Report Available…

BC EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK TO 2015

Every two years the Ministry of Advanced Education and Service Canada BC/Yukon Region produce 10-year projections on employment demand for BC. The report helps policy makers by identifying the most likely trends in labour and skills demand over the long-term and it provides useful information for students and people who are changing careers.

Two projections for BC up to 2015 are:
• More than 1 million job opportunities
• 461,100 new jobs or 2.0 percent per year
• 652,000 openings due to retirements or deaths.

Professional/Scientific/Technical Services is one of five major industry groups projected to have the largest average annual employment growth.

For information, visit…
www.aved.gov.bc.ca/labourmarketinfo
Budget Reaches $2,000,000…
ASTTBC WORK PLAN FOR 2008
ASTTBC WILL ENTER 2008 with a new statement on Vision, Mission and Goals. The Association is well positioned and well regarded as a professional regulatory body and has excellent working relationships with the BC government and many other professional, technical and trade associations. ASTTBC also benefits from a Council with a ‘can do’ attitude and highly experienced staff. During 2008, ASTTBC will continue to enhance professional regulation, including a program to formally define members’ scope of practice and work to secure appropriate recognition as ‘Qualified Professionals’. Marketing and advertising to enhance the profile of ASTTBC-registered technology professionals, the Association, and technology education and careers will continue. ASTTBC will also undertake strategic initiatives relating to public policy.

Twelve highlights identified in the 2008 Work Plan…
1. Seek changes to professional legislation to secure members’ practice in architectural/building and engineering technology through exemption in current restrictive practice legislation or through a form of ‘umbrella legislation’.
2. Develop Guides to Professional Practice in at least 3 additional fields.


Adding Clarity to Work & Services…
GUIDES TO PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE APPROVED
ASTTBC has developed five ‘Guides to Professional Practice’ as part of the Association’s responsibility under the ASTT Act & Regulations to clearly outline the scope of members’ independent practice. At its meeting on September 27, 2007, Council approved the following Guides to Professional Practice…

• Biomedical Engineering Technology Services
• Electrical Technology Design Services for Building Projects
• Electronics Technology Services
• Geomatics Technology Services
• Mechanical Technology Design Services for Building Projects

Previously, drafts had been posted on the ASTTBC web site for comments by members and other interested stakeholders. The Guides were also forwarded to the Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists, all technician/technologist associations in Canada, the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC, and the Ministry of Advanced Education (responsible for the ASTT Act) and others in government.

The Guides serve to inform members and the public as to the work and services that can be provided independently by ASTTBC members and which is not restricted by other professional legislation. ASTTBC Council reiterated its interest in working jointly with APEGBC to address areas of overlap in the practices of professional engineering and engineering technology.


Internationally Educated Professionals…
TRANSFERRING TALENTS BETWEEN COUNTRIES
ASTTBC has developed solid connections with regional agencies that help immigrants make the Canadian transition. Prakash Joshi, AScT, EngL, a member of ASTTBC Council, attended the Business Leaders Roundtable on Immigration sponsored by the Conference Board of Canada. He was recently interviewed for an article in APEGBCs Innovation magazine titled ‘Finding a Balance: BC’s Internationally Trained Engineers’. Geoff Sale, AScT, a Past President of ASTTBC, is heading up ASTTBC program for internationally educated professionals. Geoff moved to Canada from the UK fifty years ago. Geoff was a panelist at the ‘Climbing the Canadian Skills Ladder’ workshop. He has spent many hours talking to staff and clients of the Bamboo Network, MSONIC, the Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society, SUCCESS, the Society of Internationally Trained Engineers of BC and EASI. ASTTBC representatives have attended a number of conferences on credentialing for immigrants and have helped Vancouver Community College and Camosun College develop technology-related workplace English courses.

For more details, visit… mb.cctt.ca
Barbara Jaworski, BSc, MBA, keynote presenter at RTSS II, challenged employers to keep older, more experienced workers employed longer.

"I would like to recognize our staff who can always be depended upon to creatively and dynamically rise to any challenges that come up."

"One of the actions that came out of our event is the formation of the Technology Education & Careers Council," said John Leech, AScT, CAE, who was emcee of the Roundtable. "We will begin right away to develop a strategic game plan. It will be based on collaboration and be cross-sectoral."

"Technology is invisible to people my age, we don't know mayors. They work on projects from developing new medical technologies, to energy. We have members who have been MLAs, school trustees and work at all levels in industry right up to the top of large construction companies or principals in major engineering firms."

The ‘2007 Engineering and Technology Employer Survey’ is a national survey being done jointly by Engineers Canada and the Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists, with financial support from Human Resources and Social Development Canada. When finished, the report will provide information on:

- supply and demand conditions in different regions and by technical field
- recruitment challenges and successful recruitment strategies
- changing skills requirements for engineers and engineering technicians and technologists
- trends in engineering work force diversity
- trends in continuing professional development

Visit www.engineeringemployersurvey.com

The ‘Early Half of the Workforce’ ranges in age from 40 to 60. Keeping older and experienced employees will be crucial in addressing the shortage of skilled technology workers. This was one of the key points to come out of the ‘Roundtable on Technology Skills Shortage II’ that ASTTBC hosted on October 31, 2007.

"This is the largest group of employees and employers are going to have to increase flexibility in working arrangements and provide recognition for mature workers, if they want to retain these skilled people," said Barbara Jaworski, BSc, MBA, author of ‘AA-BOOM’ and a presenter at the Roundtable. "It's usually too late to try and attract them back after they retire."

