Building on Success

TECC & ASTTBC Host MLAs to Lunch

Forty members of the BC Legislative Assembly joined the Technology Education & Careers Council and ASTTBC for lunch on May 16th to talk about technology education and careers, and the role of ASTTBC technology professionals throughout BC.

M.J. Whitmarsh, CEO of the Canadian Home Builders’ Association (BC), provided an overview of TECC and its accomplishments since 2008. “TECC has moved the goalposts in its first three years as we work together to build a much stronger profile for technology education in BC,” said M.J. “We at TECC appreciate the interest of all MLAs. We encourage greater support for tech education throughout BC, especially in the northern part of our province.”

ASTTBC’s Executive Director, John Leech, ASC, CAE, highlighted the work of Association members, and the technology professionals’ critical role in economic development and the environment.

Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, the Hon. Ida Chong (Oak Bay-Gordon Head) responded for the Liberal Caucus and Bruce Ralston (Surrey-Whalley) offered his thoughts for the NDP Caucus. Both Ida and Bruce congratulated TECC and ASTTBC on their efforts.

TECC was created by ASTTBC to provide strategic leadership and advocacy in advancing technology careers and education in BC. TECC is a catalyst for action and an industry voice into governments and educational systems on policy issues.

The Council is composed of senior business and education leaders.

“It was a great day with very positive feedback from the MLAs who attended,” said John Leech. “We see much growth in understanding of the role of BC’s technology professionals, and of ASTTBC’s role as a professional regulatory body. It is great to have ASTTBC “trip off the tongue of MLAs today, whereas a few years ago they asked ‘ASTTBC who?’”

TECC Board members also met with Pat Bell, Minister of Jobs, Tourism & Innovation; George Abbott, Minister of Education; Naomi Yamamoto, Minister of Advanced Education; and Moira Stilwell, Parliamentary Secretary Innovation. The meeting was fairly informal with a lot of exchange between TECC and the government leaders.

Looking Ahead

Council is reviewing ASTTBC’s strategic directions for the next three years. From small beginnings in 1958, ASTTBC has crafted a solid framework for the professional recognition of technologists, technicians and technical specialists. Achievements have been many and include:

• ASTT Act in 1985 enhanced the self-governing framework for professional regulation
• Implementation of Technical Specialist registrations help ensure public health and safety in vital fields such as fire protection, house inspection and onsite wastewater
• Purchasing our own building said we were establishing roots
• ASTTBC is reaching out to government and industry, and taking a lead in technology education and careers
• By the end of 2011 our charitable foundation’s Technology Legacy Fund will top $500,000

Each achievement becomes part of a base for setting new directions.

The primary focus for 2012 to 2015 will be further developing our professional regulatory framework and defining practice rights. Mentoring, peer reviews, CPD auditing, e-business and online registrations will be deployed to ensure protection of public health and safety. These tools will also enhance the portability of credentials, facilitate registration of Internationally Trained Professionals, engage First Nations and boost the number of women in technology careers.

See page 6 for more information on 2012 Work Plan and Plan 2015.

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 25th 2012.

Doug Carter, C.Tech Chair, Nominating Committee 10767 – 148 Street, Surrey, BC V3R 0S4 FAX: 604.585.2790 EMAIL: techinfo@asttbc.org
Joe Cave, CTech, (r), member number 33, received Life Member in recognition of his contribution to his profession and his long-term membership in ASTTBC. The presentation was made by the ASTTBC Executive Director at a member’s meeting in Nanaimo on March 2nd.

Shawn Giesbrecht, AScT, (r) Operations Manager at Triton Environment Consultants Ltd., received a TOP in TECHNOLOGY award at an ASTTBC breakfast meeting in Terrace. Cindy Harmel, AScT, RPA, Director of Facilities and Maintenance at Northwest Community College, was also presented with her TOP in TECHNOLOGY award at the same event.

Three Kelowna technologists were in the Daily Courier newspaper in recognition of their ASTTBC TOP in TECHNOLOGY awards. Henry Murphy, AScT, is a lab technician at Okanagan College; Arturo Senadjian, AScT, is a mechanical designer for Toneda & Associates, a company that provides consulting services to mechanical engineers; and, Bruce Stevenson, AScT, is a network planner for TELUS. The newspaper article also highlighted the coming skills shortage and the many career opportunities as technologists and technicians.

ASTTBC Council awarded a special certificate in recognition of the contribution by Martin Dunsmuir, AScT, to the ASTTBC Council and its representative on the Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists for many years.

In the News…

Sid Siddiqui, PEng, Vice President, Stantec, is the new Chair of the Technology Education & Careers Council, a body that ASTTBC was instrumental in founding to address the technology skills shortage.

In the News… continued on page 4

Reaching Out to Youth

ASTTBC Helps out with Popsicle Stick Bridge Contest

A high school team from Lumby won the Heavy Weight Division in the 28th Annual Okanagan College International Spaghetti Bridge Building Competition on March 4th. ASTTBC is a longtime sponsor of the Spaghetti Bridge contest, involving students from elementary school to college level and annually driving home the message that ‘science and technology is great fun’. Fifteen ASTTBC members volunteered to attend the booth during the day.

ASTTBC Meets Students at BCIT

ASTTBC’s Manager Technology Careers, Jason Jung, AScT, met this spring with students from BCIT’s Biomedical Engineering Technology program to discuss Association activity and the value of membership. ASTTBC was also on hand with a booth at BCIT’s ‘Big Info Night’. It was a chance to connect with parents of high school students, students and prospective students interested in learning more about technology career education.

BIG Little Science Centre Support Continues

This year ASTTBC contributed a further $5,000 to the BIG Little Science Centre in Kamloops. The Association’s financial support for this ‘hands on’ learning centre since 2007 has now topped $20,000. ASTTBC was also a sponsor of the BLSC 2011 Chemistry Science Camp for secondary school students.

