In the News...

Mataya Cleveland, a student attending Dufferin Elementary School, has a burning desire to learn about what goes on as BIG Little Science Centre.

Gordon Geve, an Honorary Member of ASTTBC, is the 2008 recipient of the Eve Savory Award For Science Communication from the BC Innovation Council. Gordon established the BIG Little Science Centre in Kamloops, a non-profit society dedicated to teaching science in an interactive environment. ASTTBC is a strong supporter and a sponsor of the BIG Little Science Centre.

John Leech, AScT, CAE, Executive Director of ASTTBC, has received the BCIT Distinguished Alumni Lifetime Achievement Award. John is a graduate of BCIT’s Surveying and Photogrammetry Technology diploma programs. He has been on staff with ASTTBC for 34 years during which the Association has grown from 500 to 9,000+ members, becoming the voice of technologists, technicians and technical specialists in BC. (see separate article this issue)

Richard Mayer, AScT, has received the prestigious R. Littledale Award for outstanding service to ASTTBC. Currently the President of the BC IT Company, Richard, at ASTTBC, has played a key role in putting a face on technology and increasing the visibility of the Association. (see separate article this issue)

John Shortreed, AScT, CLS, has been appointed as Council Registrar of ASTTBC effective January 1, 2009. He is currently Associate Registrar. John is also a Past President of ASTTBC and served as the first Chair of ASTTBC’s charitable foundation, FEAT.

Peter Link, CTEc, CHI, has been appointed as the new Manager, House Inspection Certification at ASTTBC. Peter brings experience in inspections, quality assurance and management to the ASTTBC staff team. He will work to enhance services in house and proper inspection, and assist the BC Institute of Property Inspectors.

Murray Gadd, Minister of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development, speaks to guests from across Canada at ASTTBC’s 50th Anniversary Awards & Recognition Celebration.

50TH ANNIVERSARY INITIATIVES

From a few members in 1958, ASTTBC has grown to more than 9,000.

DURING ITS FIRST HALF-CENTURY ASTTBC has made a difference in the lives of members.

“Looking back, my reason for joining was so different than it is for my membership today,” says Ron Green, AScT, who served as president of ASTTBC from 1977 – 79. “It is to be a recognized, certified professional….”

The members in turn have made a difference in the lives of others. This fact was referenced in a letter from Premier Gordon Campbell when he wrote, “As you reflect back over the past 50 years, I am sure you can see how large a contribution your organization has made to the unparalleled growth of our province.” The Premier went on to write, “We admire your past and current successes and commend you for your influence on public life, public safety and on the public mind.”

ASTTBC marked its anniversary with a number of special events throughout the year:

• ASTTBC Awards & Recognition Celebration. This year’s celebration of volunteers and outstanding technology professionals was the biggest ever with 300 guests. The Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists held its AGM in Vancouver at the same time so that colleagues from across Canada could join.

• ASTTBC – FEAT 500x50 Campaign. This fund-raiser will increase the Technology Legacy Fund of ASTTBC’s charitable foundation to half a million dollars. Since 1990, FEAT has continued to make a real difference in the lives of British Columbians working toward careers in technology. ASTTBC donated $25,000 at the launch of the 500x50 Campaign on October 25, 2008.

• Technology Education & Careers Council. ASTTBC launched TECC in 2008 the as a ‘blue chip’ group who will help advocate for technology careers.

• First Nations Careers Council. ASTTBC First Nations members are working with the Association to help draw attention to technology careers.

• TechGREEN. This new initiative will highlight the contributions technologists, technicians and technical specialists can make to a sustainable society. TechGREEN received a ‘soft launch’ at the ASTTBC 2008 Annual General Meeting with implementation planned for 2009.

• National Technology Week. NTW is Canada’s annual showcase of exciting career opportunities in technology. For our 50th anniversary, ASTTBC expanded its support for NTW, including a special newspaper supplement during the week and on-going TechACtion ads in community newspapers around the province.

• QuizMe. In September 2008, ASTTBC began sponsoring this PGTV television program for school children in northern BC.

• Big Little Science Centre. ASTTBC will provide up to $5,000 in support during its anniversary year so that elementary students in Kamloops can experience science and technology first-hand.

REGISTERED TECHNOLOGY MANAGER DESIGNATION

Planning on track for Spring 2009 launch.

The final touches are being put on the Registered Technology Manager (RTMgr) certification policy with the view to having the program running for Spring 2009. This certification will appeal to those AScT and CTEc members who are now managing in a technology environment and who meet the enrollment criteria. There will be two methods of attaining certification…

• Holding a Diploma or Bachelor of Technology in business management, MBA or other appropriate business education credential, plus at least 2 years of experience during which required competencies have been applied.

• A minimum of four years of management experience and training, during which required competencies have been acquired.

A Provisional Certification will also be available to those members who are enrolled in a recognized business program and who meet a primary level of competence. The successful applicants will show the necessary level of competence in a range of management areas…


Watch the ASTTBC web site and newsletters for details.

RTMgR STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Nominations are requested for election to the Council of ASTTBC. Each nomination must be supported by the signatures of 10 certified members, as well as the consent and signature of the nominee. Nominations properly endorsed must be received by the Nominating Committee Chair by Saturday, February 21 2009.

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

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Friday, May 22nd, 2009

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
CONNECTING WITH GOVERNMENT

ASTTBC continues to meet with Members of the Legislature (BC) and Members of Parliament (Canada). Our purpose is to inform MLAs and MPs about ASTTBC’s role, initiatives and issues of interest or concern. In 2008 ASTTBC met formally and informally with the following:

Hon. Murray Coell, Minister of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development – The Minister was guest speaker at the launch of the Technology Education & Careers Council hosted at Science World on June 3. He was also keynote speaker at ASTTBC 50th Anniversary Awards & Recognition Celebration on October 25. In each instance, ASTTBC Council members and staff had an opportunity for discussions with the Minister.

Robin Ciceri, Deputy Minister of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development – The newly appointed Deputy Minister met with ASTTBC’s Executive Director in October to discuss technology education and careers. They also covered ASTTBC’s ongoing work to enhance professional recognition and define rights to practice, and ASTTBC concerns about AIBC registering building designers. John Leech updated the Deputy Minister on ASTTBC’s new Guides to Professional Practice and on plans to implement the ‘Professional Technologist’ (P’Tech) in BC now that similar legislation will shortly be proclaimed in Alberta.

Honor. John van Dongen, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General – The Minister and ASTTBC’s Executive Director spoke on a couple of topics, notably the licensing of house inspectors. The Minister confirmed government’s interest in pursuing a form of licensing that will ensure greater consumer confidence. ASTTBC and the BC Institute of Technology Inspectors have actively participated in the Minister’s consultation on this.

ASTTBC Executive Director presents ‘The Engineering Team in Canada – BC Perspective’ at Surrey-Tynehead MLA.

Dave Hayer, MLA, Surrey-Tynehead – Executive Director & Registrar, John Leech, ASCT, CAE, met with Dave Hayer to talk about ASTTBC’s work to address the technology skills shortage and concerns about declining enrollments at BCIT and colleges.

ASTTBC members in Prince George connect with MLA during the annual BC Golf Tournament.

Pat Bell, MLA; Shirley Bond, MLA; John Rustad, MLA; Dennis McKay, MLA. ASTTBC members met with MLA at the Annual Golf Tournament in Prince George in July. Participating ASTTBC members included… Luke McDonald, ASCT; Jim Litzen, AScT; John Leech, ASCT; Randy Chebunbach, GradTech; Rob Fehr, ASCT; Brian Brown, ASCT; ASTTBC Vice President Doug Carter, CTech; and Public Representative on Council, Jim Blake, MBA, CA.


Honor. Mike de Jong, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation – ASTTBC Executive Director met the Minister to talk about a number of ASTTBC initiatives and, in particular, the Association’s efforts to support First Nations involved with, or interested in, technology education and careers.

Hon. Colin Hansen (then Minister of Economic Development) – ASTTBC’s President, Darren Heister, ASCT, Secretary Treasurer Bill MacPherson, ASCT, and Executive Director & Registrar, John Leech, ASCT, CAE, met with the Minister to talk about issues such as technology skills shortages, declining enrollments in technology programs, recognition of Internationally Trained Professionals and ASTTBC members’ rights to practice and professional recognition.

