScT, BCIT Grad; AIBC Grad. ASTTBC took the picture.

ASTTBC Partners With SAFERHome

After a couple of years of building linkages, ASTTBC has jumped in with both feet to a working partnership with the SAFERhome Standards Society (‘Safer’). The Society’s program to enhance housing design to better serve the community over the long term represents for ASTTBC an important public service… and one that ties with so many of the technology professionals registered with ASTTBC.

The Society has been challenged with limited resources so ASTTBC Executive Director, John Leech, has rallied the ASTTBC to assisting Safer by designing and publishing a new brochure, corporate folder and free-standing display unit. All except the corporate folder show ASTTBC as a key partner. In addition to general distribution, the brochures and display were on display at the PNE Home Show this past summer. Safer is now working with the BC Institute of Property Inspectors to recognize ASTTBC-registered house and property inspectors (CHI and CPI) to carry out Safer inspections on housing built to Safer Standards. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will be signed by the two organizations. ASTTBC is also considering a MoU with Safer. ■

BC Safety Authority Convenes Stakeholder Meetings

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ASTTBC Awards…
RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE & INNOVATION

Almost 200 guests attended ASTTBC’s Awards & Recognition Celebration 2006. ASTTBC volunteers and special guests from key professional and industry associations, government, education and business enjoyed a full evening that included dedicating the event in memory of Fred Otto, PEng, signing of agreements with Camosun College and Okanagan College, wrapping up National Technology Week 2006, dinner, bursary and award presentations, and entertainment.

Four ASTTBC–BC Hydro bursaries were presented by Bruce Misewich, of BC Hydro, and Keith Switzer, AsCT, President ASTTBC, to students pursuing a career in technology. Eight prestigious awards were presented, including two for Professional Achievement, the Peter Allan Leadership and R. Littledale Memorial awards, one Life Membership and three Honorary Memberships.

The event is ASTTBC’s opportunity to say “thanks” to volunteers, supporters and partners who assisted ASTTBC through 2006. FEAT hosted its Silent Auction and raised $8,000 for science and technology awareness activities and bursaries.

Linking National Technology Week & ASTTBC’s Awards Celebration

This year’s event provided an opportunity to highlight activities that were undertaken during National Technology Week (NTW). “It is a natural to link our Awards Celebration with National Technology Week,” said John Leech, AsCT, CAE. “Raising public awareness about the important role played by technology professionals, and turning young people on to rewarding careers in applied science technology has always been near and dear to the heart of ASTTBC.” Event partners and gold sponsors for ASTTBC’s Awards Celebration were also recognized as NTW partners and sponsors. In support of NTW 2006, the BC Government issued a proclamation and messages were received from Premier Campbell, the Hon. Murray Coell, Minister of Advanced Education and the Hon. Shirley Bond, Minister of Education.

To heighten awareness of NTW activities within the ASTTBC membership, e-blasts were sent to members with a call to action – “Count Yourself In” and reports posted on the ASTTBC web site. A page dedicated to NTW was also posted at… www.asttbc.org/ntw

Special Thanks to Our Event Partners & Sponsors…

The Forest Measurements Registration Board (FMBR) convened a special forum in Nanaimo to consider expanding the certification programs into waste surveying, vegetation resource inventory and scaling. Pictured are key industry and government reps, and members of the FMBR.

Outcomes-based Benchmarks…
CCCT & NCDot ESTABLISH FORUM

The Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists (CCCT) and the National Council of Deans of Technology (NCDot) have created a permanent forum to address the need of outcomes-based requirements for applied science and engineering technology programs in Canada. The end goal… to develop the measures which accreditation of technology programs can remain constantly current and appropriately rigorous.

For more information…
Isidore LeBlond
Director, Program Development, CCCT
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Technology Professionals
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Qualified. Registered. Accountable.
ASTTBC Will Provide Input to the Government's Initiative

ASTTBC will roll up its sleeves and get involved in a few ways…first by making a formal submission to CAMPUS 2020; second, by attending the Vancouver community discussion group; and, thirdly by ‘talking it up’ with others, encouraging them to get involved and make a submission.

ASTTBC’s John Leech is leading the effort to make our views known, with subjects including… concerns about BCIT and college enrollments; the need for strategic leadership for technology education and careers; the importance of marketing technology careers, which are seen as ‘invisible’; opportunities to introduce technology education in K – 12; the need for technology programs in Northern BC and to expand polytechnic education in BC; and, related topics of interest to ASTTBC and the network of technology councils.