Nanaimo Community Science Celebration

On a Saturday in April, students, parents, teachers and their families took part in the Community Science Celebration in Nanaimo. ASTTBC was on hand. The event, organized by Science World and MISTIC, wrapped up a week of science activities for 1,708 students in ten schools in the region.
T H A N K Y O U for the opportunity to contribute a few words to this issue of ASTT News. In my past role in government as Minister of State for Building Code Renewal, I developed a great appreciation for the work ASTTBC does on behalf of its member technologists, technicians and technical specialists, and for the vigour with which your association acts to protect the interests of the public across a broad range of applied science fields. As Minister of Advanced Education, I have become increasingly aware of the work you are doing to promote science and technology education and careers.

In a knowledge-based economy it is more important than ever that young people develop an interest in math and science-based disciplines, and are encouraged to pursue these areas of study at the post-secondary level. It’s important for them as they make decisions about their careers, and it’s important for British Columbia as we cultivate the trained workforce that will be required for our province to remain competitive nationally and internationally in the future.

I’d like to acknowledge the excellent and enthusiastic work your association is doing to encourage young people to pursue an education in science and technology. Your activity on campus at BCIT and other post-secondary institutions, your support for regional science councils and organizations, the bursaries provided for student activities by your charitable Careers Council and the BC Women in Technology group are just a few examples of this significant effort. And, the job market itself would require participation by an organization on the horizon, attracting the attention of Grade 11 and 12 students.

Once a student has made the decision to pursue a science and technology program at the post-secondary level they will receive an enriching, quality, learning experience that will prepare them to meet the high standards of your association and its members, and the public. Education is a fundamental priority for my government. Despite current economic challenges, for 2011/12 we are investing more in post-secondary education, and with ASTT BC and your skilled and dedicated members, we will ensure that British Columbia’s science and technology community continues to expand and adapt to meet the labour market demands of the future.

Minister Naomi Yamamoto and federal Minister of State (Science and Technology) Gary Goodyear visit a botany lab at UBC during re-opening of the refurbished West and South Wings of the Biological Sciences Complex.

Y E A R O F S CIENCE has wrapped up. The initiative, launched and funded by the provincial government, combined the strengths of many organizations to help British Columbia youth prepare for jobs in the knowledge-based economy of the future. ASTTBC was a key player. The result? ASTTBC garnered a total of 717 individual job-shadowing placements for students.

ASTTBC’s ‘Year of Science Job Shadowing & Work Experience Placement’ project had its origins in the Association’s ability to draw on its network of technology professionals to contribute to the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation’s project. ASTTBC also had prior experience, having linked some 1,400 students with technology-based companies and other organizations through its TechWOR KS! program which ran from 1999 to 2003.

The Association received a grant in January 2011 for its Year of Science participation. Project staff immediately began work to firm up job shadowing opportunities. ASTTBC employed a multi-channel approach to secure placements. These included:

• Regular participation requests to ASTTBC members through e-bulletins, Association newsletters and regional meetings
• Direct approaches to organizations with more than 10 ASTTBC members
• Presentations to professional associations and human resources groups
• Partnership with Black Press to promote participation across British Columbia
• Articles in local newspapers

The ASTTBC project team recognized that it would need to focus on developing placement opportunities and that placement itself would require participation by an organization closely connected with the secondary school system. Since the Career Education Society was already participating in Year of Science, an agreement was reached whereby their contract person was assigned to distribute the ASTTBC placements through the CES network of regional directors who were in turn in contact with the school districts, schools and teachers.

As a result, students got a taste of technology careers in Metro Vancouver, Fraser Delta, Fraser Valley, Howe Sound/North Shore, Vancouver Island, the Okanagan, the Kootenays, the Southern Interior, the Northwest and Central/North East. Employers were overwhelmingly enthusiastic about participation in ASTTBC’s Year of Science job shadowing project and were often willing to add additional opportunities to those to which they were already committed. A number of employers noted that with an aging workforce and many impending retirements on the horizon, attracting the attention of Grade 11 and 12 students was becoming a pressing priority, said Robert Steer, AST, Project Manager for ASTTBC.

Black Press designer Brad Smith shows Langley Secondary School Grade 12 student Jacob Saunders the circle of the round. Black Press supported ASTTBC’s Year of Science project by offering province-wide job shadowing and by establishing a special online feature where the students involved could comment on their participation.

Assisting New Canadians

Become a Mentor

ASTTBC IS LISTED as a partner on the Immigrant Services Society of BC’s ‘Mentoring Connections’. Geoff Sale, ASTcT, Manager, Internationally Trained Professionals for ASTTBC, attended the third anniversary celebrations of Mentoring Connections.

“I heard several inspiring success stories of immigrants who had been assisted by mentors linked to them through one of the ISSofBC partner organizations,” said Geoff.

“I’d suggest that mentoring is the duty of any professional, just as are ethical behaviour and environmental responsibility.”

If you can see yourself volunteering a few hours of your time to help an immigrant professional find his or her feet and maybe even a job in their field, contact Geoff Sale, ASTcT, at geoff@asttbc.org

Work Experience Practicums

MOSAIC offers a program that trains clients in the Canadian work place culture. It includes a four-week unpaid work experience practicum at the end of the program. If this is something your firm can offer or is something you would like to explore, contact Monica Navarro-Copesed at mnavaarro@mosaicbc.com
Ted Nodwell, Editor of ASTTBC News, had four photographs that he took of the Stanley Cup riots aftermath posted on the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation news website. One, titled ‘Real Fans Don’t Riot,’ was selected as a showcase image for the weekly community photo gallery on the CBC News home page.

ASTTBC Past President, Doug Carter, CETech, has been named an Honorary Member of the University of Northern British Columbia Alumni Association in recognition of his contribution to UNBC over 17 years. Doug was the technical lead in UNBC’s award-winning Bioenergy Project. He recently left his position at UNBC and is now working with the BC Safety Authority.

Chris Pieper, ASTTBC student member, who graduated with a civil engineering diploma from Okanagan College and then went straight into a job with Baskin Associates doing quality control work on highway projects, was also the Okanagan College valedictorian.

Aquatera Utilities received the Employer of the Year Award from the Association of Science and Engineering Technology Professionals of Alberta. Jeff Johnston, RET, Chief Operating Officer, and a member of both ASTTBC and ASET, accepted the award.