Hon. Joan McIntyre, Minister of State for Intergovernmental Relations – Also at the PNWER conference, Hon. Joan McIntyre and ASTTBC’s Executive Director talked about the Association’s work, re: BC–Alberta Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) and ASTTBC’s support of PNWER.

ASTTBC staff meet with Minister Polak.

Hon. Mary Polak, Minister of Healthy Living and Sport – The Minister has ‘inherited’ the regulations dealing with onsite sewage, under which ASTTBC regulates Onsite Wastewater Practitioners and Registered Onsite Wastewater Practitioners (ROWPs). The Minister agreed to meet to discuss ASTTBC’s work to enhance onsite sewage standards and practices.

ASTTBC staff meet with the Leader of the Opposition

Carole James, MLA, Victoria–Beacon Hill and Leader of the Opposition – ASTTBC’s Executive Director John Leech, ASCT, CAE, and Jason Jung, ASCT, Manager, Technology Careers, met with the Leader of the Opposition. They talked about ASTTBC’s work to enhance professional recognition and to define the scope of ASTTBC members’ practice. John talked about ASTTBC’s Guides to Professional Practice and efforts to have ASTTBC members included as ‘Qualified Professionals’ in appropriate government legislation and through various regulatory bodies.

Rob Fleming, MLA, Victoria–Hillside and NDP Advanced Education Critic – The ASTTBC Executive Director met with the Opposition’s Advance Education Critic, Rob Fleming. The two spoke about technology education; the need to work to enhance professional recognition and rights to practice, and other topics similar to those discussed with Carol James, Leader of the Opposition.

Hedy Fry, MLA, Executive Director, John Leech, ASCT, CAE, met with Hedy Fry to talk about ASTTBC’s key initiatives of particular interest to the federal government. Topics such as technology skills shortage, recognition of Internationally Trained Professionals and ASTTBC’s work to enhance linkages with technology professionals in other countries were of interest.

BUYING or BUILDING a Home?

Groups within ASTTBC specialize in providing housing-related services.

Building Design. The designations of Registered Architect (RBC) and Certified Residential Designer (CRD) represent professional building designers practising in BC under provincial statute with ASTTBC. Members’ expertise cover all spectrum on residential, commercial, and industrial to recreational allowing them to offer uncompromising professionalism and service in the design and construction of buildings. In the public interest, RBDs and CRDs work with architects and professional engineers where required by law. For a list of building designers, visit the Building Designers Institute of BC web site… www.bdibc.ca

House and Property Inspection. A Certified Property Inspector (CPI) or Certified House Inspector (CHI) is qualified with the education, training and experience to carry out professional house and property inspections. For a list of certified house and property inspectors in your area, visit the BC Institute of Property Inspectors web site… www.bciplbc.ca

Site Improvements Surveys. The practice of Site Improvements Surveys is the determination of the relative location of structures to cadastral survey monuments and Land Titles Office records and plans. ASTTBC membership is required before one may become a Registered Site Improvements Surveyor (RSS). Contact ASTTBC for a list of practitioners with the RSS designation.

Onsite Wastewater. The Ministry of Health Sewerage System Regulation provides for two types of Authorized Person – a Professional, such as a Professional Engineer, and a Registered Onsite Wastewater Practitioner (ROWP) to plan, install and maintain an onsite wastewater system. ASTTBC registers four main classifications of ROWP: planner, installer, maintenance provider and private inspector. For a list of ROWP practitioners, visit… owrp.asttbc.org
UNBC EXPLORES RENEWABLE ENERGY

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN BC could become the first university in Canada to be heated largely with renewable energy. The proposed project will focus on testing the economic, environmental, operational and industrial viability of bioenergy and biomass fuels such as wood.

UNBC has received $3.5 million from the provincial government’s Innovative Clean Energy fund.

“The Minister of Technology, Trade and Economic Development, and the Minister of Energy, Mines, and Petroleum Resources, made the announcement,” says Doug Carter, CITEch, who is both UNBC’s Chief Engineer and ASTTBC’s Vice President. “There were several media outlets covering the event and taking pictures in the plant including PGTV, CBC and the newspapers.”

In the early 1990s when the campus was built, the power plant was designed for expansion and to accommodate alternative energy systems. A bioenergy installation attached to the plant could immediately connect to the hot water pipes already serving the campus. The bioenergy system could then provide base heating for the entire year, and be supplemented by the existing boilers during periods of peak loads and very cold temperatures.

**ViewPOINT…**

by Don Wright, President, British Columbia Institute of Technology

**CONGRATULATIONS ASTTBC**
on 50 years of advancing the vital role of technology professionals in BC, and promoting technology education and careers. Today, you are 9,000 members strong, many of whom are graduates of the British Columbia Institute of Technology.

I am proud of the strong ties between ASTTBC and BCIT. We share a commitment to quality, to providing leadership, and being relevant and responsive. When I joined BCIT this year, I was struck by how many of my friends and associates told me a powerful, personal story about what BCIT had done for them, a family member or a close friend. Since then, I have come to truly appreciate the impact our graduates – and ASTTBC members – have on BC’s social and economic prosperity.

One of our graduates is none other than John Leech, AScT, CAE, Executive Director & Registrar, ASTTBC. BCIT had the pleasure of bestowing John with the BCIT Distinguished Alumnus Award for Lifetime Achievement on September 17, 2008. John’s leadership and dedication have clearly shaped the success of ASTTBC.

Looking forward, I believe that ASTTBC’s agenda of promoting technology education and careers will be even more important to British Columbia. As our population continues to grow, and our traditional industries face such challenges as the mountain pine beetle and increased competition from abroad, BC will need to strengthen its economic base. We will need to enhance the competitiveness of our traditional natural resource-based industries and expand the relative size of the emerging, non-resource based industries. This will only be possible if we expand the proportion of our workforce that is technologically focused, innovative and creative.

BCIT is excited about working with ASTTBC to meet the challenges of the next 50 years.

---

**PREMIUMS REDUCED ON PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE**

In May 2008, Council made the decision to change the insurance carrier for the Association’s Professional Liability Insurance and CGL Insurance to the largest syndicate at Lloyd’s of London based on premium capacity. CATLIN is a recognized leader in numerous classes of specialty insurance and reinsurance. The CATLIN Syndicate has nearly 200 underwriting professionals who can be accessed by brokers. Underwriters are supported by a range of specialists, including an actuarial team and a 60-person claims staff. Willis Canada, ASTTBC’s broker for Professional Liability Insurance, will work with the CATLIN office in Calgary.

Highlights from the change are an anticipated average rate decrease of 26% for all renewing members except for ‘Class 4 Members’ and ‘House and Property Inspectors’. The renewing Class 4 Members’ premium remains the same, as it was already quite low. Renewing House and Property Inspectors will receive a substantial rate decrease of approximately 74% on average. For information on ASTTBC’s Professional Liability Insurance program visit...

[www.asttbc.org/services/programs/group_programs.php](http://www.asttbc.org/services/programs/group_programs.php)

---

“BCIT provides top-in-technology education and opens doors to rewarding careers.”

On September 17, 2008, John Leech received an award for Lifetime Achievement at BCIT’s Distinguished Alumnus Awards, which recognize and honour BCIT alumni who have made significant contributions in their careers and community endeavours.

A native of Nanaimo, B.C., and a graduate from BCIT’s Surveying and Photogrammetry diploma programs, John has served as executive director of ASTTBC since 1974.

John has helped build ASTTBC’s membership to over 9,000 members currently, of which more than half are BCIT alumni. He has led efforts to achieve professional recognition for technicians and technologists, and has tirelessly promoted technology education and careers.

“BCIT provides top-in-technology education and opens doors to rewarding careers,” says John. “And BCIT graduates are key to making BC the best place on earth.”

BCIT is proud to honour John with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his many contributions to his profession and to British Columbia. View his profile video at [bcit.ca/alumni/](http://bcit.ca/alumni/).
ONSITE WASTEWATER REGISTRATION TOPS 500

The manner in which onsite wastewater/sewerage system services are provided by industry changed in 2003 with a new Sewerage System Regulation by the Ministry of Health Services. It applies to all types of onsite wastewater systems, from septic systems for single-family homes to complex systems for multi-residential, industrial and commercial applications.

Under the new regulation, industry practitioners must be registered with a registration certificate issued by the Applied Science Technologists & Technicians of British Columbia that certifies that the holder is competent to construct and maintain a sewerage system that uses a treatment method classified as Type 1 or Type 2. (An existing "professional", another "authorized person" defined within the Regulation, is excluded from the ASTTBC registration requirements.)