Vaughn Palmer (Vancouver Sun) highlighted the focus of the project in a column following the announcement, stating, “The BC Liberals, in choosing the name CAMPUS 2020, put the emphasis on the visionary notion that if you lay the foundation now, you’ll have a way more of higher education be like in a decade and a half”

CAMPUS 2020: Thinking Ahead is the collaborative planning process to help shape the vision, mission, goals and objectives of BC’s post secondary education system for the next 10 to 20 years. A final report and recommendations will be delivered to Premier Gordon Campbell and Minister of Advanced Education, Murray Coell in Spring 2007.
NanOOSE Summit
BC–AB–ON MEETING

A meeting of the ‘three amigos’ – the Executive Directors from BC, Alberta and Ontario – at ASTTBC Executive Director, John Leech’s home this summer, helped build relations and explore common issues. The three fringes got for a day and a half to talk about technology careers, professional recognition and regulation, public awareness and member services. A number of concrete action items emerged from the discussion… to work collaboratively on one national professional practice and ethics program and examination; to develop a nation-wide initiative to ensure strategic leadership for technology education and careers; to develop guides to professional practice; and, to convene a national roundtable on technology education and careers. The three agreed to engage their sister associations. The three were joined for dinner with their spouses who helped make the gathering a nicely rounded work–social occasion. The three agreed the time was well spent and committed to repeating the experience.

Practice Review Board
REPORT: CASE HISTORIES FROM JANUARY 1, 2005

Our ‘purpose’, as generally stated in the ASTT Act, is ‘to maintain, improve and increase the knowledge, ability and competence of technologists and technicians; to regulate standards of practice and of their conduct, and to protect the interests of the public.’ The ASTT Act and Regulations, in the provision of professional certification of technologists, technicians and technical specialists, requires that members adhere to a Code of Ethics, provides a disciplinary mechanism to deal with breaches of the Code and protects ASTTBC’s titles and designations.

ASTTBC Council has charged the Practice Review Board (PRB) of ASTTBC with the responsibility for enforcement of the ‘Code of Ethics’ for members’ professional practice and conduct, as well as with protecting ASTTBC titles and designations. A complete report of PRB complaints and practice cases resolved since January 1, 2005, is posted on the ASTTBC web site at www.asttbc.org/mem/complaint_history.html. This report reflects the activities and hard work of the PRB in fulfilling its mandate.

The report only gives the general circumstance of the nature of the complaint cases and their outcomes, as it is the policy of ASTTBC to only report on the specific details of cases (names, places and dates etc.) when the cases have resulted in censure as a result of a disciplinary hearing or PRB has determined it is in the public interest to have such information provided.

Public Reps on Council

Jim Blake is the current Chair of the Prince George Airport Authority. Prior to retirement he spent 15 years as Vice President of the College of New Caledonia, Prince George.

John Murphy is currently Manager, Western Canada, ULC. He has been Vice President, of the BC Safety Authority and, Executive Director, Safety Engineering Services Division, BC Government.

For the first time in our 47-year history, ASTTBC has appointed two ‘Public Representatives’ to the ASTT Council, the Association’s governing body. Co-terminus with the practice of most self-governing professional associations, the Public Representatives provide a valuable perspective and help bring the perspective of the broader community to bear on the governance of the Association. John Murphy and Jim Blake kindly agreed to give of their time in service to ASTTBC and its mandate. Both joined the Council in May 2006.

Joint Meeting Consider Commons Interests

The Executives of ASTTBC and the Association of BC Forest Professionals met this summer. Topics included: professional regulation; professional reliance; certification of forest measure- ments practitioners; design of forest road culverts and bridges; Forest Planning and Practices Regulation; and, linkages between ASTTBC and ABCFP Key points included:

• ASTTBC will publish a practice guide in ‘Forest engineering technology’ that recognizes that ASTTBC registered professionals are qualified to design small and medium size culverts and bridges.

• ASTTBC and ABCFP agreed to inform ABCFP once the guide is developed.

• ASTTBC will continue to take an active role in Government’s professional reliance initiative and looks forward to working with ABCFP and other professional associations as the program unfolds.

• ASTTBC will continue to engage ABCFP in the certification of forest measurements practitioners. ABCFP is interested in joint governance. ASTTBC plans to add waste surveying, vegetation resource inventory and log scaling.

ASTTBC and ABCFP have enjoyed a constructive working relationship for more than a decade. ABCFP and ASTTBC agreed it is in the interest of both associations, the public, government and other stakeholders that this continues.

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