PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS CANADA
GÉOMÈTRES PROFESSIONNELS DU CANADA

Report to Membership July 2019

We have been extremely busy 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 on issues and policies of national and international scope. Below are some of our latest accomplishments and ongoing efforts.

PSC Board of Directors

Our Board of Directors has undergone some changes. We welcome Mike Fretwell as a new Director from Alberta and Wayne Tremblay as a new Director from PEI.
Hal Janes has stepped down as Chair, and Michael Thompson is our new Chair, while Jordan Litke has been appointed as Vice-Chair. Courtney Tripp has stepped down to better fulfill his role as President of the SLSA. We will continue to work towards our common goals for the profession.

Board of Directors:

Thompson, Michael, Chair, ACLS	Janes, Hal, Past-Chair, AB
Litke, Jordan, Vice-Chair, BC	Patkau, Darren, Treasurer, SK
Phillips, Wilson, MB	French, Derek, PEI
Levasseur, Claude, QC	MacDonald, Brandon, NB
Dorland, James, ON	Guy, Ray, NL
Arancibia, Gabriel, QC	Williams, Mike, NS
Mike Fretwell, AB	Wayne Tremblay, PEI

National Surveyors Conference 2019

We had a very successful National Surveyors Conference in Halifax in partnership with the Association of Canada Lands. A key collaboration in this years' conference was the presentation of the *Responding to Change – The Evolving Boundaries of Practice Workshop*. This one-day workshop provided a wide-ranging perspective on the changing landscape of surveying in Canada in response to advancing technology, evolving social attitudes, and trends in legislation and government policy affecting the self-regulating professions. PSC would like to acknowledge the contribution of the over two dozen professional land surveyors from across the country who participated in our working groups over a period of several months to compile the material presented at this workshop.

The workshop was attended by approximately 170 land surveyors from across the country who engaged in a vigorous and positive discussion on the priorities and focus of the land surveying community required to communicate the value of our community to government and society, and to continue to maintain and enhance the effectiveness of our land survey and registration systems in response to accelerated and disruptive change. The proceedings of the workshop are currently being finalized and will soon be available on the PSC and ACLS websites.

Champlain Award

Professional Surveyors Canada is pleased to announce the presentation of the 2019 Champlain Award recognizing outstanding leadership and contributions to the Canadian land surveying profession to Mr. Peter Sullivan, CLS, ALS (ret), MBA of Edmonton, Alberta.

The Champlain Award was presented to Mr. Sullivan by Hal Janes, Chair of Professional Surveyors Canada before a national audience of land surveying professionals at the National Surveyors Conference in Halifax on May 2nd, 2019.

Mr. Janes noted the many significant contributions made by Mr. Sullivan over the span of a 29-year career in the Surveyor General Branch of Natural Resources Canada, culminating in his leadership as the Surveyor General of Canada and International Boundary Commissioner from 2006 until his retirement in 2018. During this period Mr. Sullivan led a major re-organization and modernization of Canada Lands administration and governance, was instrumental in advancing first nations land surveys and administration goals in support of indigenous reconciliation and capacity development, and was a strong advocate for the modernization of the Canadian Spatial Reference System and the development of a national augmented GNSS Precise Positioning Service.
Congratulations Mr. Peter Sullivan!

Underground Infrastructure

Our work with underground infrastructure was extensive in the last few months. We were given the opportunity to present our position to the Senate Committee that was reviewing Bill C-69 in early May. One of two proposed amendments by PSC was included in the recommendation package of the Independent Senators Group, but the amendment did not get through the full committee clause-by-clause review. While our proposed amendments did not make it into the final version of the Bill, we received tangible support from several Senators and raised awareness of Land Surveyors as experts to be consulted on matters of land management among legislators.

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.

In support of this we produced 3 short videos of a public service nature. These videos aim to bring public awareness to what we think are important issues and a step towards having legislated policies to map all underground utilities.
All three videos are available on our website and our YouTube Channel and we are hoping to increase distribution.

Location of Underground Utilities

Minimum Distance from utilities

Buried Depth of Underground Utilities

Public Awareness Campaign

The summer campaign was launched in June with our messaging being displayed on Facebook, LinkedIn, Google, Yahoo and other digital media platforms. The marketing campaign is designed to maximize our reach and ensure a low cost per visit to our website. These messages are being displayed in 20 specific regions throughout the country and are specifically targeted to homeowners and home buyers within certain demographics, with the intent of focusing on the segment of the population most likely to purchase a home or undertake a renovation project. This campaign will run for a four-week term at the end of which we will receive the results and see the final impact of the campaign. The mid-campaign results looked very promising and lead us to believe that we will have an impact on public awareness of what land surveyors do, and when and why you should consult them.

These ads and our two whiteboard videos are available to any of our members who would like to post them on their website. Please contact our office at info@psc-gpc.ca if you would like to receive copies.

We are currently planning our next video on the topic of Title Insurance and the reasons title insurance does not eliminate the need for a survey.

Working Towards a Harmonized Brand

We expect the P.Surv designation to be rolled out in the first quarter of 2020. Currently our focus has been to work with the provincial associations to implement the agreements required for national use of the trademark. 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.

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PSC would like to take this opportunity to thank our members and volunteers for their contributions. These initiatives, in particular, the workshop at the National Surveyors Conference and the production of the videos would not be possible without help from all PSC members.

Questions, comments and suggestions are always welcome and can be sent to info@psc-gpc.ca .