On July 7, 2008, the Onsite Wastewater Registration Program passed a milestone when ROWP certificate #500 was issued.

This performance-based approach encourages quality systems. Says Ron Hein, ROWP Manager, Onsite Wastewater Registration Program. "Home owners now have a growing number of ROWP practitioners across the province who have the necessary training and registration as Authorized Persons to ensure the performance and longevity of onsite wastewater systems.

ASTTBC was also recently awarded a grant by the Ministry of Economic Development to compare the regulatory framework currently existing in Alberta and British Columbia with respect to the registration/licensing of onsite wastewater practitioners. Key objectives are to provide a comparative analysis of educational and work experience requirements necessary for registration in each province and to provide solutions to comply with the Alberta – BC Trade Investment & Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA).

To download a copy of the new "Onsite Wastewater Systems for Residents in BC" brochure, visit www.asttbc.org/new.htm ... or to receive a complimentary printed copy, contact ASTTBC at 604-585-2788 or email techninfo@asttbc.org.

CODE OF ETHICS A KEY TOOL

The ASTTBC Practice Review Board has two elements by which it measures members’ conduct. One element is a member’s practice measured against accepted normal standards of practice, whether defined by codes through regulation or by industry, or standards set by the ASTTBC Council. The other element is to examine a member’s conduct against the requirements as outlined in ASTTBC’s Code of Ethics. The purpose of the Code of Ethics is to give general statements of the principles of ethical conduct in order that the members of ASTTBC may fulfill their duty to the public, the profession and their fellow members.

The Applied Science Technologists and Technicians Act states, as one of the objects of the Association: ‘to regulate standards of training and practice and for its members to protect the interest of the public.’ Typically a failure to exercise ‘best practices’ by not adhering to the required standard also creates a violation of Principle #1 of the Code of Ethics. This principal states… "Hold paramount the safety, health and welfare of the public, the protection of the environment and the promotion of health and safety within the workplace." This Principle is the cornerstone of the Code and must be considered the most significant. It best exemplifies ASTTBC’s mandate as a professional association.

The ASTTBC Practice Review Board does not investigate complaints against members resulting in censure is violation of Principle #1 of the Code of Ethics. Realistically any project undertaken involves some risk to safety, health and welfare and may have some impact on the environment. To hold paramount is to emphasize the need to give diligent regard to this Principle and to rank it ahead of expedience or economic gain or other client or self.

Members shall..."appreciate the necessity to identify proper authorities if in their professional opinion, unacceptable hazards to the public, human welfare or the environment do exist. Members shall not sign, seal or sign plans or other documents that, in their professional opinion, would result in unacceptable hazards to the public, human welfare or the environment, or do not conform to current standards.

Members must be familiar with current safety codes, standards and other external regulations pertaining to their discipline. They must understand their implications to the safety and welfare of the public. Members should maintain a responsible interest in both the immediate and long-term effects of the application of practices that affect the public welfare and should be aware that the use of technology may create situations that endanger the long-term safety and welfare of the public. If necessary, members should advise corporate management accordingly. Occasionally the obligations that members have to their clients/employers and to the public may be in conflict.

While members are obliged not to disclose confidential information or to use such information to the disadvantage of the clients/employers, failure to report a situation that members believe may endanger the safety or welfare of the public would be contrary to this paramount Principle. For further information and the complete list of Principles to which members must abide, please refer to the Code of Ethics on the ASTTBC's website.

This article is the first in a series of articles offering comments on the ASTTBC Code of Ethics and subjects related to professional practice such as risk management.

Construction Safety Officer’s Update

ASTTBC was a gold sponsor for the 2008 Construction Safety Officer Symposium held in Richmond, November 14 – 15, 2008. Some 200 delegates took part. CPD eligible and workshops covered a broad range of topics for construction professionals.

Bruce Stevens, ASTTBC Construction Safety Officer Program Manager, manned the ASTTBC booth. CSO panel members Rick Cox, CSO, Cameron Hacault, CSO, and Jim Hopkins, CRCP were on hand to provide delegates with details on the CSO/TSC program and new initiatives. Bruce Stevens, ASTTBC spoke of the work by ASTTBC and the CSO Certification Panel on behalf of CSO’s and TSC’s. A survey taken at the symposium showed a high level of interest in certification with ASTTBC.

As ASTTBC’s Construction Safety Officers program grows, help is needed. Members wishing to volunteer, please contact Rick Cox, CSO at rick_cox@safetycouncil.bc.ca or phone 604-214-7433 ext 119.

Immigrant Professional Creates Career in BC

Engineer from Pakistan could only find work as a security guard after immigrating to Canada; now a technologist with City of Abbotsford.

The day that a bank robber put a gun to his chest was the day that Muhammad Abro, ASCT (Provisional), decided to do whatever it took to become a professional in Canada.

Unable to find work in an engineering field after emigrating, he had been working for two years as a security guard before that ill-fated day. “He was very wild and shouting to everyone,” says Muhammad in describing the robber. “He jumped over the counter and demanded money from the teller. It was the longest time of my life.”

Muhammad Abro completed his bachelor degree in engineering in Karachi and worked for ten years as a Civil Engineer in Pakistan on water supply and sanitation, and on roads construction. His first visit to Canada was for seven months in 1988 as a student in the Pakistan Canada World Youth Exchange. He immigrated in 2003.

“At a new immigrant I started to look for a job in my own profession, but I did not make it,” says Muhammad. He felt like the requirements of Canadian regulatory bodies created barriers to certification. He was advised by an educational institute to undertake civil engineering studies here in spite of having a Bachelor of Engineering degree. An evaluation from ICES established that his degree was equivalent to Canadian educational standards, but he was advised to take courses to upgrade his English skills. “I became frustrated and gave up going for further education,” he says. “My security job had longer hours and I could not afford to survive here without that job.”

Finally determined to improve his skills and to find a job in the engineering field, he undertook a succession of courses including a program from the Waterworks Technology School in Delta, the Road Builder & Heavy Construction foundation course; computer courses; and English from BCIT. It was while taking the waterworks course that his instructor, Wayne Nowlan, CET, encouraged him to apply for registration with ASTTBC. “I was reluctant because of the long list of requirements,” says Muhammad. “But he always encouraged me and he became my advisor. I fulfilled all the requirements and got my provisional certification. After my certification I felt a big change in response from employers.”

With his new ASCT (Provisional) credentials, he secured a position as Engineering Technician I (Water works) with the City of Abbotsford. It turned out to be a dream comes true.

“I am thankful to Wayne Nowlan of Waterworks and to Jennifer Kozuz of the Working Solutions for Skilled Immigrants program, and to ASTTBC, because they really helped to change my life and give me the new ray of light,” says Muhammad. “I would say to new immigrants don’t give up. Improve your English, it is the basic bundle. There are opportunities and a lot of facilities to help us if you want to be part of system. Do not think about what you were, always see ahead, attitude is everything.”
**Creating Tomorrow’s Technology Professionals**

It’s all about giving kids a chance to discover technology is cool.

One answer to the technology skills shortage is to expose more young people to the exciting career possibilities that technology offers. ASTTBC works closely with organizations that enhance science and technology awareness. And, ASTTBC charitable foundation, the Foundation for Education & Advancement in Technology, provides bursaries for students and funding for technology-based events. Some activities from 2008 include...

**Prince George**
- ‘QuizMe!’ TV Show. Starting September 14, 2008, students from sixteen schools in the Prince George area began competing for the ‘QuizMe! Cup’. ASTTBC is a sponsor for the science and technology section of the program. Running on CKPG Television, the show airs Sundays at 7:00 pm, with repeat broadcasts on Mondays at 6:00 and Saturdays at 5:00. ASTTBC promotional advertising will highlight technology careers, focusing on several of the Association’s members in Prince George including... Doug Cartee, CTEch; Colin Dix, AScT, EngT; Heather Andreychuk, AScT; Lorelei Reier, AScT; and Scott McLaren, AScT.

- ‘RoboCup’ Contest. ‘Kids Page’ is running twice a month in the Prince George Free Press. ASTTBC is sponsoring the science and technology section. What’s more, ASTTBC is running a kids’ contest in conjunction with the newspaper feature, with one ipod prize being awarded each month.