Have Interesting News to Share?

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

Russell Acton (1), Acmie Ounny Arrhitects receives the Green Building Award at the BC Wood Design Awards. ASTTBC was a sponsor of the 7th annual Wood WORKS! Gala.

Connecting with BC’s Science & Technology Community

ASTTBC was once again a sponsor at the BC Natural Resource Forum & Economic Summit in early 2011. The annual Prince George event was hosted by Minister Pat Bell, at the time Minister of Forests and now Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation. ASTTBC sponsored the Technology Provider of the Year Award. Eagle Vision of Prince George and CityWest from Prince Rupert tied as recipients. The Association also took a full page in the event program to highlight the bioenergy work of then President Doug Carter, CETech.

ASTTBC Explores Skills Shortage

ASTTBC hosted a meeting of industry, government and education leaders in Kamloops to address the skills shortage in the Thompson region. The main finding was the need for a drive to promote science and technology careers and education. Among those contributing ideas were TMLUPS Indian Band Chief Shane Gottfriedson; Ken Christian, ASTABC, an ASTTBC member and Chair of the District School Board; Kamloops Deputy Mayor Marg Spina; Kamloops City Engineer Deven Markowski; and the Branch Chair of the Association of Professional Engineers & Geoscientists of BC, Mart Davis.

Partnering with Immigrant Professionals

ASTTBC was a sponsor of the annual awards dinner hosted by the Society of Panama Engineers and Technologists of BC. Several ASTTBC members and staff attended. SPEATBC now has about 500 members, successfully bringing together engineers, technologists and technicians in different disciplines from both Canada and the Indian subcontinent.

Wood Design Awards

ASTTBC sponsored the Green Building Award in the 2011 Wood WORKS! BC Wood Design Awards. The award went to Russell Acton of Acton Ounny Architects for the restoration of the landmark 1930s Salt Building in Vancouver. Diversion of more than 98 percent of construction waste from landfills was achieved and 10 percent of all the new materials were regionally sourced.

ASTTBC Supports Tetra

ASTTBC has offered its support to the Tetra Society of North America, an organization that recruits volunteers to invent ‘gizmos’ for people with disabilities. The devices enable people to overcome everyday challenges and achieve greater independence. Tetra volunteers custom build items to meet specific needs that cannot be met by commercial assistive devices.

CHBA – BC Built Green Awards

ASTTBC was on hand as a trophy sponsor at the ‘Built Green Awards’ gala hosted by the Canadian Home Builders’ Association – BC on September 30th. The Built Green Program promotes construction of buildings that are healthier for the occupants and healthier for the environment.

BC Science Teachers’ Conference

ASTTBC was a gold sponsor of the BC Science Teachers’ Association ‘Catalyst Conference’ in Richmond in October.

Past President Talks Technology with Premier

ASTTBC Past President, Doug Carter, CETech, had a lead role in a new energy plant at the University of Northern BC. At the time, Doug was the Assistant Director – Plant, Sustainability, Capital Projects. The UNBC bioenergy plant takes wood waste from a local sawmill and converts it to enough energy to heat the university and reduce fossil fuel consumption by 85%. The new facility joins a wood pellet system on campus, which opened in 2009. Premier Christy Clark was in Prince George on March 18th for the opening. The event was featured in the Prince George Citizen. Doug has since left UNBC and is now employed with the BC Safety Authority.

Wayne Stevens, previously with the BCIT Canadian Housing and Construction Centre, John Leach, ASP, CPE, Martin Luk, BCIT School of Construction and Environment, Taran Binning, a graduate of BCIT’s Architectural Building Engineering Technology program, attend the Wood Design Awards.

In the News…

BCITI member, Norm Williams, CH(HP), sculpted a permanent outdoor tribute to Roger Nelson. The 18 foot high sculpture was unveiled at Rogers Arena prior to the Canucks game on April 7th.
AGM Sets Record Attendance

T
o view video message from FortisBC, visit…
www.asttbc.org/agm

A STTBC extends special thanks to our EVENT PARTNER and SPONSORS… your support and participation contributed to the success of ASTTBC’s ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING!

TOP in TECHNOLOGY Award recipients who were unable to attend this year’s AGM.

ASTTBC’s charitable foundation – FEA T – raised $2,000 from a Silent Auction. Sam DiGiandomenico, Registrar with OACETT, won an autographed Canucks hockey jersey to take home to Ontario. John Murphy, one of the public representatives on the ASTTBC Council, won two nights’ accommodation at the Hotel Grand Pacific in Victoria.

The theme for the professional development part of the day was ‘EMPOWER YOURSELF’. Keynote speaker Dr. Mark DeVolder, who is known as ‘The Change Specialist’, provided insights on adapting, surviving and thriving in a climate of constant change.

“I really got a lot out of his presentation, and judging by the engagement of the rest of the room, others did as well,” said Fred Carey, AScT. “I also ran into a couple of old friends that are long-time members and it made us realize how big and widespread the ASTTBC family really is.”

Seventeen sponsors came onboard to support this year’s AGM & Professional Development Day… that was also a record. Allan Nichols, Senior Sales Manager for the Hotel Grand Pacific in Victoria, one of ASTTBC’s newest affinity partners, said, “Of all the conferences, conventions and AGMs that we have exhibited at in the past, the ASTTBC AGM was one of the best.”

Doug Carter, CTech, passes gavel to ASTTBC’s incoming President Bill MacPherson, AScT.
Report of the Public Representatives 2010

The Public Representatives serving on the ASTTBC Council tabled highlights of their 2010 Report at the AGM this past May. The full report by Jim Blake, MBA, CA, and John Murphy was also sent to the Hon. Naomi Yamamoto, Minister of Advanced Education and Minister Responsible for the ASTT Act, to members of the provincial legislative assembly; and to members of parliament from British Columbia.

