STRENGTHENING TIES WITH GOVERNMENT

Have You Donated?
The goal of TEC’s “Ignite the Spark” campaign is to increase the Technology Legacy Fund to $500,000. To make a donation online visit…
www.asttbc.org/donate

IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

TECC board member MJ Whitemarsh, CEO of the Canadian Home Builders’ Association of BC, chats with MLA Harry Bloy.

ASTTBC Executive Director John Leech, AS,CE, CAE, talks about why TECC has an important role to play.

MLAs and members of the TECC Board gather to exchange information on technology education and careers. The luncheon was held at a board close to the legislative building in Victoria.

Bringing Stakeholders Together

TECHNOLOGY CAREERS ARE A MYSTERY to most high school students. They know about trades and they know about professional engineering. They typically don’t know about the rewarding careers in the middle of the spectrum. Changing that has long been one of ASTTBC’s goals.

In April 2010, the Technology Education & Careers Council hosted a luncheon in Victoria for Members of the Legislative Assembly. More than 35 MLAs and TECC board members got together to exchange information on the role of the applied science and engineering technologies in BC’s economy, and steps that can be taken to ensure the province has an adequate pool of skilled technology practitioners in the future. TECC Vice Chair, Jan Marston, Vice President of Human Resources & Operations Governance at Terasen Gas, provided an overview of TECC and its mandate.

Building for tomorrow requires more that just letting young people and their parents know about career opportunities. A coordinated effort by industry, educators, government and associations is needed. Enough spaces need to be available in technical education programs in all regions of the province. Industry needs to provide mentoring for new graduates and opportunities for under-represented groups. Regulatory bodies need to ensure proper recognition and career ladderings, is available to people at every level of the applied sciences team.

The Technology Education & Careers Council provides strategic leadership and an advocacy role in advancing the importance of technology careers and education in BC. It was formed as a result of a recognized need to have industry step up to the plate and offer their assistance. ASTTBC was the driving force behind the founding of the TECC and administers the affairs of the group.

While in Victoria, some of the TECC board members had a separate meeting with three cabinet ministers… Iain Black, Minister of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development; Dr. Margaret MacDermid, Minister of Education; and Dr. Moira Stilwell, Minister of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development, and the minister responsible for the ASTT. They talked with the TECC representatives about efforts to promote science and technology throughout BC, and the importance of encouraging young British Columbians to stay engaged with math, science and technology in K–12. The three Ministers explored ways government, industry and ASTTBC might work more closely to ensure science and technology careers are well known and highly valued.

TECC Board members also met with MLA John Rustad (Nechako Lakes). Mindful of the need for access to technology education throughout BC, TECC offered its support for additional technology programs in Prince George and other northern communities. The discussion captured the idea with the phrase… “in the north, for the north”. TECC also connects with other groups with common interests. Ken Proctor, Director Economic Reseck, Business Council of BC, was invited to attend a Board meeting. He presented key findings from the report “OUTLOOK 2020: SHAPING BC’s ECONOMIC FUTURE”. Information such as this is extremely useful as TECC sets its strategic plans.

MLAs and the members of the TECC Board gather to exchange information on technology education and careers. The luncheon was held at a board close to the legislative building in Victoria.

Citizens know about career opportunities. A coordinated effort by industry, educators, government and associations is needed. Enough spaces need to be available in technical education programs in all regions of the province. Industry needs to provide mentoring for new graduates and opportunities for under-represented groups. Regulatory bodies need to ensure proper recognition and career ladderings, is available to people at every level of the applied sciences team.

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First RTMgr Designations Granted

RTMgr... watch for the latest ASTTBC designation on prominent technology managers’ business cards and correspondence!

ASTTBC’s REGISTERED TECHNOLOGY MANAGER (RTMgr) is now fully implemented and available to any Applied Science Technician or Certified Technician who is managing in a technology environment and meets the registration requirements.

The Certification Board met recently and approved several of the first applicants. There are a good number of pending applications and plenty of interest from the membership.

A technology professional’s knowledge of applied science technology allows him or her to be the link between concept and reality. The RTMgr certification was introduced to identify the increasingly significant supervisory, management and leadership role that many members undertake through their work.

If you too are interested, go to… rtmgr.asttbc.org, or call the ASTTBC office for more information and an application package. Staff will be pleased to assist you with your application and provide guidance on the process.

ASTTBC has planned or been involved in many activities leading up to NTW including:

• Youthink Magazine technology careers section
• Orientation weeks at BCTI, Camosun and Okanagan College
• ASTTBC’s Continuing Professional Development Expo in Nanaimo, Surrey and Burnaby
• Take Your Kids to Work Day
• ASTTBC’s Technology Awards & Recognition Celebration

Check it out in the “Technology Careers” section of www.asttbc.org

Mentoring... a Privilege and a Responsibility

ASTTBC HAS LONG considered becoming more deeply involved in the promotion of mentorship for our new or aspiring members, but we haven’t yet made it happen in any formal way. Now, through Mentoring Connections, an initiative of the Immigrant Services Society, we have an effective framework within which to promote and foster a mentoring presence for those who need it throughout the province.