Baby-boomers want to stay active and involved provided employment arrangements fit their life balance. The Morris J Work Centre for Dialogue, where ASTTBC held the event, has instant polling facilities. When asked at what age they planned to retire, the biggest response from Roundtable delegates was ‘never’.

"ASTTBC is to be commended for taking a lead role in addressing this issue," said Hitomi Matsui, Director, Diversity and Recruitment, Faculty of Applied Sciences at Simon Fraser University. "I'm co-chair of a national project on women in science, engineering, trades and technology, and would like to talk about how we might work together."

RTSS II was webcast. Findings will be published and posted online with segments from the webcast.

For more information, visit www.asttbc.org/RTSS

Representation from industry, education, government and associations work solutions to the technology skills shortage at the Morris J Work Centre for Dialogue. The Roundtable was organized by ASTTBC.
Over 49,000 engineering and technology professionals have chosen Engineers Canada sponsored coverage. But there’s always room for one more.

In the News…

John Leech, ASCT, CAE, Executive Director & Registrar; Trevor McNeil, President; as well as 600 guests, celebrated the 10th anniversary of the APEGBC/ASTTBC Regulatory Executive Meeting.

Connecting With Victoria

ASTTBC Reps Meet Government Ministers

Engineering Award of Excellence…

RECIPIENT ACKNOWLEDGES ASTTBC SUPPORT

The Vancouver Island Conference Center project received an Award of Merit at the 2007 CERC Awards for Engineering Excellence. One of the biggest challenges was finding an affordable engineering solution to difficult and complex site conditions. The consulting engineers hired by the City of Nanaimo, Golder Associates Ltd., rose to the challenge with a unique solution.

IT'S ALMOST THE TIME OF THE YEAR TO SUBSCRIBE TO ASTTBC NEWSLETTER…

Join us on Twitter and Facebook www.manulife.com/ASTTnews

In line with ASTTBC goals of enhancing awareness of professional engineering, invoices for ASTTBC annual dues are being sent electronically for the first time this year. Members who have not provided ASTTBC with an email address will continue to receive their annual dues notice by regular mail.

We're engineered to offer you more opportunities.

www.working.com/engineering
Two hundred and twenty-five guests attended the 2007 ASTTBC Awards & Recognition Celebration.

Awards & Recognition Celebration…

ASTTBC HONOURS ACHIEVEMENTS & VOLUNTEER SPIRIT

Volunteers play a key part in the success of ASTTBC according to President Darrin Heisler, AScT, "Our Association has come a long way over the years, and we couldn’t have done it without volunteers," he stated in addressing 225 guests at ASTTBC’s Awards & Recognition Celebration in November.

The annual gala is a chance for ASTTBC to thank its volunteers for their many hours of service and to bestow awards on members and non-members who have achieved outstanding accomplishments in applied science technology.

Mayor Sam Sullivan brought greetings on behalf of the City of Vancouver Member of Parliament for Vancouver Centre, the Honorable Hedy Fry, and MLAs Tomey Mayencourt, Bruce Ralston and Doug Routley also spoke. All of the elected representatives thanked ASTTBC for its efforts to promote careers in technology and they spoke about the role that professional credentials play in labour mobility.

Two new awards were added this year. The ‘Professional Leadership Award for Women in Technology’ honours women who are ASTTBC members, have distinguished themselves in their field of technology, and have demonstrated leadership within the Association or local community by serving as a role model and promoting careers in technology. The ‘Employer Award for Career Enhancement & Success of Women as Technology Professionals’ has been added to recognize an employer for creating a work environment that accommodates the career success of women in the technology field.

The ASTTBC gala was held at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Vancouver. As the evening came to a close John Leech, AScT, CAE, Executive Director & Registrar said, “This was one of the best ever thanks to all the staff and others who helped breathe life into the evening.” Jordan Lewis, a student who received a FEAT bursary at the Awards & Recognition Celebration, remarked how great it was that technologists have such a strong organization and how impressed he was with the people he met during the evening.

Professional Leadership Award for Women in Technology

• Dena Varganini, CTech, Dayton & Knight Ltd
• Crystal Weger, AScT, LEED AP, CCCA, Reed Jones Christofferson Ltd.

Employer Award for the Enhancement of Career Success of Women as Technology Professionals

• Morrison Hershfield Ltd.

Advanced Technology Award

• Grant Lachmuth, AScT, Ministry of Transportation

Professional Achievement Award

• Lyle Killough, AScT, GoControls Incorporated

Honorary Membership

• Brian Canfield, TELUS

Life Membership

• Keith Switzer, AScT, ASTTBC Past President

Bill MacPherson, AScT, past Chair, FEAT, presents $1,000 FEAT/IBET bursary to Luke Ryn, a student at the Biomedical Engineering Technology program at BCIT.

Bill MacPherson, AScT, past Chair, FEAT, presents $1,000 FEAT/IBET bursary to Luke Ryn, a student at the Biomedical Engineering Technology program at BCIT.

Recipients for these bursaries, along with the Wade Wilson Memorial Award and an ASTTBC bursary for a high school student, are chosen by direct application to FEAT. The Foundation also provides $13,000 in annual funding to the awards offices at BCIT and the colleges for students in technology programs. Much of the money for these bursaries comes from donations to FEAT by ASTTBC members. A number of these bursaries, such as the Dowco Steel Detailing Award, the Reg Riddidale Memorial Award, the Gordon Blue Award and the Dale Wilson Memorial Award were made possible by the gencosity of large individual bequests.

