

## Report to Membership

April 2019

We are continuing our efforts to broaden the public's understanding of the professional surveyor's role as 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.

### National Surveyors Conference 2019

Professional Surveyors Canada has partnered with the Association of Canada Land Surveyors to organize and facilitate the National Surveyors Conference (NSC). This year's NSC will be held in beautiful Halifax, Nova Scotia from May 1 - 3. This promises to be a very interesting event with several informative and thought-provoking seminars.

PSC's Annual Members Meeting will be held at the Conference and it will be our first time ever hosting a face to face AGM meeting. There will be a comprehensive presentation and a Q & A on current and future PSC initiatives aimed at providing us with direction on our member's priorities and where they would like to see us expand our efforts. This will be held at the NSC in the afternoon on Thursday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, but it will also be telecast to our entire membership via teleconference as usual. The registration link for our AGM will be sent out next week.

Our focus at the conference has been the organization of a full day workshop on the status and future of cadastral systems in Canada. The Workshop titled "*Responding to Change – the Evolving Boundaries of Practice*" will present a snapshot of the current and potential impact of changes in technology, society and governance on cadastral systems across Canada and will compare the Canadian situation to recent strategic initiatives internationally.

It is expected that this work will continue through 2019 and 2020 and culminate with a consensus for a national vision for the future cadastre in Canada that will be presented at the international cadastral conference currently proposed for 2020 in Mount Tremblant Quebec.

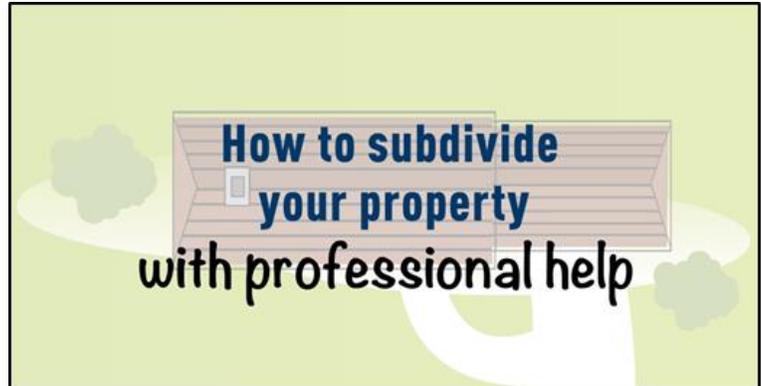
Registration for the National Surveyors Conference is now open: [Registration](#)

### Public Awareness Campaign

Our Public Relations Committee continues to focus on communication to increase the public's awareness of professional land surveyors and the important work that professional land surveyors do on behalf of the public.

Last fall we produced our first video aimed at raising the public's awareness on the importance of consulting a surveyor when purchasing a property. The video was quite successful, and garnered positive feedback. It is available on our website and on YouTube.

We have now completed our second video. This one explains the need to call a surveyor when planning to subdivide a property whether it be a large parcel of land or a building being divided for multiple ownership. Both videos are available on You Tube and on our website's home page. We have had great feedback for the first video so far and look forward to hearing back on this one.



These whiteboard videos and the advertisements as GIFFs are available in various sizes to our members for use on their own websites. Please send an email to [info@psc-gpc.ca](mailto:info@psc-gpc.ca) to request copies to be sent to you.

### **Underground Infrastructure**

PSC Board Members met with Parliamentarians in 2018 regarding Bill C-69, *An Act to enact the Impact Assessment Act and the Canadian Energy Regulator Act, to amend the Navigable Protection Act and to make consequential amendments to other Acts*. We are proposing two amendments to the act both affect the proposed Canadian Energy Regulator act.

We are happy to announce that one of the Senators sitting on the Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources Committee (ENEV) has agreed to sponsor our amendments. The hearings on the Bill have now begun and our hope is to have an opportunity to witness before the ENEV Committee sometime in the coming months.

To read about our proposed amendments please go to the PSC website by following [this link for the full paper](#) or you can follow this link for the [one page brief](#) if you want a quick read.

In addition to advocacy regarding proposed legislation, we are also advocating for the inclusion of provisions and regulations requiring the as built survey of all new underground installations, the registration of easements describing their location, and the implementation of mapping standards supporting open and publicly accessible mapping of all new underground infrastructure installations. 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. In support of our positions on underground utilities and infrastructure, and to stress the importance of mapping and registering them, we have been working on three short videos of a public service nature. These videos are meant to fuel discussion and awareness regarding buried utilities and how they are managed in Canada. We expect these to be ready before the summer arrives.

### **Working toward a Harmonized National Brand – P.Surv**

The application for copyright of the P.Surv designation has been filed with *The Canadian Intellectual Property Office* and should take about a year to complete. We hope for it to be ready by next spring.

Currently our focus has been to ensure that the necessary agreements with the provincial associations are in place to roll out the P.Surv trademark once we have it. This common brand will go a long way to reducing barriers to the public in recognizing common standards and recognizing the professionals that are there to assist them.

### **National Geomatics Competition**

For the first time ever, PSC sponsored the NGC which this year took place in February in Calgary. Two of our Board members were in attendance, one sat as a judge on the panel and the other made a presentation about PSC and land surveying.

The students were very bright and competent. They represented the University of Calgary, the University of New Brunswick, the British Columbia Institute of Technology, Southern Alberta Institute of Technology, the University of Waterloo, Université Laval, and York University. The problem the teams were given to solve was based on a real-world scenario and really highlighted the role of land surveyors as land administrators and managers. The universities that were represented plan to each send a member to the National Surveyors Conference to look at possible future collaboration.

Our congratulations go out to all participants and to the winners:

1<sup>st</sup> place: University of Calgary

2<sup>nd</sup> place: British Columbia Institute of Technology

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Université Laval

### **PLIC**

The PSC Professional Liability Insurance Committee (PLIC) held their bi-annual meeting in Kelowna BC in March 17-18 to coincide with the ABCLS AGM.

The PLI Committee has prepared a brief letter to send out to our members. You can expect this letter to be emailed to you later this week once translation is completed.

### **Advertise with Professional Surveyors Canada**

It has now been two full years since 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". If you are not currently receiving the Horizon newsletter, please contact our office to have your name added to the distribution list.

Please note that there are advertising spots available in our newsletter and this helps raise revenue for PSC. 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](mailto:info@psc-gpc.ca) for the ad specifications and pricing information.

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Questions, comments and suggestions are always welcome and can be sent to [info@psc-gpc.ca](mailto:info@psc-gpc.ca).