Mentoring is one way that members may fulfill their duty to the public, the profession and other ASTTBC members, which is one of the goals of the Code of Ethics & Practice Guidelines. Expect to be asked to provide a few hours a year of your time, as a professional responsibility, to help someone with the appropriate qualifications get a better foothold in your industry.

Watch for updates in ASTT News and ASTT e-News.

Check out the Mentoring Connections webpage at www.issbc.org where you will see a link to ASTTBC as a partner.
We ALL have a role to play... get involved... do YOUR part!

Minister of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development, Moira Stilwell, is joined by Burnaby North MLA Richard Lee and students from Mossedale Elementary School to kick off the Year of Science in BC at Science World on September 24th.

**Three of our government's key goals are to make BC the best educated, most literate jurisdiction on the continent, to lead the world in sustainable environmental management and create more jobs per capita than anywhere else in Canada.**

As the Minister of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development, I believe that one important way to help our province achieve those goals is to raise the level of science awareness, and science and technology skills in British Columbia.

One of the biggest challenges we face is the perception that science and technology is distant, remote and unconnected to what we do in our daily lives.

Science and technology, like the very air we breathe, is a part of our daily lives, from cooking and gardening, to listening to our iPods and the daily weather report, to reading a map. Science and technology is everywhere and affects everything we do – from driving our cars, to how we communicate and how we learn in schools.

Our government has proclaimed the 2010-2011 school year, the Year of Science in BC. One of our key goals is to connect with students, to get them excited about taking math and science again so that we are actively creating the next generation of scientists, researchers, science teachers, technologists and engineers.

BC's economic future is dependent on a new kind of literacy – in sciences, math and engineering. About three quarters of all future jobs in BC will need at least some post-secondary education.

At these events many young people and their families learn about the opportunities in technology careers. For ASTTBC and FNCC, being at these events has the added benefit of increasing contact with secondary and post-secondary educators, local and provincial politicians, and industry.

The FNCC banner was on display at a number of other events including:

- **Canadian Aboriginal Science Society First Nations Outreach Builds Awareness:**
  - **First Nations Careers Council (FNCC)**, an ASTTBC-sponsored initiative, has been promoting technology careers and the application of technology in First Nations communities. Members of FNCC and/or members of ASTTBC and staff have attended a number of events with the FNCC information booth, including:
    - Aboriginal Employment & Career Fair, January 29, Chilliwack, attended by Bill Baglot, GradTech, Vice Chair of FNCC and Mary Woolley, AScT.
    - **Campbell River Community Science Celebration,** February 13, attended by Tim Duerden, AScT, Chair of FNCC and ASTTBC Executive Director, John Leech, AScT, CAE.
    - Prince Rupert Career Fair, March 5, attended by Larry Merodeau, AScT.
    - ICT Summit, March 18, Vancouver, attended by Bill Baglot, GradTech, and Jason Jung, AScT, Manager, Technology Careers with ASTTBC.
    - Community Science Celebration, April 24, Ladysmith, attended by Tim Duerden, AScT.

The FNCC was on display at a number of other events including:

- **SFU Career and Technical College’s First Nations Career Fair, February 10,** Merritt, attended by Cliff Shackell, AScT, a member of FNCC.
- BC Science Teachers’ Conference, March 25, Kelowna, attended by Bruce Stevens, AScT, Regional Manager, Okanagan with ASTTBC.
- Community Science Celebration, April 6, Castlegar, attended by Bruce Stevens, AScT.

At these events many young people and their families learn about the opportunities in technology careers. For ASTTBC and FNCC, being at these events has the added benefit of increasing contact with secondary and post-secondary educators, local and provincial politicians, and members of industry. The FNCC web site also provides valuable information about careers and post-secondary education in science and technology.

Tim Duerden, AScT, and Chair of FNCC during its first year, met with the Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, the Honourable George Abbott, who showed great interest in the FNCC’s mandate and offered his ministry’s assistance wherever possible. Connections have been made with other associations and organizations across Canada including the Canadian Aboriginal Science & Technology Society in Ottawa and the First Nations Technology Council in Vancouver. Bill Baglot, GradTech, is the incoming Chair of FNCC.

Bursaries and scholarships for Aboriginal students are being established with generous financial support from Terasen Gas and BC Hydro.

For more information on FNCC, visit... fncc.asttbc.org

**Technology Professionals...**

“Human capital has and will become the ultimate scarce resource. Technologists and technicians are a precious commodity because they not only know what needs to be done, but also know how to do it with the right tools and equipment.”

---

Dr. Roslyn Kunin, Economist

**Qualified. Registered. Accountable.**

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**First Nations Outreach Builds Awareness**

-richard lee
Practice Review Board Investigates Complaints

REGULATIONS REQUIRE ASTTBC to assure professional standards of practice, and to hold all those certified and registered with ASTTBC professionally accountable for their services. The following are examples of recent PRB complaints and their disposition.

Nature of Complaint – Failure to adhere to an employment contract:
It was alleged that there was unprofessional conduct by a member when the member reneged on an agreed to employment contract. Documents showed the member had accepted the offer of employment, which resulted in an employment contract between the member and the company. Later the company received an email from the member stating that he had changed his mind. The company considered the member’s actions to be a violation of the ASTTBC Code of Ethics, ‘Principle 7’. ASTTBC legal counsel advised that an examination under the Code of Ethics was not warranted, as the complaint was the result of a business versus professional activity. In addition, the company had other more appropriate means under the law to seek recovery for damages.