FEAT Update…

ASTTBC FOUNDATION HELPS STUDENTS

$24,000 goes a long way toward tuition and books. $24,000 is what ASTTBC’s charitable foundation, the Foundation for Education & Advancement in Technology, is providing in student bursaries in 2007.

Three $1,000 FEAT/TD Meloche Montoux bursaries are being awarded for the first time this year. “We really appreciate this support from TD Meloche Montoux, ASTTBC’s affinity partner for home insurance,” says FEAT Executive Director, Ted Nodwell, CAE. “Last year was the first year for bursaries provided by BC Hydro, and this funding from our partners and others with an interest in promoting technology careers is great news for students.”

Recipients for these bursaries, along with the Wade Wilson Memorial Bursary and an ASTTBC bursary for a high school student, are chosen by direct application to FEAT. The Foundation also provides $13,000 in annual funding to the awards offices at BCIT and the colleges for students in technology programs. Much of the money for these bursaries comes from donations to FEAT by ASTTBC members. A number of these bursaries, such as the Dowco Steel Detailing Award, the Reg Riddidale Memorial Award, the Gordon Blue Award and the Dale Wilson Memorial Award were made possible by the generosity of large individual bequests.

FEAT also provides financial support for science and technology awareness. FEAT is a sponsor of the Camosun “Taste of Electronics” for Grade 10 girls, ASTTBC’s ‘Roundtable on Technology Skills Shortage II’ and the ‘Girls Exploring Trades & Technologies’ summer camp at BCIT.

FEAT was established in 1990. Since then, it has provided $150,000 in bursaries and awards and $360,000 promoting science and technology. The FEAT long-term endowment fund is nearing $325,000. With ASTTBC’s 50th anniversary just around the corner, the Association and its Foundation are looking at collaborating on a fund-raising campaign to boost the long-term endowment fund to $500,000.

Watch for details!

Both ASTTBC and its charitable foundations, FEAT, stepped up as charitable foundations, FEAT, stepped up as sponsors for the ‘Girls Exploring Trades & Technologies’ summer camp.

ASTTBC Technology Leadership Awards recapture the TWG 2007… Karen Eldridge with John Leech, AScT, CAE, ASTTBC.

ASTTBC Technology Leadership Award…

NORTHERN BC TODAY’S WOMAN AWARDS

2007 marks the second year that ASTTBC sponsored the ‘ASTTBC Technology Leadership Award’ at the Today’s Woman Awards in Prince George. This year’s recipient is Karen Eldridge, Medical Imaging Team Leader for the Healthlink North Project. “Karen does it with passion and staff behind the scenes, and I can’t say enough for the support they provide.” says Franciscos Kung, Regional Manager of Biomedical Engineering, Northern Health. Karen is a graduate of the BCIT radiography program. She sits on the BCIT Advisory Council for radiography and on the Advisory Board for Diagnostic Accreditation for digital imaging.

While this ‘ASTTBC Technology Leadership Award’ is not restricted to disciplines in which ASTTBC provides certification, the recipient must have technical training plus several years of related work experience and live in northern BC. The selection committee also looks for a noticeable contribution in her field, impact on the local community and leadership in promoting careers in technology.
Focus on Careers…

ASTTBC AGM ADDS TO MOMENTUM

"Technology Careers… it’s TIME!" was the theme of ASTTBC’s Annual General Meeting in May 2007. More than 125 members, including 11 Past Presidents, attended the event which was held in Langley. The skills shortage… and reaching out to young people… were topics emphasized by members, speakers, and guests from BCIT and the colleges. They made the following observations…

- Reaching out to internationally trained professionals is important, as ASTTBC is doing through the ASCT (Provisional) certification it introduced this year.
- It is important to take into account on-the-job learning, not just academic training, when evaluating applications for registration.
- New disciplines of registration should be added to keep up with changing times.
- Those in industry who are not members of ASTTBC should be encouraged to seek registration.
- ASTTBC needs to continue working on the viability of the Association and its members.
- It is the people in the technology spectrum who do the work that will be vital in addressing climate change.

Peter Fassbender, Mayor of the City of Langley, told the delegates, “I have great respect for what technologists do at the City. I applaud ASTTBC for communicating to young people and the public about career options. Technology as a profession offers tremendous opportunity.” Dan Mooney, ASCT, CPWI 1, City of Richmond, also commented "The AGM was another great ASTTBC event!"

Another major topic of discussion at the AGM was professional regulation. This was also a common theme in greetings brought by guests from associations such as the Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists, the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC, and the Architectural Institute of BC.

Rapid Technological Change…

WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?

WORLDWIDE SALES OF NEW LAPTOPS have surpassed 45 million a year according to a report by StatsCan. New switches will boost capacity on existing fibre-optic cables to 150 million phone calls simultaneously. Technological knowledge is already doubling every two years. Many jobs in 2010 will be ones that did not exist just 15 years earlier.

What does it all mean? For the educational system, it means preparing students for jobs that do not exist which will be using technologies that have not yet been invented. For the labour market, the combination of rapid technological change combined with the coming shortage of skilled labour and baby boomers retiring, means radical new approaches are needed for immigration, employment practices and regulation, and lifelong learning.

