

President's Report



**Robin Davis, NLS
President 2010-2011**

We are in the middle of the winter that almost wasn't. No snow until mid-January but it hasn't stopped since. I don't know about everyone else but I am sure sick of moving snow around.

This has been a busy year for Council. During the first part of the year we spent some time in getting our Executive Director in place and as you probably all know we have hired Paula Baggs for that position. Paula has lots of experience with the Association and has been quite busy catching up on things that have happened since she last worked for us. Unfortunately a lot of her time has been taken up on complaints issues.

We held two meetings with the Department of Environment & Conservation. The first dealt mostly with the letters being sent to surveyors, their clients and the Association on requested changes and corrections on Crown Land surveys. As a result of this meeting all authorizations and letters should now be sent to the surveyors via email so as at least the surveyor will get the correspondence before his client. The second meeting dealt with a request to have Crown Titles available on-line. The meeting was very successful and I am pleased to say that we are very near to reaching an agreement with the Lands Branch to having a semi-annually updated version of the Issued Crown Titles index layer published within LandGazette. Neil MacNaughton is our contact person on this project and is working closely with the Crown Lands and Ian Edwards who has a report in this *Newsletter*.

I would like to welcome to our staff Lynn Murphy who has come on board as our Executive Assistant. She comes with a great deal of experience and expertise. Drop by the office when you are in the area and introduce yourself to Lynn so as she can start putting faces to names.

Council has been dealing with some serious issues during the year which I think everyone should be aware of and which affects us all. One of these issues is marker sales and marker compliance. According to our By-Laws every corner of every lot should be marked with a survey marker where a marker can be placed. You are not expected to pull fence posts or destroy pavement. This also applies to restakes where you are placing pins using someone else's survey. If you place a pin there must be a marker on that pin. Council has looked at an analysis of the marker sales with no names attached. The sales range from 200 markers to 17,500 markers for the 7.5 years that the program has been into effect. We have divided the province into three zone – Avalon, Central and Western/Labrador. The total sales for the full period is as follows; Avalon - 75,175, Central 27,700, Western – 36450. With the thousands of lots being developed in the greater St. John's area, it would seem that the number of corners established far outnumbers the markers sold in the area. The marker sales program was primarily intended to fund the Executive Directors position. For this year we will run a significant deficit. This was expected in the beginning stages of funding for this position and the money which has been set aside from the sales will handle it. However, we must have this position funded fully by our members. The great majority of members are fully supportive of the marker program but feel it is unfair to increase the cost of markers until everyone complies with the By-Laws. Council has looked at ways to address this problem. One way is to pick some subdivisions at random and check for marker compliance. If markers were not placed the surveyor in question could be sent an invoice for markers that should have been used. We do not wish to use the Complaints and Disciplinary process to address this

issue but if nothing else works we may be forced to go that route. We are a professional organization. Our offices must be run professionally. The public expects and is entitled to get a quality product from us. I know we are living in digital world but it is hard to build solid fences digitally. People should know where their boundaries are located.

The second issue is member involvement in the Association. We usually see the same people at every meeting. There are some people we never see. We all owe our living from this Association which is run by volunteers. We always have trouble recruiting people to serve on committees and Council. We are mandated by our Act the see that these positions are filled. Please take a turn and step up to the plate when called upon.

On a lighter note, our Convention will be held in Corner Brook this year from April 27 – 30. The meeting is at Glynmill Inn. Rooms will be held up to one month from the time of the Convention so please book early. See you all there.

Best regards to all,



Secretary-Treasurer Report



**Keith Renouf, NLS
Secretary-Treasurer
2010-2011**

There are many issues within an organization that require daily input. The running of our office has necessitated that we go beyond our pool of volunteers to recruit and employ a staff to comply with the obligations of our act. This year two positions were staffed to ensure the smooth running of our association. Our president has outlined the people hired, Ms. Paula Baggs and Ms. Lynn Murphy. Council's decision to ensure that our association has in place an executive director and an executive assistant continues the mandate requested by our membership. We now have in place a professional office, staffed by two competent, energetic and detail orientated employees. As a membership driven association, our next goal is to ensure the financial stability of our office.