Nature of Complaint – Violation of AST Act regarding professional misconduct and damaging property during a home inspection:
The Statement of Complaint indicated that an individual (a non-member) was inappropriately using of the term ‘Cert. Eng. Technician’. Inquiries to other provincial associations found that the individual did not have the correct membership anywhere in Canada as a certified Applied Science or Engineering Technician. The use of the term ‘Cert. Eng. Technician’ in British Columbia could lead the public to believe that an individual is certified and registered by ASTTBC under the ASTT Act. Legal counsel sent a cease and desist letter to the individual who replied that he would stop using the Certified Engineering Technician designation and had appropriate changes made to the relevant web site.

Nature of Complaint – Professional misconduct and damaging property during a home inspection:
It was alleged that a BCPII Inspector acted in an unprofessional manner, causing property damage during a home inspection. It was determined that the methods used by the inspector are those typically used in the examination of the components of any dwelling. Where decay or rust is evident then the appropriate steps should be taken. The inspection was constructive, however, the search is only to determine the severity of the damage and safety risks. When the Inspector left the premises the home owner was pleased with the explanations and appreciated the safety concerns voiced by the inspector regarding the furnace.

While the Inspector found no evidence of breach of professional conduct or damage to property in regards to the physical inspection, the Investigator also contacted the Consumer Protection BC. Home Inspector Licensing Regulations and, in turn, this meant the inspector was in violation of the ASTTBC Code of Ethics. The ASTTBC Practice Review Board reprimanded the member by placing a letter on his file for practicing without an appropriate license. Action will be initiated should the inspector violate licensing requirements in the future. Further, the CPIBC was notified of the license breach by the inspector. It should be noted that this inspector is no longer providing services in home inspections.

Nature of Complaint – Improper procedures during a house inspection led to property damage:
As part of a house inspection, the inspector checked the perimeter drainage system by adding water to the system by the use of a garden hose. The consequence was flooding in the finished basement area causing damage to a newly-installed laminate floor.

The Investigator reviewed the complainant’s letter, read the inspector’s reply, visited the site to inspect the damage and discuss the complaint with the inspector. The Investigator’s site inspection revealed that as the drainpipe was plugged, the water from the garden hose ran across the shallow crawl space to the finished basement. The inspector agreed that water testing of this nature is not a recommended procedure and agreed to discontinue this practice.

With the assistance of the Investigator, the parties reached a compensation agreement. Since the Practice Review Board determined that this was a case of an error and omission, and the matter was settled by arbitration, the case was then closed with no further action required.

Note: 46 complaints are in progress as of June 30th 2010. Complaint Statistics and Complaint Outcomes may not necessarily balance due to a member having more than one complaint against them at the time their membership is cancelled.

ASTT Act & Regulations
The updated ASTT Act & Regulations, effective March 31st 2010, are posted on the web at: www.asttbc.org/about/corporate act.php

HST Applies to Dues & Fees
EFFECTIVE JULY 1st 2010 ASTTBC began applying 12% Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) on all dues and fees. GST at 5%, but not PST, was applicable previously. HST will apply to pro-rated dues and fees, as announced after July 1st for the remainder of 2010 and will be applicable to all annual dues and fees in 2011.
For information on the Harmonized Sales Tax, visit the CRA web site: www.cra.gc.ca

Ptech on Books for 2011
‘PROFESSIONAL TECHNOLOGIST’ (PTech) will be introduced in 2011 according to the ASTTBC 2011 Work Plan approved by Council on September 30th 2010.

“With ASTTBC, the technology Professional of Alberta, about to register PTechs, it is essential that we move ahead to meet the expectations of the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement between the governments of BC, Alberta and Saskatchewan,” said ASTTBC President, Doug Carver, CTEE. “We hope to work with APEGBC through a joint task group to define implementation. In Alberta the engineers and techs are working together on this, and it is our Council’s wish that we do similarly in BC.”

The ASTT Regulations were amended in 2009 to enable the Association to award PTech. Executive Director, John Leech, ASCT, CAE, who has been leading this initiative, said, “Council determined to implement PTech when there was a better sense of a common direction among the provincial associations, notably Alberta and Ontario. With the new legislation in Alberta coming into play, ASTTBC is ready to implement PTech.”

The PTech designation is also awarded in New Brunswick and Newfoundland. However, in these provinces the requirements to achieve PTech are not the same as in Alberta and BC. "It is difficult to say at this time, but I anticipate all provincial associations will come together with one standard at some time in the future," said Leech. “At least that is ASTTBC’s hope and expectation.”

Progress will be posted on the ASTTBC web site and in ASTT e-News.

Ontario Adopts L.E.T. Designation
THE ONTARIO Provincial Legislature recently gave third and final reading to the Omnibus Bill which will give authority to Provincial Engineers Ontario (PEO) to establish the Licensed Engineering Technician (L.E.T.) designation as a limited license with a Certificate of Authorization, which allows for independent practice.

Ontario Certified Engineering Technologists (C.E.T.) will have exclusive rights to use L.E.T., subject to licensing requirements that are currently being developed. It is expected applications for both the L.E.T. and the Certificate of Authorization will be available early to mid 2011. This has been a lengthy period of many years led by a number of committed and passionate volunteers on both sides. A joint PEO/OMECT executive meeting will be held in November to discuss implementation details and to celebrate this collective accomplishment.