The 2010 Report focuses on professional regulation and practice. A few commendations and recommendations from the Report follow:

- ASTTBC has made significant and steady progress during its more than 50 years in offering professional certification and regulation of technologists and technicians.
- ASTTBC should review the disciplines in which certification is offered and in this review consider disciplines where applicants present themselves with an overlap in education and work to ensure that professional practice rights for technological fields meet contemporary requirements for business, industry, regulatory bodies and society.
- ASTTBC should consider the current certification requirements and, if not fully applied, to require a measure of sustainability education and training as part of certification requirements for all disciplines. This will become increasingly critical as society matures its view of sustainability.
- ASTTBC has carried out its mandate to serve and protect the public interest in providing technical specialist certification and professional regulation.
- ASTTBC has, in spite of the absence of a definition of practice in the ASTT Act, incorporated in the ASTT Regulations a reasonable and fair definition of scope of practice.
- ASTTBC should work to secure the support of the BC Government and other interested stakeholders for an accepted and legislated definition of scope of practice for AStTs and CTechs.
- ASTTBC has made steady progress in attracting the interest and support of employers for the certification of its technologists, technicians and technical specialists.
- ASTTBC should secure the support of the BC Government and appropriate regulatory and professional associations to enact changes to professional legislation, which will appropriately recognize ASTTBC members with defined rights to independent practice.
- ASTTBC has made excellent progress in evolving professional practice rights for Technical Specialist registrants.
- ASTTBC and APEGBC Councils are to be commended for their recent efforts to work together to address professional rights for technologies.
- ASTTBC should work with APEGBC to jointly define the model for implementing PTech in British Columbia.

PTech in the Works

BUILDING ON THE ASTTBC Council decision in 2010 to introduce the designation PTech – designation to the Association’s certification portfolio, ASTTBC and APEGBC are in progress via the PTech Task Force to develop an implementation plan. See article on page 5 for more.

Plan 2015 to Build on Solid Gains

With a 50-year history behind it, ASTTBC is well positioned in its role as the association for technology professionals in British Columbia. Now Council is turning its deliberations to the Association’s strategic focus for the next three years. The overall goal is serving the public interest through professional accountability. To achieve this, ASTTBC will focus on four key areas:

1. Professional Legislation
   - Changes to the ASTT Act
   - Exemption in the Architects Act
   - Appropriate consideration in the Engineers & Geoscientists Act

2. Professional Regulation
   - PTech implementation
   - QP status for PTech, AsSTC and CTech in various regulations
   - Licensing for electrical work under the BC Safety Authority
   - Creation of a new Technical Specialist Program in Fire Protection
   - Increase current Technical Specialist programs in various regulations

3. Marketing and Promotion of ASTTBC & Technology Professionals

4. Member Engagement and Services

News from ASTTBC Technical Specialist Programs

Construction Safety

As of May 2011 membership reached 176 plus 22 applications in process. The Construction Safety Officers group held a CPD event at BCIT in June. ASTTBC surveyed all CSO members and responses showed very favourable comments about ASTTBC certification. Recently the BC Construction Safety Alliance proposed the program be transferred from ASTTBC to BCSSA. This proposal to be formally presented this fall.

Fire Protection

The Fire Chiefs’ Association of British Columbia and the Union of BC Municipalities have both endorsed ASTTBC certification for those providing fire protection inspection, testing and maintenance. The BC Fire Commissioner agrees that ASTTBC certification represents ‘best practices’. ASTTBC is looking to the municipalities and BC Government to take this one step further by making this a provincial requirement. ASTTBC launched verification of fire alarm systems as a new discipline and is approaching regulatory bodies to encourage ASTTBC certification as a means of qualifying those carrying out verification work. The Fire Protection Board is looking at CPD requirements and auditing of RFTPs.

House & Property Inspection

BCPI typically has 100+ members attending CPD events, up from 20 just three years ago. There have been no errors or omissions insurance claims in the last two years and, as a result, premiums are less than half those for some other certification bodies. BCPI produced an updated brochure and the group has participated in 11 home shows so far this year. ASTTBC-certified house and property inspection will be featured in Scrivener Magazine. Scrivener is the quarterly magazine of the Society of BC Notaries Public, circulated to notaries, real estate professionals and others interested in real estate transactions.

Onsite Wastewater

ASTTBC drafted new outcomes-based standards to be used as the basis for training programs and applications in accreditation and certification. The proposal was reviewed with other stakeholders and adjusted to reflect feedback. An onsite wastewater technical report has been prepared to be reviewed with stakeholders. The document outlines actions to enhance the application of the Sewage Systems Regulation and onsite wastewater practices.

PTech in the Works

Jim Blake, MBA, CA, a Public Representative on ASTTBC Council, addresses members at the Annual General Meeting 2011.

Council Adopts 2012 Work Plan

At its September meeting, Council passed a motion to adopt the proposed ASTTBC 2012 Work Plan. A few key highlights include:

- Legislative changes as needed to implement PTech
- Re-model ASTT Regulations to align with ASET
- Secure exemption in Architects Act

Goal #2 – Rights to Practice

- Implement ASTTBC – APEGBC agreed framework for PTech implementation

Goal #3 – Professional Standards & Regulation

- Implement Technology Registrations Canada for ASTTBC certification and registration
- Initiate limited electrical work certification as authorized by the BC Safety Authority
- Enhance professional practices (e.g. CPD; Errors & Omissions Insurance)
- Launch new Technical Specialist programs in partnership with industry

Goal #4 – Professional Recognition

- Extend CP status for technologists, technicians and technical specialists

Goal #5 – Member Services

- New mentor program
- Increased services for retired members

Goal #6 – Technology Education & Careers

- Support National Technology Week and National Engineering & Geoscience Month

Goal #7 – Public Policy

- Support for women in technology, First Nations and people with disabilities
- Expand ASTTBC TechGREEN program for sustainability
- Host Technology Skills Shortage Roundtable

Goal #8 – Governance & Management

- Expand ‘e-business’ operations

ASTTBC’s mission is to serve the public by regulating and supporting technology professionals’ commitment to a safe, healthy, and sustainable society and environment. The 2012 Work Plan will help the Association deliver.