**Vancouver**
- ‘Girls Exploring Trades & Technology’ Camp. Both ASTTBC and FEAT provide annual support to the ‘Girls Exploring Trades & Technology’ Camp held at BCIT each summer. This year, BCIT instructor Anabela Paxton, along with staff and volunteers, lead two groups of girls through a week-long GETT camp. It gave them the opportunity to explore trades and technology by having teams design and construct soapbox go-carts from scratch. The teams were then judged in different categories such as ‘coolest cart’ and ‘best construction’.

**Victoria**
- ‘Taste of Electronics’ Event. In a bid to encourage more girls to go into electronics technology, Camosun College held its 6th annual ‘Taste of Electronics’ this fall. The event has become so popular that the College had to run it on a second date. FEAT, ASTTBC’s charitable foundation, helped out by stepping up as a Silver Sponsor. Grade 10 girls

The 500×50 campaign was launched at ASTTBC’s Awards & Recognition Celebration on October 25 2008.

“The joint ASTTBC–FEAT initiative will increase our charitable foundation’s Technology Legacy Fund from $120,000 to $500,000,” says Ted Nodwell, CAE, Executive Director of the Foundation for Education & Advancement in Technology. ASTTBC’s support of Big Little Science Centre regularly gets media coverage, as well as being recognized in the Centre’s own newsletter. For example, during the event on careers in technology, Big Little’s Executive Director, Gerd Stowe, together with FEAT’s Executive Director & Registrar, John Leech, AScT, CAE, appeared on B-100 FM Radio, on Radio NL and on the ‘Midday Show’ on CFJCT TV.

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

During ASTTBC’s 50th anniversary, the Association is rolling out a special ‘500×50’ campaign. The goal is to encourage today’s technologists, technicians and technical specialists to help tomorrow’s technology professionals by donating to FEAT’s Technology Legacy Fund. The slogan ‘500×50’ represents boosting the charitable foundation’s endowment fund to $500,000 in celebration of ASTTBC’s 50 years.

**Katoway, British Columbia**
- ‘Girls Exploring Trades & Technology’ Camp held at BCIT each summer. This year, BCIT instructor Anabelle Paxton, along with staff and volunteers, lead two groups of girls through a week-long GETT camp. It gave them the opportunity to explore trades and technology by having teams design and construct soapbox go-carts from scratch. The teams were then judged in different categories such as ‘coolest cart’ and ‘best construction’.

**Kamloops**
- BIG Little Science Centre. Located in Kamloops, the BIG Little Science Centre allows visitors to experiment more than 120 science and technology stations. The Centre also conducts demonstrations and hosts a basic teaching laboratory. During 2008 ASTTBC will provide a total of about $5,000 in support of Big Little’s work. In May, the Association provided a grant of $2,500 to help the Centre gear up for summer camps for elementary students. This was followed by a further $1,500 in conjunction with a one-day event in July to promote technology education and careers. Nearly, Halloween, Big Little participated in ‘FrankenScience’, Big Little’s open house. More than six hundred people attended. ASTTBC’s support of Big Little Science Centre regularly gets media coverage, as well as being recognized in the Centre's own newsletter. For example, during the event on careers in technology, Big Little’s Executive Director, Gerd Stowe, together with FEAT’s Executive Director & Registrar, John Leech, AScT, CAE, appeared on B-100 FM Radio, on Radio NL and on the ‘Midday Show’ on CFJCT TV.

The 500×50 campaign was launched at ASTTBC’s Awards & Recognition Celebration on October 25 2008.

“The joint ASTTBC–FEAT initiative will increase our charitable foundation’s Technology Legacy Fund from $120,000 to $500,000,” says Ted Nodwell, CAE, Executive Director of the Foundation for Education & Advancement in Technology. ASTTBC’s support of Big Little Science Centre regularly gets media coverage, as well as being recognized in the Centre's own newsletter. For example, during the event on careers in technology, Big Little’s Executive Director, Gerd Stowe, together with FEAT’s Executive Director & Registrar, John Leech, AScT, CAE, appeared on B-100 FM Radio, on Radio NL and on the ‘Midday Show’ on CFJCT TV.

**Kamloops**
- BIG Little Science Centre. Located in Kamloops, the BIG Little Science Centre allows visitors to experiment more than 120 science and technology stations. The Centre also conducts demonstrations and hosts a basic teaching laboratory. During 2008 ASTTBC will provide a total of about $5,000 in support of Big Little’s work. In May, the Association provided a grant of $2,500 to help the Centre gear up for summer camps for elementary students. This was followed by a further $1,500 in conjunction with a one-day event in July to promote technology education and careers. Nearly, Halloween, Big Little participated in ‘FrankenScience’, Big Little’s open house. More than six hundred people attended. ASTTBC’s support of Big Little Science Centre regularly gets media coverage, as well as being recognized in the Centre's own newsletter. For example, during the event on careers in technology, Big Little’s Executive Director, Gerd Stowe, together with FEAT’s Executive Director & Registrar, John Leech, AScT, CAE, appeared on B-100 FM Radio, on Radio NL and on the ‘Midday Show’ on CFJCT TV.

**500×50 Kick-off**

The 500×50 campaign was launched at ASTTBC’s Awards & Recognition Celebration on October 25 2008.

“The joint ASTTBC–FEAT initiative will increase our charitable foundation’s Technology Legacy Fund from $120,000 to $500,000,” says Ted Nodwell, CAE, Executive Director of the Foundation for Education & Advancement in Technology. ASTTBC’s support of Big Little Science Centre regularly gets media coverage, as well as being recognized in the Centre's own newsletter. For example, during the event on careers in technology, Big Little’s Executive Director, Gerd Stowe, together with FEAT’s Executive Director & Registrar, John Leech, AScT, CAE, appeared on B-100 FM Radio, on Radio NL and on the ‘Midday Show’ on CFJCT TV.

**500×50 Kick-off**

The 500×50 campaign was launched at ASTTBC’s Awards & Recognition Celebration on October 25 2008.

“The joint ASTTBC–FEAT initiative will increase our charitable foundation’s Technology Legacy Fund from $120,000 to $500,000,” says Ted Nodwell, CAE, Executive Director of the Foundation for Education & Advancement in Technology. ASTTBC’s support of Big Little Science Centre regularly gets media coverage, as well as being recognized in the Centre’s own newsletter. For example, during the event on careers in technology, Big Little’s Executive Director, Gerd Stowe, together with FEAT’s Executive Director & Registrar, John Leech, AScT, CAE, appeared on B-100 FM Radio, on Radio NL and on the ‘Midday Show’ on CFJCT TV.

**500×50 Kick-off**

The 500×50 campaign was launched at ASTTBC’s Awards & Recognition Celebration on October 25 2008.

“The joint ASTTBC–FEAT initiative will increase our charitable foundation’s Technology Legacy Fund from $120,000 to $500,000,” says Ted Nodwell, CAE, Executive Director of the Foundation for Education & Advancement in Technology. ASTTBC’s support of Big Little Science Centre regularly gets media coverage, as well as being recognized in the Centre’s own newsletter. For example, during the event on careers in technology, Big Little’s Executive Director, Gerd Stowe, together with FEAT’s Executive Director & Registrar, John Leech, AScT, CAE, appeared on B-100 FM Radio, on Radio NL and on the ‘Midday Show’ on CFJCT TV.

**500×50 Kick-off**

The 500×50 campaign was launched at ASTTBC’s Awards & Recognition Celebration on October 25 2008.

“The joint ASTTBC–FEAT initiative will increase our charitable foundation’s Technology Legacy Fund from $120,000 to $500,000,” says Ted Nodwell, CAE, Executive Director of the Foundation for Education & Advancement in Technology. ASTTBC’s support of Big Little Science Centre regularly gets media coverage, as well as being recognized in the Centre’s own newsletter. For example, during the event on careers in technology, Big Little’s Executive Director, Gerd Stowe, together with FEAT’s Executive Director & Registrar, John Leech, AScT, CAE, appeared on B-100 FM Radio, on Radio NL and on the ‘Midday Show’ on CFJCT TV.

**500×50 Kick-off**

The 500×50 campaign was launched at ASTTBC’s Awards & Recognition Celebration on October 25 2008.