“The Ontario legislation represents an important step forward in recognizing the qualifications, competencies and practice of technologists,” said ASTTBC Executive Director, John Leech. “We applaud this initiative. I am concerned, however, that the various provincial governments and professional associations across the country are not operating in concert. The Alberta legislature enacted changes to the Engineers Act, establishing the Professional Technologist (P Tech) with rights to practice based upon established industry standards and codes. There is no P Tech in Ontario nor was one planned at this time.”

ASTTBC Council President, Doug Carver, CTEE, said, “With the assistance of the Ontario Legislature, we are establishing a model similar to Alberta. In Alberta, the P Tech is a member of the Association for Science and Engineering Technology Professionals of Alberta and is jointly regulated by the Engineers and ASCT. In Ontario the L.E.T. will be regulated by the PEO. ‘The world is unfolding, albeit without a higher level and consistent plan or approach. We will watch and learn, then move in a direction that will ultimately lead to a national framework,’ concluded Leech.

Ontario Certification and Practice Review Board (PRB) Investigation & Complaint Summary
January 1st to June 30th 2010

Complaints Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Complainant Type</th>
<th>Number of Complaints</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethics/Logo/Titles</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Certification Groups</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Protection</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Onsite Waste Water</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership Cancellation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flex Closed in Damage</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Complaint Outcomes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cease &amp; Desist – Ethics/Logo/Titles – Complied</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cease &amp; Desist – Ethics/Logo/Titles – Minor Breach</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cease &amp; Desist – Ethics/Logo/Titles – Major Breach</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Complaints</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Also, the Practice Review Board cancelled 6 memberships against the member by placing a letter on his file for practicing without an appropriate license. Action will be initiated should the member violate licensing requirements in the future. Further, the CPIBC was notified of the license breach by the inspector. It should be noted that this inspector is no longer providing services in home inspections.

Attention Geomatics and Technicians
The Association of British Columbia Land Surveyors invites you to consider a career as a commissioned professional land surveyor. If you are working in the field of cadastral land surveying and are not currently registered as a Survey Student please contact the Registrar at the Association office in Sidney (250) 655-7222 to sign up today.
For more information check out our web site at: www.abcls.ca
Working With Government a Key Focus

AS A PROFESSIONAL BODY operating under the ASTT Act, the Association has a responsibility to provide feedback to elected officials and public servants on legislation and regulations that protect the public interest in applied science technologies. As the voice of technology professionals in British Columbia, ASTTBC is well situated to channel information to government on a range of public policy issues such as... the skills shortage; technology education and careers; registration and regulation of professionals; practice standards; and, environmental issues and sustainability.

ASTTBC Council members and staff meet regularly with MLAs, MPs and local civic officials. The accompanying montage of photos illustrate some of these meetings within the past twelve months that have not previously reported in ASTT News.

MINISTER DAY MEETS ASIA PACIFIC BOARD

MINISTER Day made a special announcement of funding for the Asia Pacific Gateway Skills Table to help APGST carry out its work in support of building linkages and bridging the gap between BC/Canada and the economies and people of Asia Pacific countries. ASTTBC's Executive Director, a member of the Skills Table, spoke with Minister Day about the role and contribution of technology professionals and the Association's work in support of the goals of the APGST. "I was part of an ASTTBC-led meeting with Minister Day about a year ago and was able to reconnect with the Minister on ASTTBC and our role as a professional regulator and in promoting technology careers," said Leech. "I am confident the Minister left with a better understanding of the roles and contributions of Canada's technology professionals and ASTTBC's linkage with APGST."

Dr. James Lunney (l), BC Member of Parliament for Nanaimo—Alberni, meets with ASTTBC Executive Director, John Leech, ASCT, CAE, in Ottawa. Discussions included ASTTBC's first 50 years as a self-governing professional association and the role of technology professionals in BC, the Agreement on Internal Trade; ASTTBC's work to expand the pool of skilled workers.

Honourable John Yap, Minister of State for Climate Action (c), pays a visit to an ASTTBC meeting held in Prince George. It was attended by the ASTTBC President, Executive Director and local members, plus students from the College of New Caledonia, Natural Resources and Environmental Technology program.

Legislative Director, John Leech, ASCT, CAE, chat with MLA, Sandy Innes, Vice President, TELUS and Chair, TECC, Jan Marshall, Vice President, Telus Gas and Vice Chair, TECC, Andrew Hay, PEng, Vice President, Okanagan College, and Sid Siddiqui, PEng, Vice President, Storm.

Bill MacPherson, ASCT, Vice President of ASTTBC, (l) and John Leech, ASCT, CAE, Executive Director, chat with MLA John Rustad about the Agreement on Internal Trade and changes that are needed in BC to ensure full portability of credentials.

At the meeting with Minister Day in 2009 ASTTBC reps were joined by members of the Technology Education & Careers Council (TECC), an ASTTBC body created to promote technology education and careers; Barry Cavanaugh, Executive Director of ASTTBC's sister association in Alberta; and Yaro Zajtze, Executive Director of CCTT.