National Technology Week is Canada’s showcase of exciting career choices available in applied science and engineering technologies. Held annually during the first week of November, NTW 2007 offered a host of activities along with interactive and fun resources to help students, teachers and parents explore technical careers, particularly the different fields in which more than 90,000 certified technicians and technologists contribute to Canada’s workforce.

This year, ASTTBC’s Awards & Recognition Celebration was organized to fall within National Technology Week. ASTTBC also hosted a Roundtable on technology careers at the Morris J. Wokt Centre for Dialogue in Vancouver. The Association asked the government to issue a proclamation for National Technology Week in BC. Members were encouraged to post their profiles on the TechPRO section of the ASTTBC website and to participate in events in their local communities. ASTTBC, via a partner with Black Press, arranged for a major two-page NTW feature in 27 Black Press community newspapers that reached 797,157 households throughout BC.

Whether it was getting involved with ‘Take your Kids to Work Day’, talking about careers in technology with friends and family, or volunteering for science and technology events and displays, members played a key role in showcasing technology careers. For list of NTW activities facilitated by ASTTBC, visit… www.asttbc.org/ntw

For information, visit… www.nationaltechnologyweek.ca

National Technology Week is coordinated by the Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists (CCTT), in partnership with the National Council of Deans of Technology and made possible with the generous support of TD Meloche Monnex, ASTTBC’s affinity partner for home insurance.

ASTTBC Executive Director & Register John Souch, ASCT, CAE, presents President of ASTTBC, with Technology Canyon, at NTW 2007.

Novel Approach to Marketing…

STUDENT RECRUITMENT A COMMON GOAL

Based on a presentation given by Tom Baerme, then Associate Dean for Science, Technology & Health at Okanagan College and Andrew Hay, Vice-President Education, at the Conference for Industry and Education Collaboration in February 2007. As post-secondary institutions struggle to fill technical programs, the corresponding industries suffer from a dwindling pool of suitable applicants. The diminishing interest of high school students in many areas of engineering and technology requires a multi-lateral effort from educators and industry alike.

The designations of ASCT and CTEch were designed as a bridge between the focus of professional engineers and field technicians, yet both designations remain virtually unnoticed by the public. Moreover, high school counsellors and teachers are often not aware of the distinction between engineering technology and engineering, nor of engineering technology as an intermediate tier between vocational trades and university engineering. As a result, high school graduates are not adequately advised of all career options.

Okanagan College decided to use Electronic Engineering Technology as a test case for new approaches to marketing. In particular, three employer-centric TV commercials were produced and aired repeatedly between August 2005 and April 2006. Electronic Engineering Technology showed increases in applications of up to 55%, something not mirrored by other institutions in the province. When asked why they were taking the program in 2006, for the first time more students responded ‘to become a technologist’ than ‘to become an engineer’.

Annual General Meeting 2008

Friday, May 23rd

Plan to attend!

www.asttbc.org/agm
A first for BC... Best School for Technology

The first science and technology elementary school in BC opened when the Bert Edwards Elementary became the Bert Edwards Science & Technology School... BEST.

"Virtually every subject is taught through and with a science and technology lens, which makes learning relevant, practical and interesting," says Ken Christian ASCT, "As a member of the Kamloops–Thompson Board of Education I was pleased that ASTTBC endorsed this parent-driven initiative."

Initially the school was going to be named just with the term 'science'. ASTTBC proposed that the school adopt the term 'technology'. The final name was chosen from a list compiled by parents, teachers and students. BEST School was the clear favorite.

In the mid-1990s, ASCT President of GoControls Incorporated, chair the parental committee that drafted the original proposal and he served on the school district committee that produced the final proposal. "For those of us who work in technology, the value of a science and technology-enriched education is easy to understand," he says, "The support that we received from the leadership and members of ASTTBC assisted us greatly. Best of all, my three children think the school is fantastic!"

Kevin Kruger, Minister of State for Mining, who is the MLA for Kamloops – North Thompson, stated in an email to ASTTBC at the end of the year that ASTTBC had provided "real support for the Bert Edwards Science and Technology School." "We doled ASTTBC. I am very pleased with School District 73's initiatives, which include a growing number of 'Hands of Choice'. Like you, I was thrilled with the decision to proceed with this one."

North Needs Skilled Workers... CNC Considers Construction Technology Program

The College of New Caledonia, along with the Prince George Construction Association, pulled together a focus group to look at implementing a Construction Technology Program. This program was available until the downturn in the commodity sector in the mid-1980s. The demand for technical training has once again picked up in the north. "I agreed to sit on this focus group representing ASTTBC," said Heather Andreychuk, ASCT.

"There are two main approaches to technological training for the construction industry. One is for enrolling specific continuing education skills and the other is for a full two-year-accredited technology program."

The college was conducted to discover what courses people would be interested in taking. CNC contacted other technical schools to look at partnerships for a Construction Technology Program and an expression of interest has been received from the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology. In the meantime, the College of New Caledonia’s Continuing Education Department is offering an Introductory AutoCAD course this fall with Heather Andreychuk, ASCT, as the instructor.

Getting the Word Out... ASTTBC Meets Science Teachers

ASTTBC Manager, Internationally Educated Professionals Program, Matt Sale, ASCT, and Sandra Wall, the Provincial Secretary of the BC Science Teachers’ Association, discussed the need to provide more information to teachers and students about career options in science and technology beyond that of scientist or science instructor/teacher. The possibility of the two organizations working together to advance careers in technology also was discussed.