Jim Blake, MBA, CA, a Public Representative on ASTTBC Council, addresses members at the Annual General Meeting 2011.
ASTTBC Meetings Across the Province

DURING THE SPRING OF 2011, ASTTBC Executive Director John Leech, AsCT, CAE, visited communities throughout the province. He was meeting with members, business leaders and educators. Meetings were organized in Campbell River, Courtenay, Kamloops, Kelowna, Nanaimo, Prince Rupert, Salmon Arm, Terrace, Vernon and Victoria. The Executive Director brought members up to speed on developments with the newly-formed Technology Professionals Canada. TPC is an alliance of BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario associations representing 85 percent of Canada’s professional technologists and technicians. He discussed the skills shortages and urged members to do what they can to encourage students to aim for applied science and technology careers. Several members were presented with their TOP in TECHNOLOGY awards.

ASTTBC members must n in Nanaimo to hear from staff

Seventy members at the March 6th Nanaimo breakfast meeting heard from Robert Stirr, AsCT, Manager, Special Projects, about the Year of Science grant that ASTTBC received to link grade 11 and 12 students across BC with employers. Robert also talked about the web-based Technology Registrations Canada program, a platform that will allow internationally-trained professionals to assess their credentials and that will assist in integrating into the Canadian work environment. Martin MacGregor, AsCT, Deputy Registrar at the time, talked about the joint APEGBC – ASTTBC Limited Licence Task Force; the RTMgp program and ASTTBC work with the BC Safety Authority. John Leech, AsCT, CAE, updated members on other key activities. Paris Gaudet, the newly-appointed Executive Director of the Mid-Island Science, Technology & Innovation Council, was a guest speaker.

Technology Video Goes Online

We did it!!!

At ASTTBC’s Technology Awards & Recognition Celebration the ASTTBC-FCIT Technology Legacy Fund made it over the top, surpassing the $500,000 mark… only a milestone! 400,000

ASTTBC and FCI/TV express an interest thanks to all who made a donation to the Ignite the Spark! Campaign…

Every gift counts!

Your generosity will go to support the Technology Professionals of tomorrow!!

Community Representatives Meet Online

THIS FALL ASTTBC Community Representatives used online technology to connect with each other. It was an opportunity to “re-engage” with the Community Reps as a collective voice for ASTTBC in all corners of the province. Watch for broadcast emails for events in your area and make plans to meet your Community Representative.

For a list of ASTTBC Community Reps go to…

www.asttbc.org/about/four_people/comms_reps.php

Wendy Grant-John Joins Public Representatives

ASTTBC is fortunate to have Wendy Grant-John join Council as a Public Representative. Wendy served three terms as Chief of the Musqueam Nation and was the first woman elected as Regional Vice-Chief of the Assembly of First Nations. She has experience as a lay bencher of the Law Society of British Columbia and as a Commissioner of the Pacific Salmon Commission.

Public Representatives bring an outside perspective to the deliberations of ASTTBC Council. Wendy Grant-John joins two long-time Public Representatives… Jim Blake, MBA, CA, who is with the Prince George Airport Authority; he also has many years of service in the post-secondary education system, and… John Murphy who is with Underwriters Laboratories Canada.

TechCLUB Expands!

ASTTBC has added some great new services to TechCLUB… Hotel and Travel Discounts, Technical CPD Courses and Critical illness Insurance.

For more information visit TechCLUB.asttbc.org

We value ASTTBC’s support of MISTIC awards and developments with the A ST TBC Council.

Professionals Canada. TPC is an alliance of BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario associations representing 85 percent of Canada’s professional technologists and technicians. He discussed the skills shortages and urged members to do what they can to encourage students to aim for applied science and technology careers. Several members were presented with their TOP in TECHNOLOGY awards.

The President of the Association of BC Forest Professionals, Ian Emery, AsCT, RFT, attended an April meeting of ASTTBC members in Campbell River. He and the ASTTBC Executive Director had a chance to chat about matters of interest to both organizations. “I am pleased to represent the forest professionals as President and in my term, hope to take a little time to address the skills shortage issue,” he said. “Working together we will hopefully attract more youth to forestry and technology careers.” The two talked about convening a meeting of the Executives of the two associations.

The Daily Courier newspaper picked up on the ASTTBC TOP in TECHNOLOGY awards that were presented at a member meeting in Kelowna early in May. Seventy-five members attended that breakfast meeting to be a part of the award presentations and to hear John Leech, AsCT, CAE, talk about latest developments with the Association.

ASTTBC and Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists, Starford Jack

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You think Magazine.com ing.

New banners will be available in early 2012, to promote ASTTBC-registered Technology Professionals. One-third page ad that formed part of a print and online advertising campaign in...

Ayres

Gord Stewart and Cheryl Blackwell – 8 –

Hamming it up on B100 in Kamloops. (l to r):

John Leech, ASC, CAE, ASTTBC and Cheryl Blackwell, B100.

Media Campaign Reaches Broad Audience

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

During March and April alone, 22 news releases were sent out to the media. This resulted in considerable newspaper coverage of topical issues, ASTTBC activities and member awards. The Association continued to run ads endorsing the role of technologists, technicians and technical specialists. In March during National Engineering & Geoscience Month, ASTTBC ran ads in the Vancouver Sun as part of APEGBC’s special series highlighting engineering projects and professionals throughout the province. The Vancouver Sun reaches more than 460,000 readers.

During a trip to Kamloops, the ASTTBC Executive Director joined the Executive Director from BIG Little Science Centre for two radio interviews and one on television. On Radio NL, John Leech, ASC, CAE, talked about ASTTBC’s involvement in National Engineering & Geoscience Month, stressing the importance of math, science and technology for all students, in K – 12. On March 23rd on the B100 radio program in Kamloops, he talked about post-secondary options, including the Architectural & Engineering Technology program at the local Thompson Rivers University. Show hosts Cheryl Blackwell and Steve Ayres sat on the edge of their seats waiting to see what marvel BIG Little Science Centre Executive Director, Gord Stewart, would unearthing to showcase science and technology. The two Executive Directors appeared on the CFJC-TV Midday Show with host, Susan Edgall, on March 23rd. John Leech, ASC, CAE, used this as an opportunity to present Gord Stewart with a $5,000 cheque in support of the BIG Little Science Centre.

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Think Ahead Think Career Think TECHNOLOGY! Think TECHNOLOGY!