MINISTER Day meets Asia Pacific Board

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COUNCIL PASSED a resolution earlier this year changing the ASTTBC Code of Ethics to match that of Alberta. While the changes were minor, they were a step toward harmonizing the regulatory frameworks between the two provinces. ASTTBC and ASET are advancing the goal of harmonizing the regulatory foundational definitions of all technology professional associations in Canada.

Bill MacPherson, AScT, ASTTBC’s Vice President and John Leech, AScT, CAE, Executive Director, attended the associations in Canada.

“Through the underwriter ENCON, the world’s largest professional liability insurer, ASTTBC members contact Willis Canada, attn: Jessica van der Wal, toll free at 1.800.665.5252. Please also visit the Willis Canada web site at www.willis.com.”

“Note: Insurance is not available to Associate members and some Special Certification programs may not also be eligible; please check with Willis Canada for eligibility.”

Legislative Models Examined

BOTH ASTTBC and the Association of Professional Engineers & Geoscientists of BC (APEGBC) are interested in how current and future regulatory challenges can be addressed to provide practitioners with a code of ethics that enhances public protection in the practice of the profession.

A One Act, Two Associations approach has recently been enacted in Alberta. It recognizes two associations, one for engineers and geoscientists, and the other for technologists and technicians, with both functioning under the same Act. The statute also introduced the ‘Professional Technologist’ with rights to independent practice based on established industry standards and codes. Under the Alberta legislation, the PTECH will be jointly regulated by the engineers/geoscientists and technologists.

In addition, Regulations recognize the AScT, CET and ASET designations, to the ‘profections’ of ‘applied science technology’, ‘engineering technology’ and ‘information technology’ as well as ‘professional practice’.

Another idea is to improve on the current Two Acts, Two Associations approach by adding exemptions to existing legislation. In Saskatchewan both the engineers and the technologists/technicians have a statute exemption recognizing each other’s rights. A similar exemption exists in Manitoba with the added benefit of a ‘Joint Board’ responsible for managing overlapping areas of practice.

One school of thought calls for a single entity operating under a single piece of legislation for all practitioners. APEGBC sought feedback from its members through a survey on the idea of a One Act, One Association model (see www.apec.bc.ca/connections/news/june10mearevals.html).

63.6% of the ABEGBC respondents indicated that if they supported or strongly supported the concept of a One Act, One Association model for the regulation of professional engineers, limited licensees and engineering technologists in BC, ASTTBC reviewed the material sent to APEGBC members and had some concerns about the information that was not provided, including the considerable progress made by ASTTBC in achieving ‘qualified professional’ status for ASTTBC members and that ASTTBC Council has signaled that it will accept a 1A–1A model.

ASTTBC Council feels that the lifting of the ‘professional’ designation may still be appropriate for the vast majority of ASTTBC members.

The One Act model was also discussed by the APEGBC board and its members noted that the One Act model would make it more difficult to obtain exemptions for the APEGBC in the event of a court challenge.

In addition, APEGBC members felt that in Saskatchewan no similar exemptions had been given to the association for technicians.

“It was great to attend the ASTTBC Council meeting and their AGM, and to be able to speak about developments in BC as well as the many areas where ASTTBC and ASTTBC are working together,” said Bill MacPherson. “Passing the 2010 oath to Kevin and Barry was symbolic of the working relationship between our two associations.”

For the new version of the ASTTBC Code of Ethics please visit www.asttbc.org/practice/ethics.php

Continuing Professional Development… Is It Mandatory?

IN TODAY’S WORLD, professionals are required to more and more prove their worth and competence. The public expects that technology professionals will operate at the current industry level of knowledge and expertise. Since that level is constantly changing with innovation and development, mandatory professional development is the reality for today’s professionals.

Principle #6 of the ASTTBC Code of Ethics states that members of ASTTBC shall “keep informed to maintain proficiency and good competence, to advance the body of knowledge within their discipline and further opportunities for the professional development of their associates.” Therefore, according to the Code of Ethics, CPD always has been, and continues to be, mandatory.

What is not mandatory for most members is the reporting of their CPD activities.

At the moment only the discipline of House and Property Inspection has mandatory CPD reporting, but other Technical Specialist programs are being considered. All members should expect to be required to report their CPD activities in the near future.

Few would argue the value of continuing professional development. While most members already do it in order to stay competitive, few document their activities in this regard.

To support all registrants in their efforts to keep track of their CPD activities, a secure area of ASTTBC’s web site has been created for members’ current voluntary reporting. It is strongly recommended that members make use of the web site to log their CPD. At some time in the future, auditing of CPD activity may occur under mandatory reporting requirements.

To see the approved ASTTBC Council guidelines for annual CPD requirements and log in to your personalized online tracking visit www.asttbc.org/practice/cpd

Liability Insurance is Part of Risk Management

Carrying liability insurance makes sense for today’s professional.

FIRST, the liability for a serious mistake can put a financial toll on you as a member and on your client. The ASTTBC Code of Ethics requires that members protect the interests of their clients, including protecting them from financial risk related to your work and services.

Second, having the appropriate liability insurance coverage may also assist in determining whether you are a ‘qualified person’ for the provision of professional services.