"It is the job of educators to keep ASTTBC members or representatives from industry who could speak to students in the early Grades... perhaps building on the 'Scientists in the Schools' project already being run by Science World," was suggested.

The BC Science Teachers’ Association is an association for the professional development of educators in K – 12 grades across BC.

ASTTBC Signs On as Sponsor... Student Catapult Competition A Hit

LAST FEBRUARY, Wood WORKS! organized a student catapult competition.

Two engineering technology students from Okanagan College won the event. The competition attracted the attention of print and TV media. In fact, it was so well received, that Wood WORKS! is making the Catapult Competition an annual event. ASTTBC has come on board as First Place Overall Winner Sponsor for the next three years. The money will help the winning team cover the cost of materials and participation. The competition is an opportunity for students to explore wood design, and learn about the attributes and strength of wood.

Kamloops May Lead the Way... High School for Trades & Technology Proposed

The Kamloops-Thompson School District is looking into establishing a high school that focuses on the trades. ASTTBC is eager to support the School District to expand the focus to include technology, opening up the possibility for some graduates to go on to technologist or technician programs at Thompson Rivers University or one of the other colleges.
Association Sponsors 24th Annual SPAGHETTI BRIDGE BUILDING CONTEST

The 24th Annual Spaghetti Bridge Building Contest at Okanagan College draws competitors from around the world and throughout the region. ASTTBC’s charitable foundation, the Foundation for Education & Advancement in Technology, has provided financial support for the contest for most of the past decade. “Action events like this one really catch the students’ interest,” said FEAT Executive Director, Ted Nodwell, CAE.

This year ASTTBC stepped up as a sponsor of the individual and team awards in both the Secondary School and Post Secondary School categories. “We were thrilled to be connected again in 2007, this time with ASTTBC as the sponsor several of the major awards,” said John Leech, AScT, CAE, Executive Director & Registrar of ASTTBC. Students from Okanagan College dominated the Post Secondary team competition placing first, second and third. More than 300 competitors took part, including elementary students who showcased their creativity in the bridges they built for display.

24 Hour Event… KAMTECH PROMOTES TECHNOLOGY CAREERS

In March, ASTTBC rolled several events into one marathon, high-energy session. ‘KamTech… Focus 24’ was billed as ‘a 24 hour look at careers’. It was held in Kamloops. As the hands swept the clock, KamTECH brought together youth, parents, employers and members… in fact, anyone with an interest in careers in technology.

The first event was an evening in which ASTTBC staff and members joined industry and education representatives to talk with parents and students about technology careers. Members of ASTTBC and practitioners in health care and trades offered their perspectives on career opportunities. Next, at a meeting with community leaders, ASTTBC brought attention to the need to work together to enhance awareness and address systemic barriers to technology careers.

Recognizing Innovation… ASTTBC SPONSORS AWARD FOR SCI-TECH NORTH

ASTTBC sponsored a Technology Leadership Award for Sci-Tech North, one of nine regional science councils. The ASTTBC award recognizes a person who has demonstrated leadership in developing or applying technology and who has contributed to the Fort St. John community, especially as a role model and in promoting technology careers. Sci-Tech North’s annual Innovation Awards recognize the ingenuity and solution-oriented creativity that the enterprises and individuals of Northeastern BC exhibit. Nominees are considered from all the communities of the Peace, Liard and Skeena regions.

Who are we?

- We build roads and generate power – but we’re not engineers.
- We design robots and troubleshoot electrical equipment – but we’re not technicians.
- We make hospitals work and clean your water – but we are not scientists.
- We are a little of all of the above. We are the glue between them.

We are Technology Professionals.

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 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.bclandsurveyors.bc.ca
The new Kwantlen University College Trades and Technology Centre opened its doors in 2007. Kwantlen’s trades programs, with the exception of Horticulture, were moved to the new Cloverdale Campus, and through their new Dean, Dana Goodchild, they offer some of the most advanced training facilities in Canada.

Dr. Brian Carr, Dean of Sciences at Kwantlen, is an Honorary Member of ASTTBC. “Economic growth combined with a huge chunk of the workforce retiring within the next ten years has placed enormous pressure on industry, government and the post-secondary system to fill the vacancies,” he says. “Many of these jobs are linked to technological growth and they are jobs that will demand even greater skills training.”

Dr. Carr served as Chair of the National Council for Deans of Technology where technology enrollment shortfalls are a common topic. “Many other developed countries face the same looming skills shortfall as Canada,” he says. “Adding to this challenge is the growing difficulty of recruiting new students, especially those in their late teens or early twenties, to enter post-secondary trades and technology programs when there are abundant low skill jobs available that pay well in their minds. The low percentage of high school students taking the math and physics required for entry into the technologies is another problem.”

Dr. Carr applauded ASTTBC’s efforts to promote technology careers. “The terms ‘trades’ and ‘technology’ are often mistakenly interwoven to mean the same thing,” says Dr. Carr, “and this does disservice to the efforts of recruiting students into the educational and training programs representing both career fields.

Technologists and technicians are typically graduates of a two or three year program at post-secondary institutes and colleges. The employment rate for technology graduates is extremely high. Certified technologists in BC earn an average of $68,000 per year according to the most recent ASTTBC compensation survey.