“The joint ASTTBC–FEAT initiative will increase our charitable foundation’s Technology Legacy Fund from $120,000 to $500,000,” says Ted Nodwell, CAE, Executive Director of the Foundation for Education & Advancement in Technology. ASTTBC’s support of Big Little Science Centre regularly gets media coverage, as well as being recognized in the Centre’s own newsletter. For example, during the event on careers in technology, Big Little’s Executive Director, Gerd Stowe, together with FEAT’s Executive Director & Registrar, John Leech, AScT, CAE, appeared on B-100 FM Radio, on Radio NL and on the ‘Midday Show’ on CFJCT TV.

**500×50 Kick-off**

The 500×50 campaign was launched at ASTTBC’s Awards & Recognition Celebration on October 25 2008. This joint ASTTBC–FEAT initiative will increase our charitable foundation’s Technology Legacy Fund from $120,000 to $500,000,” says Ted Nodwell, CAE, Executive Director of the Foundation for Education & Advancement in Technology. ASTTBC’s support of Big Little Science Centre regularly gets media coverage, as well as being recognized in the Centre’s own newsletter. For example, during the event on careers in technology, Big Little’s Executive Director, Gerd Stowe, together with FEAT’s Executive Director & Registrar, John Leech, AScT, CAE, appeared on B-100 FM Radio, on Radio NL and on the ‘Midday Show’ on CFJCT TV. 
ASTTBC's TechACTion program is one more way the Association is reaching out to youth. The objectives of TechACTion are to draw attention to the contribution that technology makes to BC's growth and prosperity, and to let students know about the exciting career opportunities that are in high demand.

TechACTion is taking a two-pronged approach...

A special web site has been developed that gives brief information on careers for technologists and technicians in building, civil, mechanical, industrial, biosciences, metallurgical, natural resources, environment, biomedical engineering, information and telecommunications. Each page also has a link to the corresponding BGIT course and career profiles on ASTTBC's TechWORKS web site.

The TechACTion web site also has information on ASTTBC and on professional registration. This section links to TechPRO, the member profile section of the ASTTBC web site, where students can see what hundreds of members do for a living.

A TechACTion media campaign in Black Press community newspapers, now entering its second year, will highlight awareness of the potential in technology careers.

For more information visit...
www.TechACTion.ca

ASTTBC promotes women in technology

Of the more than 9,000 members of ASTTBC, only 9% are female. While the percentage is much higher in some disciplines and increases among younger members, it is still cause for concern. ASTTBC is looking into ways the Association can play a larger role in bringing about change.

In November 2008, ASTTBC conducted an online survey among female members. The goal was to get feedback to help the Association understand the challenges women face in choosing a career in technology, entering the workforce and during career progression. Industry, educators, government and others, such as the new Technology Education & Careers Council, also want to hear from ASTTBC about female members' key challenges and suggested recommendations and/or solutions. When the survey is compiled, results will be posted on the ASTTBC web site.

ASTTBC is in its second year of honoring women in technology at its annual Awards & Recognition Celebration. This year Corinne Dalgas, AScT, was the recipient of the 'Professional Leadership Award for Women in Technology'. This award honors women who are ASTTBC members who 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 the Enhancement of Career Success of Women as Technology Professionals' went to Dayton & Knight Ltd., Consulting Engineers. Of the women working at the firm, 71% are professionals, either PEng, AScT and CEngTech, and Engineers In Training and GradTechs.

The Today's Woman Conference & Awards in Prince George is in its third year and ASTTBC was once again sponsor of the Technology Leadership Award. As part of ASTTBC's efforts to promote women in technology, the Association was featured by the Prince George Free Press. This year ASTTBC increased its participation by arranging a 'Women in Technology' panel; sponsoring a bursary for a female high school student and securing a matching bursary from the College of New Caledonia; and arranging with Stantec to sponsor registration for the event for female high school students.

Also in Prince George, ASTTBC was a sponsor of the 'A Healthier You Expo, Forum & Awards' on November 7 – 8, 2008. The College of New Caledonia Medical Lab Technology Program was this year's recipient of ASTTBC's Technology In Health Care Award. This award goes to a company, individual or organization that has developed, introduced or improved a technology product, or that has improved the interface between technology and health care that enhances health and wellness within Northern BC.

For more information on ASTTBC's National Technology Week activities, visit the Technology Careers section of the web site at... www.asttbc.org/ntw

National Technology Week

National Technology Week is an annual showcase of exciting careers in technology and a golden opportunity to recognize the valuable contribution of technologists, technicians, and technical specialists across BC and Canada. This year it took place from November 3 – 7.

ASTTBC’s major National Technology Week initiative for this year is a two-page spread on technology in 27 newspapers with a combined circulation of almost 800,000. The media blitz reached out to young people and their parents, whether they were living in Abbotsford, Victoria, Terrace, Trail or other communities in the Black Press network.

The Association was successful in approaching the Province of British Columbia to proclaim National Technology week in BC.

ASTTBC also worked with the Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists on national activities for the event. One example is the annual poster contest. This year, students were asked to design a poster with the theme: ‘What is Canada’s Best Technology Invention Ever?’ Prizes were offered for youths in grades 7 – 9 (Junior Level) and 10 – 12 (Senior Level).

For more information about ASTTBC's National Technology Week, visit the Technology Careers section of the web site at... www.asttbc.org/ntw

For more information about ASTTBC's Group Plans and Services check out the web site at...
www.asttbc.org
Industry, educational institutes, associations and other stakeholders will collaborate through formation of the Technology Education & Careers Council.

**TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION & CAREERS COUNCIL TO COMBAT SKILLS SHORTAGE**

There are an estimated 50,000 technologists, technicians and technical specialists working in British Columbia. Many rank among the highest paid professionals and it has been projected this group collectively represent $5 billion in economic impact. In spite of the current softening of the economy, BC is facing a critical shortage of these professionals in the long run.

On June 3, 2008, ASTTBC introduced the prestigious Technology Education & Careers Council drawn from industry and stakeholder leaders. TECC is a direct outcome of an industry-wide commitment undertaken at the ‘Building Careers in Technology Conference’ hosted by ASTTBC three years ago.

Guest speaker Murray Coell, Minister of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development, acknowledged the seriousness of purpose for this initiative. “I am impressed by the Council’s plan to work with stakeholders from industry, employers, education institutions and government to encourage more people to pursue careers in technology, which is vital to the continued growth of our knowledge-based economy,” he said.

Sandy Innes, Vice President of Human Resources at TELUS, will serve as the first Chair and Jan Marston, Vice President, Human Resources & Operations Governance, Terasen, will serve as Vice Chair. Others who have volunteered for TECC include: Harry Deemer, CEO, BC Safety Authority; Andrew Hay, Vice President, Okanagan College; Reid Johnson, President, Health Sciences Association; John Leech, Executive Director & Registrar, ASTTBC; Grahame Rainey, President, BC Science Teachers Association; Sid Siddiqui, Vice President, Stantec; Bryan Tisdall, President and CEO, Science World; Harry Watson, President, Metro Testing; MJ Whittemarsh, CEO, Canadian Home Builders’ Association of BC; Lesley Wilson, Principal, Concept Consultants Inc.; and Don Wright, President, BCIT: Josh Blair, Executive Vice-President, TELUS, will serve as TECC’s Executive Advisor.

Emcee for the launch, ASTTBC Executive Director & Registrar John Leech, ASCT, CAE, stressed the need for a collaborative approach between industry, government, education and associations such as ASTTBC. “BC needs more wealth creators like technologists, technicians and technical specialists if we are to continue to grow our economy, meet the challenges of global warming and diversify our industries in response to significant changes, such as those brought on by the pine beetle crisis,” he said.

The mandate of the Council is to oversee and champion a technology skills action plan to deal with the fact that almost half of the current technologists and technicians will soon retire as baby boomers start to leave the workforce and, by 2010, there is projected to be a 70% shortfall of supervisors, managers and leaders in technology programs. The Technology Education & Careers Council recently convened its second formal meeting and is developing a statement as to its primary role and what success will look like at the end of its three-year mandate.

For more info, visit:
www.asttbc.org/careers/tecc or www.tecc.ca

---

**ASTTBC ROUNDUP**

**ASTTBC members form the First Nations Careers Council:**

ASTTBC put out a call for volunteers to promote careers in technology to First Nations youth. This was in response to discussions at ASTTBC’s ‘Building Careers in Technology’ conference and at subsequent roundtables, that groups who have been under-represented in technology should be encouraged to consider it as a prime career choice.