There’s no better time to tap into a TECHNOLOGY CAREER! A career in technology offers unlimited potential in applied sciences and engineering technologies.

Discover the fit!

Michelle Bos, AStT Planning Technician District of Maple Ridge

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Government Liaison Continues

Meetings Hold with Mayors & MLAs

PRINCE RUPERT MAYOR, Jack Mussallem, met with ASTTBC’s Executive Director during a trip by John Leech, ASC, CAE, to the City. John was in Prince Rupert to meet with ASTTBC members and to talk with employers. The two discussed technology careers and the need to train more technologists, technicians and technical specialists in the north. The Mayor highlighted the current and future economic developments in the region, speaking optimistically about the changes coming to Prince Rupert as a result of the Asia Pacific Gateway. He also acknowledged the role of ASTTBC members on staff at the City and in the community.

Early this past spring, Charlie Cornfeld, Mayor of Campbell River, attended an ASTTBC member meeting to chat about issues such as economic growth and the role of ASTTBC members in the economy in northern Vancouver Island.

The President of the Association of BC Forest Professionals, Ian Emery, ASC, RFT, was on hand. Also attending were representatives from North Island College including Don Gillingham, Dean.

Minister of Advanced Education and Minister responsible for the ASTT Act, Naomi Yamamoto, met twice with ASTTBC representatives this past spring to talk about ASTTBC’s role as a self-governing professional association and the Association’s work in enhancing technology education and careers.

In a meeting in Prince George, then President, Doug Carter, CTech, spoke with the Minister about ASTTBC’s challenges and frustrations over the years to achieve full recognition and agreement on rights to practice for ASTTBC-registered technology professionals. “I informed the Minister of areas where ASTTBC members have been recognized as Qualified Professionals, but that this is a slow process to enable all practitioners,” says Doug. “I stressed the need for regulatory changes in BC to fully recognize ASTTBC members.”

The conversation changed direction the following day in Vancouver when then Vice President Bill MacPherson, ASC; Secretary Treasurer, Dave Rutherdale, ASC, BCLS, CLS; and Executive Director, John Leech, ASC, CAE, spoke with the Minister about ASTTBC’s role in licensing Fire Protection Technicians, House Inspectors and Onsite Wastewater Practitioners. Discussions also touched on ASTTBC’s efforts to enhance awareness of technology education and careers, as well as our public policy initiatives including First Nations in technology careers, BC Women in Technology and TechGREEN.

National Technology Benchmarks Reviewed

ALL PROVINCES use the National Technology Benchmarks as the standard for certification/registration of applicants and for accreditation standards for technology programs.

On June 13th, the Council of Registrars and guests met in Toronto. Their primary focus was reviewing possible amendments to the National Technology Benchmark outcome competency standards and to make recommendations for approval by the NTB Committee. The updated National Technology Benchmarks are due for release early in 2012.

One day ahead of their formal part of the joint annual advertising campaign in YouThink Magazine, Public Sector APEGBC.

APEGBC Media Campaign Reaches Broad Audience

ASTTBC continues to increase public awareness about the role of technologists, technicians and technical specialists through print and electronic media.

During March and April alone, 22 news releases were sent out to the media. This resulted in considerable newspaper coverage of topical issues, ASTTBC activities and member awards. The Association continued to run ads endorsing the role of technologists, technicians and technical specialists. In March during National Engineering & Geoscience Month, ASTTBC ran ads in the Vancouver Sun as part of APEGBC’s special series highlighting engineering projects and professionals throughout the province. The Vancouver Sun reaches more than 460,000 readers.

During a trip to Kamloops, the ASTTBC Executive Director joined the Executive Director from BIG Little Science Centre for two radio interviews and one on television. On Radio NL, John Leech, ASC, CAE, talked about ASTTBC’s involvement in National Engineering & Geoscience Month, stressing the importance of math, science and technology for all students, in K – 12. On March 23rd on the B100 radio program in Kamloops, he talked about post-secondary options, including the Architectural & Engineering Technology program at the local Thompson Rivers University. Show hosts Cheryl Blackwell and Steve Ayres sat on the edge of their seats waiting to see what marvel BIG Little Science Centre Executive Director, Gord Stewart, would unearthing to showcase science and technology. The two Executive Directors appeared on the CFJC-TV Midday Show with host, Susan Edgall, on March 23rd. John Leech, ASC, CAE, used this as an opportunity to present Gord Stewart with a $5,000 cheque in support of the BIG Little Science Centre.

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I effort to engage in this co-operative approach to addressing the competencies of all engineering, geoscience and technology practitioners. I advise the ASTTBC and APEGBC Council on an improved, technology teams. A relationship, especially as it pertains to sorting through practical concerns. The Council hopes the two associations will start a long and respectful dialogue to create a mutually agreeable resolution to practitioner rights. ASTTBC met several times and tabled its report with both Councils in early April. The purpose of the PTech Task Force was to advise the ASTTBC and APEGBC Councils on an improved, more effective system. This Task Force met several times and tabled its report with both Councils in early April. The task force was formed to advise the ASTTBC and APEGBC Councils on an improved, more effective system. This Task Force met several times and tabled its report with both Councils in early April. Doug Carter, CTech, who was ASTTBC President at the time, responded saying, “I appreciate Minister Chong’s support for a mutually agreed resolution to practice rights.” ASTTBC Council hopes the two associations will start a long and respectful dialogue, especially as it pertains to sorting through practice rigthts for all members of the engineering, geoscience and technology teams.

The Limited Licence Renewal Task Force was formed to advise the ASTTBC and APEGBC Councils on an improved, more effective system. This Task Force met several times and tabled its report with both Councils in early April. The purpose of the PTech Task Force was to advise the ASTTBC and APEGBC Councils on the implementation of the designation PTech in BC, taking into account the Alberta model. The credential has been in the ASTT Regulationssince 2005, but has not been implemented because the Association has been looking for a common direction within Canada prior to enacting it in BC. This Task Force also submitted its final report in early April. Both Councils asked their Executives to consider the findings in the reports and provide recommendations on the next steps back to the Councils.