Third, government’s interest in increased consumer protection is creating more situations where mandatory liability insurance is required. A recent example is the licensing of House Inspectors, who must obtain insurance prior to being licensed.

Professional liability insurance protects you against claims from parties who allege that you were negligent in providing the appropriate level of services. The insurance covers damages should litigation prove you guilty of negligence, and covers your legal defense costs as well, which could be substantial even if you are determined not to be guilty.

Even if you are not in private practice, but are an employee of a company and the company does ‘save your employees harmless’, the employer’s insurer may very well have the subrogated right to sue you for any costs that it had to pay out, regardless of the good will of the employer.

It is strongly recommended that members use liability insurance as a component of their Risk Management Plan. ASTTBC has a mandatory and competitive plan tailored for our members needs through the underwriter ENCON, the world’s largest professional liability insurer.

For further information on the Professional Liability Insurance Program (and on Comprehensive General Liability coverage) for ASTTBC members contact Willis Canada, attn: Jessica van der Wal, toll free at 1.800.665.5252. Please also visit the Willis Canada web site at www.willis.com

Note: Insurance is not available to Associate members and some Special Certification programs may not also be eligible; please check with Willis Canada for eligibility.

The Plan that over 40,000 engineering and technology professionals have trusted to protect their families just got even better!

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Minister Mike de Jong and several MLA’s join John Reynolds and ASTTBC’s President, Past President and Executive Director in unveiling a plaque to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the ASTT Act.

**AGM 2010 a Hit**

This year’s AGM & Professional Development Day had almost 250 participants, an attendance record.

“In my 38 years as a member, this is the first time I have been in town for the AGM,” said attendee Jim Dadd, ASTC. “I have to say based on the very professional, informative, relaxed and downright friendly day, I have missed a great amount for 37 years, and I am glad that I am now able to attend worthwhile and invaluable events such as this.”

The Honourable Mike de Jong, QC, was the speaker at the AGM Awards Luncheon. During lunch the Minister spoke highly of the members of ASTTBC, noting the great work they do and he recognized the many contributions the Association has made since it was founded in 1958. Minister de Jong also congratulated ASTTBC on its first 25 years under the ASTT Act.

Eighty-nine attendees responded to a post-event survey. Overall the event received “top marks”. The AGM business session was rated as very good. Terry Small, “The Brain Guy”, was the keynote speaker for the Professional Development segment of the day. His presentation was a big draw and was rated excellent as was the technical session ‘Contract Components and Pitfalls’. Of the respondents 48% would like technical seminars at future AGMs and 54% would like to keep it to one day event.

For the second year ‘TOP in TECHNOLOGY’ Awards were presented at the AGM. These awards recognize members of ASTTBC who are models of the technology profession. The award may be granted to people who are well established in their careers, as well as to those just beginning.

“I can’t tell you how honoured I was to be recognized by my peers as a TOP in TECHNOLOGY award recipient,” said Keith Meldrum, ASTC, RTMge, Chief Communications Officer with Prince George Fire Rescue Service. “Listening to some of the biographies of this year’s winners made me realize that we have some incredibly talented individuals in the Association.”

This year’s ‘TOP in TECHNOLOGY’ award recipients are:

- Thomas Abbuhl, ASC
- Bill Billups, ASC
- Tina Bo, ASC
- Paul Butterfield, ASC
- Jeff Bycroft, ASC
- Ken Christian, ASC
- Joel Dela Cruz, ASC
- Jason Dorey, ASC
- Keith Fransson, ASC
- Brian Gaechter, ASC
- Michael Gee
- Shawn Giesbrecht, ASC
- Peter Hoojian, ASC
- Tony Khos
- Lyle Killough, ASC
- Harold Kindopp, ROWP
- Deon Kinnee, ROWP
- Herman Lee
- Ozzie Lepore, CTech
- Ken Mayo, CHI
- Keith Meldrum, ASC, RTMge
- Jim Nicholson, CSO
- Paul O’Neill, ASC
- Joseph Perilla
- Gina Purchase, ASC
- Ron Steflik, ASC
- Kyle Tescha, GradTech
- Scott Tilley, ASC
The first meeting was held on May 19 in Prince George. ■

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New Group to Promote Tech Ed in North

The Northern Technology & Engineering Society of BC has been formed to bring together engineers, technologists, techni-
cians and representatives from organiza-
tions related to the applied sciences in the
common cause of more technology and
engineering in the northern part of British
Columbia. The first meeting was held on
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Group Promotes Women in Technology

The ASTTBC ‘BC Women in Technology’ team is built on a core group of women from various disciplines in the science and technology field. BCWIT’s mandate is to promote these fields as a career and to create awareness of the opportunities that are available to women.

The percentage of ASTTBC members who are women is 10%, ahead of the 8.2% average in other provinces, but well short of a level that could go a long way toward addressing Canada’s skilled labour shortage. BCWIT believes it is critical to capture the interest of girls at a younger age with hands-on events and more developed career counselling. During the stage of entering the workforce, women look for co-op programs and internships to facilitate their interest in a particular field. Women still face challenges obtaining senior management levels in particularly male-dominated fields.