Cliff Shuckelley, AsCT, Tim Duerned, AsCT, and GradTechs Bill Baglot, Christopher Peters and Shauna Francis offered to lead the initiative. They conducted their first planning session in conjunction with ASTTBC’s Annual General Meeting in May 2008. The result was the First Nations Careers Council, made up of First Nations members of ASTTBC. The group will encourage First Nations students and young adults to seek post-secondary education, which will lead to a professional career in one of the many ASTTBC fields of applied science and engineering technology.

The group was quickly into action…

**Leadership.** Tim Duerned was elected Chair and Bill Baglot Vice-Chair of FNCC.

**Presents:** In July, Tim Duerned, who works with Knors & Associates Engineering Ltd. in Courtenay, was a guest speaker at a careers information session sponsored by the Snuneymuxw Band. Representatives from the Native Education College, BC Hydro and Terasen Gas also attended.

**Student Bursary.** ASTTBC’s charitable foundation, the Foundation For Education & Advancement In Technology, is funding a $1,000 bursary awarded annually to any First Nations resident of BC who is enrolled in, or will be enrolling in, the Architectural and Engineering/Technology program at Thompson Rivers University. The application deadline for the inaugural bursary will be the third Friday in September 2008. www.tru.ca/(fncc)

**Logo Contest.** The FNCC needs an artistic logo to place alongside its name and is inviting entries for a logo contest. $2,000 in prize money will be shared between the top five logos created. www.asttbc.org/docs/fnlogocontest.pdf

---

**TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION & CAREERS COUNCIL**

Reaching Out to First Nations Youth

Are YOU online? Do it today!

www.techPROfile.ca

**TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONALS AT WORK**

A World of BENEFITS. A World of SERVICES.

1.800.263.0600

1.800.300.GREG

www.tecc.ca

---

**ASTTBC**

A World of BENEFITS. A World of SERVICES.

1.800.263.0600

1.800.300.GREG

www.asttbc.org

---

**RELIABLE and AFFORDABLE**

Web Hosting

www.imaginet.ca

---

**ASTTBC ROUNDUP LATEST IN SERIES**

Roundtables seek community-based solutions to tech skills shortage.

A partnership between ASTTBC, Okanagan College and the Okanagan Science and Technology Council provided the forum for more than thirty leaders from the technology community at the October 9, 2008 Kelowna Roundtable. Delegates included representatives from industry such as Disney Club Penguin, Northside Industries and Vadim Software, educators from colleges and the local school district; and government agencies like the Ministry of Transportation, Interior Health Authority and the City of Kelowna. Delegates from the Westbank First Nation attended, as did representatives from associations such as APEGBC and the Southern Interior Construction Association.

Jim Hamilton, President of Okanagan College spoke about trends, the role of technology and the under-represented in technology should be encouraged to consider it as a prime career choice. Andrew Hay, P.Eng., VP of Education at Okanagan College, made a presentation about declining enrollments at the same time as industry is issuing a cry for trained technology professionals. According to Douglas McLeod, Executive Director of OSTEC, it is imperative to ‘fire the imagination’ of students and educators. Donald Munday, Speaker, Claude Kisteman, HR Director with TELUS, drew attention to the need to understand the current generation of employees, their priorities, strengths and how to best attract and retain this innovative generation.

Following the presentations, a working session had the delegates arranged at tables and tasked with addressing specific questions and formulating ideas. Each group of delegates then reported on their discussions, ideas and opportunities.

A joint luncheon for Roundtable delegates and the Kelowna Chamber of Commerce followed. John Leech summarized the Roundtable goals, messages and outcomes to the Chamber members. Claude Kisteman, who also served as luncheon keynote speaker, brought a meaningful message to the Chamber audience.

The Kelowna Roundtable produced greater outreach with a front-page article in the business section of the Kelowna Courier.

This was the third community-based roundtable following similar discussions in Campbell River and Prince George. The goal is to add a regional perspective to all stakeholders’ roundtable ASTTBC organized in Vancouver in 2007.
ASTTBC Awards included:

- **ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AWARD**
  Stephen IBarak, Chairman, iGEN Knowledge Solutions

- **PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**
  Trevor Hutton, AsCt, General Manager, North Salt Spring Waterworks District

- **PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD IN TECHNOLOGY**
  Corinne Dalgas, AsCt, Program Coordinator, Civil Engineering, BCIT

- **EMPLOYER AWARD FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF CAREER SUCCESS OF WOMEN AS TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONALS**
  Dayton & Knight Ltd., Consulting Engineers

- **R. LITTLEDALE MEMORIAL AWARD**
  Richard Mayer, AsCt, Manager, Corporate Identity, ASTTBC (unable to attend)

The President of the Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists, Stephen Gould, CET, wished ‘happy birthday’ to ASTTBC stating, “On behalf of our national office, ourconstituent members across the country, and your fellow certified technicians and technologists, I would like to extend our warmest congratulations and best wishes as you embark on a second half-century of success.” He then presented the following national awards…

1. **NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**
   Harold Cliffeold, AsCt, President, Shelter Industries Inc.

2. **HONORARY MEMBERSHIP**
   M.J. Whitelarsh, CEO of the Canadian Home Builders’ Association of British Columbia (unable to attend)

3. **HONORARY MEMBERSHIP**
   John Reynolds, MP (unable to attend)

4. **PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD IN TECHNOLOGY**
   Corinne Dalgas, AsCt, Program Coordinator, Civil Engineering, BCIT

5. **EMPLOYER AWARD FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF CAREER SUCCESS OF WOMEN AS TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONALS**
   Dayton & Knight Ltd., Consulting Engineers

6. **R. LITTLEDALE MEMORIAL AWARD**
   Richard Mayer, AsCt, Manager, Corporate Identity, ASTTBC (unable to attend)

The President of the Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists, Stephen Gould, CET, wished ‘happy birthday’ to ASTTBC stating, “On behalf of our national office, our constituent members across the country, and your fellow certified technicians and technologists, I would like to extend our warmest congratulations and best wishes as you embark on a second half-century of success.” He then presented the following national awards…

1. **NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**
   Harold Cliffeold, AsCt, President, Shelter Industries Inc.

2. **HONORARY MEMBERSHIP**
   M.J. Whitelarsh, CEO of the Canadian Home Builders’ Association of British Columbia (unable to attend)

3. **HONORARY MEMBERSHIP**
   John Reynolds, MP (unable to attend)

4. **PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD IN TECHNOLOGY**
   Corinne Dalgas, AsCt, Program Coordinator, Civil Engineering, BCIT

5. **EMPLOYER AWARD FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF CAREER SUCCESS OF WOMEN AS TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONALS**
   Dayton & Knight Ltd., Consulting Engineers

6. **R. LITTLEDALE MEMORIAL AWARD**
   Richard Mayer, AsCt, Manager, Corporate Identity, ASTTBC (unable to attend)
Grant Lachmuth’s role as Ministry Representative on the William R. Bennett Bridge project earned him an Advanced Technology Award from ASTTBC in 2007. One of only nine floating bridges in the world, the 50-year old structure was replaced with a new one that opened in May 2008. Grant missed the ceremony because by then he was one of 55 provincial employees serving as hosts at the BC Canada Pavilion in Beijing, China. “My volunteer experience with 2008 BC Winter Games in Queenel and my supervisory experience at work caught the eye of the selection committee,” he says. “When your employer provides you with an opportunity to be immersed in another culture for two months, that’s pretty unique, not many employees can offer that. I felt honoured and privileged to be there to showcase BC and Canada.” Grant took an ASTTBC packluck with him during his two months in China. “A lot of business people in Beijing were always asking me about the Association when they saw it,” he says.   

Grant is not the only one in his family who has built a career at the ministry. His father worked there for twenty years. Now, Grant’s own son has joined the organization. “It’s great to be building in British Columbia,” says Grant. “It makes guys like me who came up through the ranks pretty excited.” Seems like a love for mega projects runs in the Lachmuth family.

---

**You Told Us...**

“Thank you for sending along the copy of the issue of ASTT News with the picture of the Premier on the front with the Prime Minister.”

Premier Gordon Campbell's office, re: ASTT News issue #122

“You can’t get me to update the work of the Roundtable on Technology Skills Shortage II and for providing me with the Summary Report... I commend you for the work you are doing to raise the profile of technology careers...”

Premier Gordon Campbell

“Thank you for your letter of April 18, 2008, regarding ASTTBC’s commitment to, and work within, the Trade, Investment, Labour and Mobility Agreement.”

