PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS CANADA
GÉOMÈTRES PROFESSIONNELS DU CANADA

Report to Membership July 2018

On Course & Making Steady Progress

The second quarter of 2018 saw steady progress on PSC initiatives and activities as we continue our efforts to broaden the public's understanding of the professional surveyor's role as an agent, advisor, and advocate for the public's interest both on the home front, and on issues and policies of national and international scope. Below is a brief summary of some of our current efforts.

Autumn Public Awareness Campaign

Our Spring Report to Members outlined the messaging strategy being developed by our Public Relations Committee and intended to raise public awareness of the critical importance of obtaining a current survey by a professional land surveyor when purchasing a property, building a home, laying out a fence line, building a deck, or undertaking major landscaping changes. Other messaging explains why title insurance is a complement to but not a replacement for a current property survey, and why PSC is advocating for stronger, clearer, and more universal federal and provincial legislation governing the survey of buried infrastructure on private and public lands.

The PR Committee has been hard at work over the past few months refining the message scripts. The scripts are now in the hands of our communications consultant ACART Communications for production into a series of video "infomercials".

Look for these messages on Facebook, LinkedIn, Google, Yahoo, and various other internet news feeds and social media platforms this autumn. You will also find them on the PSC webpage, along with other articles related to the land surveyor's role, and they will be available to professional land survey associations for distribution by other means.

Underground Infrastructure

PSC continues to work diligently to advocate for the inclusion of amendments to strengthen the hazard reduction and public protection provisions of federal bills currently before parliament related to underground infrastructure. Consideration of Bill S229 An Act respecting Underground Infrastructure Safety has been superseded by the introduction of Bill C69 An Act to enact the Impact Assessment Act and the Canadian Regulator Act, to amend the Navigation Protection Act and to make consequential amendments to other Acts. However, the nature and intent of the amendments we are proposing remain applicable in both cases. We continue to advocate for the inclusion of provisions and regulations requiring the as built survey of all new underground installations, minimum depth of cover requirements, the registration of easements describing their location, and the implementation of standards supporting open and publicly accessible mapping of all new underground infrastructure installations.

PSC has struck a committee to review the provisions of Bill C69 in detail and have asked our legal council to provide advice on a strategy to present the amendments we seek. Some of our proposed improvements may be addressed by amendments to the acts themselves, others may be addressed through regulations and standards. PSC will be seeking an audience before the Senate Committee on C69 in the autumn of 2018.

We continue to dialogue with federal members of parliament, members of the senate, the Canadian Common Ground Alliance, and the utility industry on the critical importance of these measures to public safety and effective underground infrastructure management.

Working toward a Harmonized National Brand; P. Surv

Discussions with the Saskatchewan Lands Surveyors association are advancing and a draft co-existence Agreement that would resolve any conflicts with the Saskatchewan act is in the final stages of review by our respective councils and lawyers. Once harmony with Saskatchewan is achieved, a final round of consultation will be required to ensure consensus prior to filing a copyright application. The copyright process is itself a long process, and we expect it will be another year yet before we obtain the P.Surv copyright designation for exclusive use of professional land surveyors.

National Surveyors Conference 2019

We are excited to announce that Professional Surveyors Canada will be taking a much more prominent role in the National Surveyors Conference, May 1st to 3rd 2019 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. We will be working closely with the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors and the local conference organizing committee to put forward a professional and social program with strong appeal to land surveyors across Canada. Key elements of PSC's participation will include hosting our first face-to-face AGM with PSC members during which we can present and seek feedback on current PSC initiatives and programs; and hosting professional development sessions on "Managing the Cadastre in 2019", and "Risk Management for Professional Surveyors and the PSC PLI Program". Look for further information this autumn as the conference program is finalized.

Our sincere thanks to the ACLS for providing this opportunity to participate in this premier event in the land surveyors calendar. We look forward to making it an annual event.

Advertise with Professional Surveyors Canada

Last year PSC took over the production of the Horizon Newsletter and this has been quite successful. Past issues of Horizon are available on our website under the tag "Member's Area".

There are advertising spots on the newsletter to help raise revenue. Horizon is distributed to over 2500 readers. Advertising is accepted in French, English or bilingual formats. Should you know anyone who may be interested in marketing their products or services with PSC, please contact info@psc-gpc.ca for the ad specifications and pricing information.

All questions, queries and suggestions can be sent to info@psc-gpc.ca.

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