During its first year of operation, BCWIT hosted events and more developed career counselling. During the stage of entering the workforce, women look for co-op programs and internships to facilitate their interest in a particular field. Women still face challenges obtaining senior management levels in particularly male-dominated fields. During its first year of operation, BCWIT had a presence at the following events:

- Sarah Campden, CTech, along with ASTTBC Council member and Chair of the Practice Review Board. Keith Trylson, AScT, ENgL, and Executive Director John Leech, AScT, CAE, met with MLAs at the BC Legislature in September 2009 regarding the BCWIT Survey results and recommendations.
- Toni-Lynn Card, AScT, spoke about the role of technicians and technologists as part of the engineering team, at a luncheon hosted by the Alpha Omega Epilson sorority.
- A special half-day session on women in technology ran as part of ASTTBC’s Roundtable on Technology Skills Shortage III at the Morris J Wosk Centre for Dialogue in October.

BCWIT hosted a mini-roundtable at the ‘Today’s Women’ event in Prince George to hear more ideas from other people to help our team move forward into action.

In May 2010, Sarah Campden, CTech, attended a conference hosted by the Canadian Coalition of Women in Engineering, Science, Trades and Technology. The CCWSTT conference was an opportunity to introduce BCWIT to attendees and to spark interest in shared projects with other groups. BCWIT also had a profile at a variety of ASTTBC events during the past year.

Moving forward BCWIT hopes to work alongside other ASTTBC teams, as well as other women in technology groups, to promote technology careers to girls in the public school system as well as be an information resource for women interested in pursuing technology careers and is a professional association and important career information. Visit the ASTTBC web site! www.asttbc.org
need to promote technology education and careers, and to enhance the professional recognition and rights to practice of technology professionals. John also took the chance to talk about ASTTBC’s support for other organizations such as the BGC Little Science Centre that build science and technology awareness in their local communities.

To continue to increase the public’s awareness about the role of technologists, technicians and technical specialists through print and electronic media.

For the fourth year ASTTBC placed a full page colour ad in the Business in Vancouver ‘BC Tech’, a special edition that focuses on BC’s high technology business and organizations. This year’s ad featured ASTTBC President, Doug Carter, C.Tech., and his role in the bio-energy program at the University of Northern British Columbia as Capital Projects Manager for UNBC.

From time to time ASTTBC staff or members appear as expert guests on TV and radio shows throughout the province. One example of this was the ASTTBC Executive Director appearing with ‘stand-in’ host Claude Richmond at Columbia as Capital Projects Manager, UNBC.

Doug Carter, C.Tech., ASTTBC President, presenting TOP in TECHNOLOGY award to Ron Stefik, AScT.

“I would like to thank Staff for making my term as a Council member so accommodating and rewarding. I enjoyed every minute of my stay and worked passionately for the goals set by ASTTBC… I’m proud to have been part of such a prestigious association.”

Prakash Joshi, AScT, Eng.
Senior Material Engineering Technologist, Metro Testing

“I have been a member of ASTTBC for 16 years, going back to my CMC student days and am very impressed with the Association. I am very interested in increasing my involvement in my professional association.”

Keith Maldrum, AScT, RTMg
Chief Communications Officer, Prince George Fire Rescue Service

“Congratulations to ASTTBC on the 25th Anniversary (of the ASTT Act). I first joined the Association in 1985, so this anniversary holds a special place in my heart. My thanks and appreciation to all the ASTTBC staff for their support and encouragement over the past 25 years.”

Grant A. Lachnum, AScT
Senior Project Director, Sea-to-Sky Highway Improvement Project

“The ‘TOP in TECHNOLOGY’ award really means a lot to me. My employer made a corporate-wide broadcast email of a congratulatory announcement, and provided the day off for me to attend. I have been telling my co-workers about the (ASTTBC AGM); all are impressed by the calibre of speakers and seminars provided.”

Ron Stefik, AScT
Senior Technical Advisor, Reserve Engineering, BC Oil and Gas Commission

“I would like to thank you for certifying and registering me as an AScT.”

Edwin Garcia, AScT
Intermediate Design Technician, Smadredesign Group

“After 38 years of active ASTTBC membership and 34 years in the telecommunications industry, I am no longer working. I will always be a faithful supporter of the ASTTBC cause. I am still wearing my nickel ring, though totally worn, with pride of our Association and what it stands for.”

Warren Dent, retired

“We were very proud to have you the sponsor of the Sam Sullivan Award. The fact that ASTTBC reaches in many potential volunteers is like striking gold for Tetra. We need to build our volunteer capacity if we wish to continually reach and serve more and more people with disabilities throughout British Columbia each year.”

Duane Goddles, Executive Director
Sam Sullivan Disability Foundation and Tetra Society of North America

“You can convey our appreciation to the ASTTBC membership for their response to our request for a volunteer. We received an overwhelming number of responses and offers to assist.”

Ian Lloyd, BCLS, CLS, PEng
Program Head, Geomatics Department, BCIT

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Technology Requires Human Touch

I am a bit of a generalist,” he says. “I need to know the technical aspects, and I also have to understand costs and the needs of the community. This job really builds on my training, experience and aptitudes.”