Carole Taylor, Minister, Ministry of Finance

“I have been retired now for 4 years and it has been many years since I was active in the Kamloops group of ASTTBC. I would like to thank everyone for the tremendous amount of effort they have put in to make the organization what it is today. Staff deserve much credit and recognition for all that you have accomplished for yourself and other members of ASTTBC.”

Garry Gregson, ASTC

“Congratulations on moving the Technology Education & Careers Council initiative forward. I admire your energy and tenacity.”

Chris Hollstedt, RPF, CEO, FORREX Forest Research Extension Partnership

You Told Us...
Making a Difference…

TECHPRO

TechPRO, ASTTBC’s online database of Technology Professionals, showcases you as a member!

ASCT, CTech, GradTech and Technical Specialist members are encouraged to post profiles. Aside from the recognition you receive by being on the TechPRO web site, you will be helping to promote careers in technology. The public and youth alike will learn about the important role that technologists, technicians and technical specialists play in our everyday lives.

Visit TechPRO at…
www.techPROfile.ca …to view profiles.
Better yet, post your profile today!

TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONALS AT WORK

Kevin Witzke, ASCT, brought technical talent and his passion for railroads to restoration of Kettle Valley Railway trestles.

HISTORIC TRESTLES RISE FROM THE ASHES

In 2003 a forest fire raged across Okanangan Mountain Park, taking with it more than 200 homes and 12 historic Kettle Valley Railway trestles. A federal/provincial task force determined that the most viable option was to rebuild a combination of ‘look-a-likes’ and ‘scaled-down’, but historically accurate, versions of the trestles. Kevin Witzke, ASCT, has been overseeing the four-year design and rebuild of the trestles in his role with Earth Tech Canada Ltd.’s Kelowna office. “It’s a bit of a history buff and I’ve always liked the railway so they came together perfectly,” he says. “We were really privileged to have this opportunity.”

In mid-2008 the Myra Canyon Trestle Restoration Society and BC Parks celebrated the grand re-opening of this portion of the historic KVR. At the ceremonies, Premier Campbell had praise for community members like Kevin who pulled together to bring the trestles back. “The Myra Canyon Trestles are an important cultural and historic treasure for British Columbians and Canada, as well as being a key tourist attraction here in the Okanagan,” said Premier Campbell. “It’s especially fitting that we’re re-opening these historic trestles during the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Crown Colony of British Columbia in 1858 that all British Columbians can once again share in the history, culture and beauty of this world-class heritage site. The re-opening of the trestles is only possible because of the commitment and perseverance of those who worked so hard to rebuild after the Okanagan fire.”

Graduating from the Okanagan College Civil Engineering Technology program in 1981, Kevin worked for three years with CP Rail in the department that was responsible for track and structures such as trestles and bridges. In 1987 he moved to Kelowna and joined Reid Cowther, eventually becoming a partner. Reid Cowther became part of Earth Tech in 2000. There are five ASCTs and CTechs working in the Kelowna office.

In the past 21 years with the firm, Kevin Witzke, ASCT, has worked on the design of almost 200 homes and 12 historic Kettle Valley Railway trestles. He says, “And as a past Council Director of ASTTBC, I’ve watched the Association grow as an industry leader and guiding light for technical professionals.”

The Myra Canyon Trestles are part of the Spirit of 2010 trail network, a series of recreational trails for non-motorized use.

For more information, visit…
www.bcparks.ca and www.spiritof2010trail.ca

NEW HEALTH & DENTAL PLAN OFFERED

Enroll before March 31, 2009 and save $225!

ASTTBC’s latest affinity partner program offers members additional choices and flexibility for health and dental coverage. The Olympia Trust plan provides a new option for technicians and technologists who are working on contract or as consultants, and for small and medium-sized firms. The new program has no monthly premiums and provides 100% coverage on just about everything your family may need. It allows you to have your own company pay for your family’s medical and dental expenses, then deduct 100% of the cost as a business expense. It provides complete coverage and impressive tax savings, both personally and corporately. Eligible expenses include all dental expenses, vision care, chiropractic visits, massage therapy, physiotherapy and more.

You can also include premiums paid for other health and dental plans, even when paid through a spousal plan. For ASTTBC members with a small group of employees, this program offers a completely different approach to setting up employee benefits. Unlike insurance plans with premiums, with the Olympia Trust plan you only pay for what your employees actually spend (plus administration costs). You also have the option of designing the plan around different categories of employees. For example, management can have a full-featured plan while new employees can receive a more flexible plan than is normally offered, without breaking the bank.

For more information visit…
www.olympiatrust.com/asttbc... phone 1-800-727-4493 or see insert with this issue of ASTT News.

PROMOTING CAREERS & ASTTBC TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONALS

At times the role of technologists, technicians and technical specialists is called ‘the best kept secret’. ASTTBC continued to invest heavily in a public awareness advertising campaign throughout 2008.

Editorial on ASTTBC and CTech designations, and ad that promoted ASTTBC— better yet, post your profile today!

www.techPROfile.ca … to view profiles.
Better yet, post your profile today!

LEADERSHIP & INNOVATION

Women in Technology...
SHAPING BC’S FUTURE

Today’s Woman

The Applied Sciences & Technology B.C. (ASTB) isbt is receiving $551,000 for a Women in Technologyarianism (WIT) initiative to engage the interest of young women and help them pursue careers in technology. The program will launch in 2009.

ASTTBC is launching the new Women in Technologyarianism (WIT) initiative to engage the interest of young women and help them pursue careers in technology. The program will launch in 2009.

The WIT program is designed to be engaging, relevant and practical. Young women can expect to learn about the exciting opportunities and rewarding career options available in technology and engineering.

The program will engage girls in grade 7 to 9 in a series of exciting and interactive career exploration events designed to help them discover what technology can offer them, and how it can impact their future.

The WIT program will be delivered by ASTTBC’s signature career development program, TechGirlz. TechGirlz is a hands-on, age-appropriate, technology program for girls ages 10 to 14 years old.

For more information, visit www.techGirlz.com.

Technology Leadership

The new program will help women discover the value of working in technology, including education, engineering, business and other fields.

For more information, visit www.olympiatrust.com/asttbc...

LEADERSHIP & INNOVATION

Women in Technology...

SHAPING BC’S FUTURE

Today’s Woman

The Applied Sciences & Technology B.C. (ASTB) isbt is receiving $551,000 for a Women in Technologyarianism (WIT) initiative to engage the interest of young women and help them pursue careers in technology. The program will launch in 2009.

ASTTBC is launching the new Women in Technologyarianism (WIT) initiative to engage the interest of young women and help them pursue careers in technology. The program will launch in 2009.

The WIT program is designed to be engaging, relevant and practical. Young women can expect to learn about the exciting opportunities and rewarding career options available in technology and engineering.

The program will engage girls in grade 7 to 9 in a series of exciting and interactive career exploration events designed to help them discover what technology can offer them, and how it can impact their future.

The WIT program will be delivered by ASTTBC’s signature career development program, TechGirlz. TechGirlz is a hands-on, age-appropriate, technology program for girls ages 10 to 14 years old.

For more information, visit www.techGirlz.com.

Technology Leadership

The new program will help women discover the value of working in technology, including education, engineering, business and other fields.

For more information, visit www.olympiatrust.com/asttbc...

LEADERSHIP & INNOVATION

Women in Technology...

SHAPING BC’S FUTURE

Today’s Woman

The Applied Sciences & Technology B.C. (ASTB) isbt is receiving $551,000 for a Women in Technologyarianism (WIT) initiative to engage the interest of young women and help them pursue careers in technology. The program will launch in 2009.

ASTTBC is launching the new Women in Technologyarianism (WIT) initiative to engage the interest of young women and help them pursue careers in technology. The program will launch in 2009.

The WIT program is designed to be engaging, relevant and practical. Young women can expect to learn about the exciting opportunities and rewarding career options available in technology and engineering.

The program will engage girls in grade 7 to 9 in a series of exciting and interactive career exploration events designed to help them discover what technology can offer them, and how it can impact their future.

The WIT program will be delivered by ASTTBC’s signature career development program, TechGirlz. TechGirlz is a hands-on, age-appropriate, technology program for girls ages 10 to 14 years old.

For more information, visit www.techGirlz.com.

Technology Leadership

The new program will help women discover the value of working in technology, including education, engineering, business and other fields.

For more information, visit www.olympiatrust.com/asttbc...
2008 marked a major milestone for ASTTBC.