Skilled Professionals in Demand… ASSOCIATIONS SURVEY MEMBER COMPENSATION LEVELS

Many of BC’s professional associations survey their members to compile typical compensation levels. This data is useful for both members of the associations and their employers, particularly as the demand for highly skilled professionals continues to increase.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professional Category</th>
<th>Average Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professional Engineers and Geoscientists</td>
<td>$84,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architects</td>
<td>$73,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Professional Foresters</td>
<td>$73,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Forest Technologists</td>
<td>$57,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied Science Technologists</td>
<td>$67,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Consultants</td>
<td>$68,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Sources
1. ASTTBC 2006 Report on Member’s Compensation & Benefits members total annual compensation
2. AIBC 2007 Salary Survey weighted average salary for a senior architect
3. ARCTP 2006 Report on Members Compensation & Benefits, average salary
4. ASTTBC Member Compensation Survey 2007, member salaries reported.

Trades & Technology Leadership… DEGREE LAUNCHED AT THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

A Bachelor of Technology degree in Trades and Technology Leadership is being offered at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops. The new degree was approved by the Minister of Advanced Education in March 2007. Thompson Rivers University has arranged a laddering agreement for its students who have an Engineering Design and Drafting Technology Diploma. These graduates are eligible to receive credits toward the Bachelor of Technology in technology management. The remaining credits can be earned by distance through TRU’s Open Learning division.

Campus 2020 Report Released… THE FUTURE OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION


ASTTBC made a submission to and post-2020 early Reforming Technology Education in BC: Economic Role, Policy Gaps and Recommendations’. ASTTBC voiced concerns about enrollments at BCIT and the colleges, strategic leadership for technology education and career awareness, opportunities to introduce technology education in K – 12 and the need for technology programs in Northern BC.

A copy of the final report is available online at…

www.aved.gov.bc.ca/campus2020

Employers… ask for our Employer Liaison package to learn how technology professionals can benefit your enterprise.

Online Information Available… WORKBC A RESOURCE FOR EMPLOYERS & EMPLOYEES

WorkBC is an online guide to employment resources. The web site is a one-stop source of information on finding work and planning a career in BC. Employers can access labour market information and information on hiring, interviewing and retention. The WorkBC Action Plan, which outlines government plans to attract and recruit skilled workers to the province, is also posted.

Visit… www.WorkBC.ca

Forestry Programs Cut… LOW ENROLLMENT IN SPITE OF JOBS

When it comes to career opportunities, students may not be able to see the forest for the trees. BCIT closed in two forestry programs this year due to low enrollment. The demand for forest professionals is projected to grow and the employment rate for forest technology programs is already running at 100%. Unfortunately young people are either not getting the message or are choosing other career options. While Malaspina University College, Selkirk College and the College of New Caledonia still offer forest technology programs, the BCIT program was the only one in the Lower Mainland.

Adding VALUE to Your MEMBERSHIP in ASTTBC

www.cten.ca
**Group Plans & Services...**
adding value to your registration!

For more information about ASTTBC’s Group Plans and Services check out the web at...

www.asttbc.org/xc

---

**HR Strategy Vital...**

**TECHNOLOGY SKILLS ACTION PLAN UNVEILED**

Technology workers in BC contribute significantly to public and worker safety. They help build provincial infrastructure and all types of buildings. And they are on the front lines of resource management, manufacturing, and the design and use of state-of-the-art technology. However, BC is facing a critical shortage of these professionals, which will get worse without action. BC needs the participation of industry leaders and other stakeholders willing to invest the time, money and effort needed to design and implement a comprehensive strategic plan.

As a result of discussions at a roundtable hosted by ASTTBC, a Technology Skills Action Plan has been written. The vision of this long-term human resources strategy is a growing, diverse and sustainable BC economy supported by well-trained, qualified and fully-engaged technicians, technicians and technical specialists combined with a responsive, flexible education and training system.

“Technology Skills Action Plan for BC” identifies the following proactive solutions...

- Establish a “Technology Education & Careers Council” of senior employer representatives and other stakeholders to oversee and champion the action plan
- Develop a technology human resource strategy, “Technology Skills 2020”
- Convene a Roundtable on Technology Skills Shortage during National Technology Week 2007
- Champion an Advanced Education Strategy that includes targeted spaces and initiatives for technology programs in public post-secondary colleges, institutes and university colleges
- Initiate programming in K – 12 that enhances awareness of technology education and careers
- Partner with governments to initiate a technology skills labour market project that provides provincial, regional and sectoral labour market demand and supply projections for technology occupations
- Partner with governments to enhance technology skills foreign credential assessment, recognition and matching
- Develop practical HR tools for small and medium-sized businesses to recruit, mentor and retain technology professionals
- Support lifelong learning for, and retention of, mid-career and older technology professionals
- Initiate a program to engage under-utilized labour force groups, including women, First Nations and British Columbians with disabilities

A copy of the “Technology Skills Action Plan” is available for downloading at...www.asttbc.org/RTSS

---

**FEAT Bursaries...**

**RECIPIENTS SAY “THANKS!”**

"Thank you for the FEAT Reg Ridolde Memorial Award. I hope to become an individual that makes your organization proud, epitomizing all of the values your organization stands for and by which it has created in highly-regarded reputation.” Joanne Zhang, BCIT