As a high school student, Colwyn enjoyed taking things apart to figure out how they worked. He also took drafting in high school and would occasionally help out in the drafting department at his father’s engineering company. Thinking that he needed to be a professional engineer to have a career in the field of engineering, he enrolled at UBC. That track did not feel right for Colwyn, so he switched to the Civil and Structural program at BCIT, graduating with top marks. After a brief stint with the foundation repair contractor where he had done his graduating project as a BCIT student, Colwyn joined an upstart wastewater technology company where he gained proficiency in the technical aspects as well as project management and sales.

In 2004 Colwyn joined the water conservation program with the Capital Regional District. He now coordinates engineering services for water and sewer systems in the Gulf Islands for the CRD.

“During the past decade the need for treatment has resulted in a higher regulatory standard for drinking water,” he says. “It means communities are spending more on more technically complex systems. Operating a water or wastewater system today requires a higher sophistication of understanding by everyone involved.”

This is where organizations like ASTTBC and the BC Water & Waste Association play a crucial role. ASTTBC began registering on-site practitioners in 2005 through its Registered Waste Association, which is highly qualified technical personnel who are job-ready with education and experience.

“Nice chair!” said Howard Hedley, ASCII, a former President in the early 60s, on his visit to the ASTTBC office.

Member #008 Visits ASTTBC Office

HOWARD HEDLEY, ASCII, President of ASTTBC in 1962 – 1963, and member number 008, stopped by for a visit to the Association’s Surrey office. In his day, the technologists and technicians occupied a single office in the Engineers building in Vancouver. Now ASTTBC has its own building, mortgage free.

Ever a technologist at heart, Howard had this to say about his office visit: “On our mission to find you, we followed the confident instructions of our GPS guide, turned the corner and there was the headquarters of ASTTBC.”

He enjoyed his tour of the ASTTBC building, meeting the Staff and especially reminiscing about fellow Past Presidents after seeing the Past President’s Plaque in our board room.

In a follow up note Howard wrote “…Thank you so much for your enthusiastic greeting and tour of the building. Once again John (Leech, the Executive Director), I’ve found the heart of our organization, and it is you!”

ASTTBC Launches Career Enhancement Web Site

ASTTBC IS PLEASED to announce the launch of its new Careers web site. The site provides members with a wealth of information related to career development and enhancement. Here you will find tips on information interviews, resumes and interview skills, along with powerful job search links and tools.

Visit the ASTTBC Careers web site today…

careers.asttbc.org

TechPRO Boosts Your Profile

The TechPRO section of ASTTBC’s web site provides great career information for aspiring technologists, technicians and technical specialists. TechPRO listings allow you to ‘catch up’ with former colleagues and find out who is working in your community. Posting your profile provides another way for self-employed practitioners to get their names in front of visitors to the ASTTBC web site.

ASTTBC members… if you have not yet posted your career story, please do it today!

To load your information go to…

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Looking ahead, Colwyn Sunderland, ASCII, hopes students will come to understand the great diversity of jobs within the engineering team, and that it is not just a choice between trades or professional engineering, but includes well-paid and interesting work as technical specialists, technicians and technologists.

Colwyn Sunderland, ASCII, is the Local Services Engineering Coordinator with the Capital Regional District.

Colwyn Sunderland, ASCII, during inspection of a new bolted-steel water tank on Salt Spring Island.

Shaping BC’s Future

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TETRA Society's Executive Director—12—

This is but one example of how ASTTBC members and/or the Association support science and technology in British Columbia. Other 2010 examples include:

- Silicon Vineyard Innovation Awards. Held in Kelowna on June 10th; hosted by The Okanagan Science & Technology Council. ASTTBC sponsored the champagne reception and the post-awards reception.
- Lieutenant Governor's Awards for Public Safety. ASTTBC is a Silver Sponsor of the awards.
- BC Safety Authority. ASTTBC donated $5,000 towards the Alumni endowment, which supports students requiring financial aid.
- Canadian Direct Insurance. ASTTBC once again sponsored a hole at this annual golf tournament. More than $110,000 has been raised in the first two years for the Alumni endowment, which supports students requiring financial aid.
- The Okanagan Science & Technology Council. ASTTBC sponsored the champagne reception and the post-awards reception.
- BCIT Alumni Open. July 13th; hosted by the BCIT Alumni Association and Canadian Direct Insurance. ASTTBC once again sponsored a hole at this annual golf tournament. More than $110,000 has been raised in the first two years for the Alumni endowment, which supports students requiring financial aid.
- Lieutenant Governor’s Awards for Public Safety. November 23rd; hosted by the BC Safety Authority. ASTTBC is a Silver Sponsor of the awards.

Brad Walton, AScT, (l) receiving sponsor recognition plaque from Mary Tracey, Executive Director, Wood WORKS!

Lumino Lightening receiving congrats on their win.

Holy Hand Grenades celebrating their win.

Wood Design Competition. Held at UBC on March 27th; organized by Wood WORKS! BC. Eleven student teams from post-secondary institutions around the province created original designs for lightweight wood siege engines to hit targets using 2 lb. projectiles. ASTTBC sponsored first prize in two categories. The ‘Lignum Lightning’ team from Okanagan College won first prize in the Performance Trials and ‘Holy Hand Grenades’ of Camosun College took first in the Qualifying Trials. Brad Walton, AScT, volunteered as a judge for the event.

Modern Racks of B.C. — A ScT, (l) receiving sponsor recognition plaque from Mary Tracey, Executive Director, Wood WORKS!

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