ASTTBC Code of Ethics

When Your Professional Judgment is Disregarded

MEMBERS may occasionally find themselves in a situation where their employer, client or another expert is questioning their recommendation. Communication should be established both in writing and by personal contact, particularly for contentious issues, to ensure that the information and assumptions are laid out simply and lucidly. When disagreement exists between two members and the senior member chooses to overrule the other member’s recommendation, the senior member consciously takes responsibility. Note that members have ongoing obligations, even though their recommendations may be overruled (see Code of Ethics Principle 9).

Another element of difficulty is introduced when members find their recommendations being questioned by a non-member. The non-member may not have technical expertise to appreciate both the rationale of the recommendation and the potential consequences of failure to accept the recommendation. Bearing in mind that the member remains the last line of defense for the public interest, he or she must make all reasonable efforts to ensure that an appropriate decision is made. When a situation arises wherein a client or employer makes a decision that adversely affects the public interest, and is contrary to the recommendation of the member, the member must inform the client or employer of the consequences of the decision. If the client or employer is unresponsive, the member should notify the appropriate regulatory authorities that have the ability to evaluate the concerns and the power to suspend activities until the technical issue is resolved.

Bachelor of Technology

Are you a CET, AScT, or a graduate of a CTEC accredited technology diploma? Are you looking for career advancement? Then the Memorial University Bachelor of Technology program is for you. In this online program you’ll develop the management skills and training you need to advance in your field. You’ll learn from the best in areas such as technology assessment, project management, and quality management.

Our Bachelor of Technology program is generic and open to technologists in all disciplines. The program has a career plus elective structure that meets the needs of all PTECH graduates. Each semester-long course includes general and project work. It may be completed on a full-time or part-time basis and is available fully online.

www.mt.mun.ca/btech

Master of Technology Management

Become an effective manager. The Master of Technology Management (MTM) is an innovative program, the first of its kind in Canada, providing educational and career enhancement opportunities for busy, working professionals.

This online, course-based program provides a core of technology management courses that will help you understand the nature, structure and operation of technical operations, and the factors that impact the successful implementation of technology-based organizations. Manage the challenges and dynamics of industries driven by technological innovation and think strategically about issues that encompass the management of technology.

www.mt.mun.ca/mtm

ASTTBC HEAD BRINGS LESSON FROM CHRISTCHURCH QUAKE

ASTTBC Executive Director John Leech, AScT, CAAE, left Christchurch just hours before a major earthquake struck this New Zealand city on February 22nd. He had been in New Zealand at the invitation of the country’s Engineering Associations Registration Board, to discuss ASTTBC’s activities as a professional regulatory body, and to advise EARB in their quest for an enhanced presence.

“We’ve visited buildings that are now either destroyed or in bad shape,” commented John. “This was a stern reminder of the wisdom of appropriate building standards here on our own coast, and of our 9,500 members’ role in designing and constructing to standards that reflect that we live in one of the world’s most vulnerable earthquake zones.”

“Technologists and technicians add great value working collaboratively with architects, designers, engineers and contractors; all the more so when outdated turf is shown down. That’s a message we were able to leave with our colleagues in New Zealand,” Leech noted. “At the same time, we took away a powerful message for British Columbia from Christchurch.”
2012 Annual General Meeting & Professional Development Day
MAY YOUR CALENDAR NOW...May 25th 2012
If you thought 2011 was “one of the best”, 2012 will deliver a whole new level!
www.asttbc.org/agm

Member Services & TECHCLUB Update

New Member Services
• Hosts – the Hotel Grand Pacific in Victoria has been added as a preferred hotel partner.
• Technical CPD Courses – a new agreement with EPIC Educational Program Innovations Centre allows members access to continuing professional development courses at discounted rates.
• Travel Discounts – UNIGLOBE Geo Travel offers exclusive travel discounts on package vacations to ASTTBC members.
• Critical Illness Insurance Plan – ACE Life Insurance has recently signed an agreement with ASTTBC to offer exclusive member group savings on critical illness insurance.

Renewals & Enhancements
• Home Insurance – TD Insurance Melchose Monnex and ASTTBC have agreed to a 5-year extension of their affinity and sponsorship program.

Under Consideration
• Mortgage financing.
• Financial planning services.

Use your ASTTBC membership to save money!
visit... TECHCLUB.asttbc.org

Member Compensation Survey Coming

Responses to ASTTBC’s 2011 Member Compensation Survey have been compiled and will be released by year-end.

THANKS to everyone who participated!
Winners of the iPad, Kindle Reader and
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You told us...

“On behalf of the Province of BC, I would like to thank you for participating in the Year of Science: Science and the Arts Expo, held in Victoria, May 17th 2011. Your expertise and enthusiasm added tremendously to the event, as more than 5,000 participants explored the science and technology behind the arts…”
Dr. Moira Stilwell, Parliamentary Secretary Industry, Research and Innovation

“I would like to thank ASTTBC for its support for the 19th Annual Georgie Awards.”
M.J. Whitemarsh, CEO Canadian Home Builders’ Association – BC

“You support of Camosun Co-op programs goes above and beyond! I appreciated the opportunity to plug our program at last weeks member meeting in Victoria. Living in the shadow of UVic engineering programs, it was novel to have an audience of technologists, technicians and technical specialists.”
Naughton, Camosun Co-op Programs

“ASTTBC has been so proactive of my career over the years and this 25 Year Membership certificate was another reminder of what makes this Association so worthwhile being a member of.”
Crane A. Lachman, AScT, RTMg, Project Director Okanagan Valley Corridor & AD/Utah Manager Transportation, Vancouver Island District

“I look forward to receiving and reading the information provided in ASTTBC e-news.”
Ken McNames, CTech, CPD

“It was my pleasure to attend the ASTTBC member meeting in Victoria and I was so impressed by the support and interest shown that enough appeal to draw a large crowd with varied backgrounds. I thought the balance in the agenda and the subject matter was timely.”
Larry Pedersen, RPF, and Honorary Member of ASTTBC

“Thank you on behalf of MOSAIC for your presentation on Friday! I look forward to keep working together.”
Monica Navarro-Copados, Job Developer, MOSAIC

“Thank you so much for the promo item. I’m using some of the water bottles as prizes at a Science Champions in Education recognition event we’re hosting next Sunday. Those little wooden ASTTBC gliders were super popular with the kids at our April Community Science Celebration, and I thought they might be a good fit for our upcoming raft of summer science camps.”
Erin Handy, Program Coordinator Kootenay Association for Science and Technology

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Bill MacPherson, AScT, Becomes President of ASTTBC

NEWLY INSTALLED ASTTBC President, Bill MacPherson, AScT, told attendees at ASTTBC’s annual meeting in May that his priorities are to “adapt the credential of Professional Technologist – PTech – and continue to engage with the technology associations in Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta and BC, within Technology Professionals Canada. And we will continue to build on the good relationships we enjoy with our professional partners, especially BC’s Professional Engineers and Geomaticians.”