ASTTBC AGM 2008

The Applied Science Technologists & Technicians of British Columbia elected a new Council at the Annual General Meeting on May 23, 2008. Darrin Heisler, AScT, the owner of West Coast Image and Analysis, continues for a second year as President and Doug Carter, CTech, of the University of Northern BC, continues as Vice President. Bill MacPherson, AScT, of Broadway Refrigeration, is Secretary Treasurer and Keith Switzer, AScT, employed with BC Hydro, rounds out the slate of officers as Past President.

The Council also includes Dave Boswell, AScT, RBD; Nancy Fowler, AScT; Prakash Joshi, AScT, EngL; John McNeill, C Tech, CHRP; John Meldrum, AScT; Dave Rutherford, AScT, BCLS, CLS; Janet Scott, AScT; Keith Trulson, AScT, EngL; Graham Wickham, AScT; and two public representatives… Jim Blake, MBA, CA, and John Murphy.

The 2008 AGM was the kick off to ASTTBC’s 50th Anniversary celebrations. The day included an awards luncheon with service awards for Bruce Stevens, AScT, and Ken Lane, AScT, and a certificate of appreciation to Tom Roemer, Dean, School of Trades & Technology, Camosun College. Rich Magnussen, ASTTBC Chair, CIWRT 3, received a professional achievement award and 25-year members were recognized. Workshops were offered on… HR Perspective on Recruitment & Retention in Technical Professions; Cultural Diversity in the Workplace: Greening the Code; and Risk Management. The day wrapped up with a high-energy presentation “Celebrating ASTTBC Excellence!” with guest speaker Stuart Ellis-Myers.

“From techs attending their first AGM to out-of-province guests from other associations, all had great things to say about ASTTBC because of your hard work and creative efforts,” said Janet Scott, AScT.

ASTTBC LINKS WITH INNOVATION COUNCILS

Regional awards and events connect community-level science and technology with ASTTBC.

The British Columbia Innovation Council is a crown agency charged with advancing innovation and commercialization in BC. Regional innovation councils focus on accelerating the growth of science and technology within their communities. The goal is to competitively position the province in the global science and technology economy in order to provide significant employment opportunities and a high standard of living for British Columbians.

ASTTBC has forged strong links with several of the regional councils. At the corporate level, ASTTBC sponsors Leadership in Technology awards at three of the regional councils awards galas. Members of ASTTBC attend events that are organized throughout the year by the various regional innovation councils. ASTTBC was a Platinum Sponsor of the 2008 Mid-Island Science, Technology & Innovation Council 2008 Awards. John Leech, AScT, CAE, ASTTBC Executive Director, attended to present an “ASTTBC Leadership in Technology Award” to Per Kristensen. Per, who is with the City of Nanaimo’s Information Technology Department, was recognized for 20 years of leading-edge technology solutions. Several ASTTBC members were on hand including Bob Colclough, AScT, an ASTTBC Past President, and Council members Nancy Fowler, AScT, and John McNeill, C Tech.

The Association was also a sponsor of the Kootenay Association, AScT, CIWRT 8 Gala, the ‘Spirit of Innovation’ Awards.

Copies of ‘The Engineering Team in Canada – A British Columbia Perspective’ can be obtained from ASTTBC by emailing… techinfo@asttbc.org

THE ENGINEERING TEAM IN CANADA

New brochure a resource for students, internationally educated professionals and tradespersons.

ASTTBC, in partnership with the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC and the Industry Training Authority, has brought the British Columbia perspective to the Engineering Team in Canada.

“Having spent many hours with immigration professionals at ESL classes and skills training sessions over the past five years, I came to realize that neither they, nor the general public, have a clear understanding of the hierarchy within the engineering sector,” says Geoff Sale, AScT, manager of ASTTBC’s program for internationally educated professionals. “Students in high school do not understand the different fascinating career options open to them within the broad ambit of engineering and technology. And very often, internationally trained professionals are not clear on Canadian designations because many other countries define ‘engineer’ differently,” continues Geoff.

As a consequence, ASTTBC thought it important to produce a brochure outlining the whole spectrum from trades to engineering. The new brochure provides an overview of the different meanings and implications of the words ‘engineer’ and ‘engineering’; describes the different certification requirements for engineers, technologists and technicians, and tradespersons; and highlights various career paths.

For more information on the brochure, please visit the ASTTBC website at www.abcls.ca
ASTTBC Charts Exciting Course for Coming Year
Council approved next year’s ASTTBC Work Plan at its meeting on September 25. The Plan builds on the Association’s new mission, vision and goals; its strong governance and management track record; and on the knowledge that ASTTBC Council will govern within the full potential of the ASTT Act and Regulations. The 2009 Work Plan is based on projections that the economy, while slowing, should remain moderately vibrant and that, long term, the technology skills shortage still needs to be addressed. Labour mobility, more reliance on professionals and a growing interest in enabling rather than restrictive practice, remain key drivers for the Association. All of this will occur in the context of global warming and the contribution that technologists, technicians and technology specialist can make to sustainability.

Some highlights of the 2009 Work Plan are…

Goal #1 – Professional Legislation & Regulation
• Seek approval at AGM 2009 for amendments to ASTT Regulations.
• Implement Professional Technologist (PtTech).
• Seek exemption in Architects Act. Consider appropriate approach for Engineers & Geoscientists Act.
• Secure provincial regulation, re: Fire Protection.
• Secure changes to Sewage Systems Regulation to better reflect ASTTBC role in professional regulation.

Goal #2 – Rights of Practice
• Develop three additional Guides to Professional Practice; secure national support for Guides.
• Secure inclusion of AsCT and C TECH in WorkSafeBC Occupational Health & Safety Regulations.
• Secure changes to BC Safety Authority Regulations to fully recognize and enable ASTTBC members.

Goal #3 – Professional Standards & Regulation
• Implement Registered Technology Manager (RTMgt).
• Implement Professionalism in Practice and Examination Program.
• Create online self-assessment and registration tool for International trained Professionals.

Goal #4 – Professional Recognition
• Implement a new Employer Liaison Program.

Goal #5 – Member Services
• Enhance member services, notably for student members.

Goal #6 – Technology Education & Careers
• Implement 500x50 campaign to raise FEAT’s Technology Legacy Fund to $500,000.
• Introduce Women in Technology Career Awareness Program.
• Solidify links with, and sponsorship of, regional science and technology institutions.

Goal #7 – Public Policy
• Launch and implement TechGREEN.
• Implement First Nations Careers Council.
• Support first year of the Technology Education & Careers Council.

Goal #8 – Governance and Management
• Implement Volunteer Leadership Program.
• Analyze ASTTBC’s association management software and prepare plan to enhance e-business.

ASTTBC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECEIVES MAJOR AWARD

A technologist has been recognized for outstanding achievements in career and community. That technologist happens to be the Executive Director of ASTTBC. John Leech, AsCT, CAE, was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award at the ASTTBC Alumni Association Awards Gala on September 17, 2008.

“ASTTBC Distinguished Alumni Awards is an opportunity for the Institute to celebrate the graduates of our programs, as well as their impact on the social and economic development of this province,” says Don Wright, President of ASTTBC.

John first stepped foot on the campus as a student 40 years ago and is a graduate of ASTTBC’s Surveying and Photogrammetry Technology diploma programs. He has since served as a member of the BCIT Board of Governors and as President of the BCIT Alumni Association. John has contributed to the BCIT community in a number of other ways such as being a conversation speaker, co-chairing BCIT’s 25th anniversary celebrations and supporting the BCIT Foundation.

John was recognized for his 35 years as the chief staff officer with ASTTBC during which he has worked to grow the Association and professional recognition for BC’s technologists, technicians and technology specialists. John has been strong leader for technology education and careers, initiating many programs to draw attention to the rewarding career options possible through BCIT and other post-secondary institutions.

“I am truly honored to receive the BCIT award for life-time achievement,” says John. “Knowing that the nomination was submitted and supported by ASTTBC Presidents and other BCIT graduates makes it doubly meaningful. BCIT provided a strong foundation for my career and it has been a great partner with ASTTBC over my more than 35 years of service with the Association.”

Among those who provided testimonials were ASTTBC Past Presidents Harsh Hennekeyy, AsCT, and John Shortreed. AsCT, CAE, as well as Harry Demer, CEO for BC Safety Authority (an Honorary Member of ASTTBC) and Minister of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development, the Honourable Murray Coell.