"The FEAT award is greatly appreciated and will be used to help pay off student debt.” Zachary Herzog, College of New Caledonia

"I’d like to thank you for supporting me in the steel detailing program at VCC. It means a great deal to me in my career in Canada. I am now proud to be an employee of Davco, one of the largest steel detailing companies in the world.” Mei Feng Sun, Vancouver Community College

"Thank you for the FEAT Frank Blunden Memorial Award. It is a great reward for the hard work I have put into my school work.” Tyler Thompson, BCIT

"My goal is to contribute in the research and medical devices dedicated to help people stay healthy. I am truly grateful to be the recipient of the FEAT/IBET award.” Zachary Herzog,

"Don’t gamble your assets..."
Member Profile…

Couple Follows Parallel Career Track

When Bob and Kay Matula go to work in the morning they may drive in different directions, but they both head to jobs that are related to the construction industry.

Bob Matula, AScT, CEC, is Vice President, Pre-Construction at Vanbots Construction Inc. Kay Matula, AScT, RBO, is a Commercial Plan Reviewer with the City of Surrey. This husband and wife technician duo have been members of ASTTBC for 25 years. And they are both graduates of the Building Technology program at BCIT. “We met in class,” says Kay.

Vanbots does around $600 million of construction each year across Canada and in the USA, Bermuda, the Bahamas and Mexico. “Our Richmond office has done several projects at Vancouver General Hospital and we are doing the domestic terminal at Vancouver International Airport,” says Bob.

There are approximately 180 people working in the Planning & Development Department at the City of Surrey so keep up with pace of development. “I started in 1985 doing plan checking for single family dwellings,” says Kay. “Now I check plans to conform to the Zoning Bylaws and the BC Building Code for multi-residential, commercial, industrial and institutional buildings.”

Their start was modest. Bob was a carpenter who returned to school to complete his high school diploma before heading to BCIT. Kay’s father had been an engineer in Korea, which is what sparked her interest in BCIT. Jobs were scarce in the construction industry in the early 1980’s however Kay landed a job with a small contractor even before she graduated. “I was lucky,” she says with a smile. “There were very few women in the industry and my employer gave a grant to encourage women to work in non-traditional fields.” Bob soon joined the same firm as an estimator. A few years later however, construction in BC stalled and they were both laid off… on the same day as they got approved for a mortgage on their new home.

Bob eventually went to work with Ledcor and this time his timing was perfect. Developers were starting to build high rises after Expo 86. He did the estimating and project management on Ledcor’s first high rise project. For the past three years he has been with Vanbots. “Now there is a real shortage of people,” he says. “Ironically, the next construction slowdown in BC may be caused by a lack of people. It’s a really good opportunity to get into the industry.”

Kay Matula agrees. “I think a lot of women should go into Building Technology,” she says. “If you are capable you should do it. It’s a good field.”

One change they have noticed in the world of work is more flexibility and information sharing than in previous decades. With today’s fast pace and labour shortage, people can really put their skills and talents to work. What hasn’t changed in 25 years is the challenging and interesting careers, the opportunity for continual learning and the chance to team up with highly skilled colleagues. ■

Industry & Former Members Provide Feedback…

Students Conduct Surveys for ASTTBC

BCIT students worked with ASTTBC, in cooperation with the Consulting Engineers of BC, to conduct a survey of engineering firms. Thirty-one companies participated.

• The demand to fill the jobs of technologists and technicians is very high and therefore many employers are not requiring certification from potential employees

• 97% find it difficult to acquire qualified applicants, yet only 50% of them make use of the online HR service available through ASTTBC, the Canadian Technical Employment Network (CTEN)… www.cten.ca

• The main reason for not requiring certification for technologists and technicians was because professional engineers have to sign off on the work anyway

• Employers were almost always willing to pay to support employees for continuing education and dues even if they did not require certification

• The ratio of engineers to technologists and technicians was close to 1:1

ASTTBC also asked BCIT students in Marketing Management to survey resigned and cancelled members of ASTTBC from the last two years. 193 former members responded to a phone or email survey. The most significant reason for resigning was… ‘job not requiring it’, followed by ‘moved’, then ‘cost’. A third of those over 55 stated that retirement was their reason for resignation. The survey team recommended creating a mentor program with a membership discount for retirees and a chance to tutor younger members. ■

Building Links

Harry Diemer, CEO, BC Safety Authority, Honorary Member of ASTTBC

ASTTBC Makes Time for Busy Executives

Rick Hodgson, CTEch, RBO, President, BOABC

Sharon Shepherd, Mayor, City of Richmond

Making Links on the Golf Links

Eight ASTTBC members played in the Liberal Golf Tournament in Prince George that was attended by Premier Campbell and a number of MLA’s. The ASTTBC foursomes were organized by Judy Dei, vice of ASTTBC Community Representative, Colen Dei, AScT Engineer.

ASTTBC clocks to promote the Technology Careers… it’s TIME campaign were presented to executives of the several organizations.

Satisfaction & Future Directions…

ASTTBC Member Survey Underway

ASTTBC is conducting a survey to measure how well the Association is doing and to find out what our members feel ASTTBC should focus on going forward. The survey is being conducted online although members who do not have access to the Internet can fill in a paper version that is available from the office. Great prizes will be drawn from the responses received, including a ski trip to Whistler or a weekend Victoria get-away package.