Bill grew up in Kamloops and Little Shuswap Lake where he began his commitment to leadership at age 17 by volunteering as a Board member for the Kamloops Waterski Club. In 1983 Bill enrolled in Mechanical Engineering Technology at BCIT. He was quickly involved as the Mechanical Engineering School Representative on student council, Chairman of the Engineering Society, a Board Member on the Education Council and as a student representative for ASTTBC.

On graduating with diplomas in Mechanical Systems Engineering and in Business Administration, Bill worked as Project Management Administrator on a North Sea offshore oil platform. Returning to Canada, he spent eight years with Johnson Controls in Vancouver. Bill has been with his present employer, Broadway Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Co. Ltd., for the past fifteen years where he enjoys the challenges of developing new energy-efficient and green heating and cooling systems for commercial, industrial and residential buildings.

Bill MacPherson has served on ASTTBC’s governing Council as a Director, Secretary Treasurer, Vice President and now as President. Bill has devoted years of service to the Board of ASTTBC’s charitable foundation, FEAT.

“I’ve been active with ASTTBC since my student days,” Bill says. “Credit my father, Don, an ASTTBC member for over 40 years, with passing along his passion for innovating and building, and for community service. Eleven members of our family are in applied technology careers.

Aside from his ASTTBC commitments, Bill’s community activities include supporting Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. His BCIT connections have continued throughout his career, including being on the President’s Advisory Council and serving as a Director for the Alumni Association for 16 years. He retains appointments to two BCIT Program Advisory Committees.

ARTICLE BY DON MACPHERSON

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SHAPING BC’S FUTURE
BCWIT Promotes Women in Technology

ASTTBC’s BC WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY group has joined the Westcoast Women of Engineering, Science and Technology Council, a collaboration of organizations from across BC and the Yukon that promote women in science, engineering and technology.

BCWIT’s mission is to provide support, be an information resource and promote awareness to women in technology and engineering.

Sarah Campden, CTech, (left) and Clarissa Brennan, ASTT LEED A.P. (4th from left) participate in a working group to promote women in science, engineering, trades and technology.

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BCWIT’s mission is to provide support, be an information resource and promote awareness to women in technology careers and to women seeking new career opportunities. “As such, our participation on the WWEST Council was only natural,” says Sarah Campden, CTech, BCWIT Chair.

Almost 20 individual groups with similar mission statements participated at WWEST Council’s inaugural meeting in June 2011. Each organization identified its goals, endeavours and events. As a result, a comprehensive mind map was created to identify relationships between each group’s target audience, geographic reach and activity types. It will enable each organization to more easily collaborate with other groups with similar objectives and to coordinate joint events.

A list of resources that could be available to the other groups was created. This list will allow each of the groups to draw on the resources of the others to contribute to the overall success of the promotion of women.

Exciting tools such as a Google event calendar (to encourage networking between all the groups and their audiences, and discourage conflicting event dates) and a single webpage (to link each of the organizations together for a ‘one stop’ location for information) will be developed. The WWEST Council plans to meet biannually.

BCWIT is excited to contribute to the WWEST Council and thus the global success of promoting women in technology.

To find out more about BCWIT and to see a list of the organizations that form the WWEST Council, go to www.BCWIT.com.

Agreement Solidifies Activities with First Nations

TO INCREASE LEARNING AND CAREER opportunities for aboriginal students in British Columbia, the First Nations Technology Council, First Nations Careers Council and ASTTBC will collaborate to promote training, careers and capacity building in applied science and computer technologies within aboriginal communities. Mary Polak, Minister of Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation, was on hand at ASTTBC’s 2011 Annual General Meeting to witness the signing of the agreement.

In promoting careers in technology, the organizations will work together delivering programs and events. They will keep informed of each others’ activities and will connect with other organizations to broaden the base of support. The groups plan to provide assistance to aboriginal people as they pursue careers in applied science technology and information management.

The First Nations Technology Council was established in 2002 by the First Nations Summit Chiefs in Assembly with a mandate to develop a technology plan that ensures:

• all 203 First Nations have broadband and related technologies
• qualified, accessible, affordable technical support is available
• First Nations citizens have the technical skills needed to achieve their goals
• technology is used as a tool to revitalize culture and language

The First Nations Careers Council was formed by ASTTBC in 2008 to support aboriginal technologists and technicians, and to promote technology careers and the application of technology in aboriginal communities.

Seated (l to r): Doug Career, CTech, President, ASTTBC; Bill Rayle, GoodTech; Chair, First Nations Careers Council; Darren Blaney, Board mem-
ber, FNITC; Standing (l to r): Norm Leech, Executive Director, First Nations Technology Council; Hon. Mary Polak, Minister of Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation; John Leech, ASTT C-CAE, Executive Director, ASTTBC.

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• Car Rentals – Avis, Enterprise, ZipCar
• Disability, Accidental, Health & Dental Insurance, Group Term Life Insurance – Manulife Financial
• Exercise Equipment – Active Fitness
• GPS Tracking – Spot Satellite
• Health & Dental Trust Plan – Olympic Benefits Inc.
• Home Insurance – TD Insurance
• Internet Design & Consulting – im4Net
• Professional Liability Insurance – Willis Canada Inc.

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RECONCILIATION

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