Survey results will be posted on the ASTTBC web site and highlights will be published in ASTT News… www.asttbc.com/m007

Member Services Update…

Identity Theft Coverage Added

TD Meloche Monnex is adding Identity Theft coverage as an optional endorsement to home insurance policies for ASTTBC members. One of the most precious possessions a person can lose is their identity, such as when someone steals their social insurance number or other identification and uses it to establish credit accounts, secure loans, sign contracts or commit crimes. Re-establishing bank, credit and legal records and restoring credibility can take a lot of time and effort. With ‘Identity Plus’ a case manager will contact authorities, credit bureaus, creditors and businesses, initiate the restoration process and issue recompense for expenses.

For information, visit… www.melochemonnex.com/asttbc

For list of 2007 activities… www.asttbc.com/ntw

Details of the above activities are contained in the online ASTTBC Newsletter www.asttbc.com/newsletters

Member Profile…

Bob Matula, AScT, and Kay Matula, AScT, have both been members of ASTTBC for 25 years.
Your Association at Work

ASTTBC is on track with the 2007 Work Plan and is making excellent progress in enhancing professional regulation and increasing the recognition of ASTTBC and members. Highlights from the Executive Director’s reports to Council include:

- Five ‘Guides to Professional Practice’ were approved by Council.
- A policy for the proposed Registered Technology Manager (RTMgr) certification program was drafted.
- ASTTBC recommended to government that professional registration of house inspectors should rest with ASTTBC.
- ASTTBC recommended to AIBC and government that any potential amendments to the Architects Act include registration of house inspectors.
- Proposed transfer of the Forest Measurements Resources Board to AIBC and/or ASTTBC under discussion.

- BC Safety Authority
- BC Work Futures
- Campus 2020
- Green Building Code
- Homeowner Protection Legislation
- Industry Training Authority Audit
- Modernization Project
- Pacific Northwest Economic Region Forum
- Trade, Investment & Labour Mobility Agreement
- BC-Alberta (TILMA)
- WorkSafeBC
- Practice Review Board investigated 15 complaints to the end of 2007.

- ASTTBC’s Annual General Meeting was held May 25. The theme was ‘Technology Career – it’s TIME!’
- Community meetings were convened with ASTTBC members in Kelowna and Kamloops.
- ASTTBC continued to connect with students at BCIT and Kamloops.
- Formal meetings, or informal exchanges, were held with Premier Campbell and with Premier’s office.
- Minister of Advanced Education
- Minister of Economic Development
- Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
- Minister of State for Mining
- Minister of State for Intergovernmental Relations
- Discussions with other associations during the period included:
  - Association of BC Forest Professionals
  - Association of Professional Engineers & Geoscientists of BC
  - BC Innovation Council
  - Building Officials Association of BC

- Communications services to members expanded.
- New web site launched.
- Activities relating to ASTTBC Institutes and Special Certification programs included:
  - Promotion for the BC Institute of Property Inspectors at the PIN.
  - Joint task force between AIBC and the Building Designers Institute of BC on professional regulation of building designers.
  - Sponsorship of a WorkSafeBC seminar for Construction Safety Officers.
  - Continued enhancement of the Onsite Wastewater Registration Program.
  - Discussions with the Deputy Fire Commissioner about province-wide certification for Fire Protection Technicians.

ASTTBC continued to participate in addressing the human resources needs in technology:

- TechCANADA Roundtable, Ottawa, February
- KamTECH… FOCUS 24, Kamloops, March
- Roundtable on Technology Skills Shortage, Vancouver, October
- Technology Careers… it’s TIME! awareness campaign.
- TechPRO web site to create awareness of the scope and variety of work being done by members.

- ASTTBC provided sponsorships for a number of organizations and events, including:
  - BC Safety Authority Lieutenant Governor’s Awards for Public Safety
  - BIG Little Science Centre
  - BOABC Building Code Workshops
  - Consulting Engineers of BC Awards Gala
  - Girls Exploring Trades & Technology Camp (BCIT)
  - Health Forum ‘Technology Leadership Award’
  - Natural Resources Forum ‘Technology Provider’ Award
  - Okanagan College Spaghetti Bridge Competition
  - Prince George Construction Association Career Fair
  - Today’s Woman Show ‘Technology Leadership Award’
  - WoodWORKS! Cadpat Competition

Two new ASTTBC awards for women in technology were established.

- FEAT bursaries to students total a record $24,000 in 2007.

Complete Executive Director and Registrar Reports, as well as ASTTBC Council Minutes are available for downloading from the ASTTBC web site…

www.asttbc.org

---

Member Contact Info…
Do you have your correct email address? Please log on to www.asttbc.org to update your contact information if you have moved, changed your email address or have a new employer.

---

Benwell Atkins
An RR Donnelley Company

What does it take to turn a printer into your partner? Prepare produce deliver

Established in 1995, Benwell Atkins has grown from a modest Vancouver-based mailing company to being one of Western Canada’s most respected printing houses. Now an RR Donnelley Company, Benwell Atkins is part of North America’s largest print and print communication service company. With offices worldwide and RR Donnelley’s 140 year history of excellence – Benwell Atkins is well positioned to service all printing communications that our customers demand.

Your local provider for a world of solutions!

901 Great Northern Way Vancouver BC V5T 1E1
Tel: 604-577-4350 Fax 604-577-4255
www.rrd.com

---

ASTT BC Council Minutes are available for downloading from www.asttbc.org...