Our financial position is directly related to the size of our membership. In 1989 there were approximately 150 members registered as Newfoundland Land Surveyors; today there are 85 paying members. This year we have managed to show a small surplus, however this will be difficult to continue given our demographics and approved expenses. As noted by our president, the revenue from the marker program is seen as low following an audit of the practising surveyors. This revenue is meant to offset the expenses of the executive director. Analysis has shown that since inception our marker program has grown

to where it will fund 50% of the executive director's salary. Our direct membership revenue is sufficient to cover the remainder of expenses on a break even basis. Thus, if we are to fund the executive director's position from the marker program, we must realize 100% of the monies from the sale of our markers to cover that position, without an increase and full compliance this will not happen.

Marker compliance is an issue. It has grown into a huge issue not through fact but through perception. The vast majority of our members throughout Newfoundland and Labrador are fully compliant. However, it only takes the actions, or non-action, of one or two members to ruin the efforts of the majority. It is unfortunate that there is little that our association can do to ensure compliance. Our limited budget and reliance on volunteers restricts council's ability to investigate and determine the non-compliant members. It is only through a practice review that compliance can really be determined. Practice review is being proposed and strengthened under our quality assurance program. If we are to protect the public and ensure full compliance we must enable council to review membership with an emphasis on strengthening their practice. Over the last two years council has completed a field review of a majority of members across Newfoundland and Labrador to determine the amount of compliance. This review must now be brought from the field to the office.

The last few years has seen a major decline in our numbers, the good news is that this year we have admitted a new member as well as two article students. This is significant as our demographics demand that we replenish our aging population. There has been additional interest expressed by employers for the recruitment of either Newfoundland Land Surveyors or persons eligible for admission to our association.

Discipline Issues are increasing. It has become such a demand on our office staff and council executive that on certain days there is nothing accomplished beyond dealing with the public and their concerns. This trend will only continue as the public becomes more aware of our responsibilities as well as their tendency toward litigation.

We are endeavouring to strengthen our by-laws. Your vote counts. Please review all the by-laws toward ensuring that we build a better association.

There has been a request for digital copies of our work by one of the municipalities within the Avalon region. Council of Management has endeavoured to meet with the municipalities' officials to negotiate how this information should be used. Yet, we have been denied in our efforts to resolve this issue. Council has requested another meeting and to date has not heard back on our request. This is an issue that must find resolution.

There have been two labour mobility requests received to date. One of the applicants is hoping to write his provincial exam in May. This will be a first for our association as we welcome members from other jurisdictions. This can only strengthen our association as these individuals bring experience and work procedures from other provinces and territories. Also, these individuals are licensed within associations that have active professional review departments, mandatory education and quality assurance programs. As these members become active within the association, their ideas and energy will help us all on a go forward basis.

Respectfully submitted,

Greetings from the Desk of the Executive Director -



Paula Baggs
Executive Director

I am pleased to present the following to our Newfoundland & Labrador Land Surveyors.

This will be the first time that I have spoken to you in this medium, and I am pleased to report on the positive activities that the Association has been involved with over the past number of months.

Since October, eastern, central and western regional meeting were held in St. John's, Gander and Corner Brook. At that time I expressed my thanks to the Executive Director Committee and to the members of the Association for their confidence and trust in allowing me to represent the Association of Newfoundland Land Surveyors as your new Executive Director. I am very excited about this new role and I look forward to the challenges ahead.

Since accepting the position of Executive Director in October, Council, Executive Council, myself and office staff have been busy with the following matters:

- Meetings and discussions with Department of Environment & Conservation regarding notification letter process with respect to GPS standards which had positive outcome.
- Meetings and discussion with Lands Branch to give access of Crown titles layer to LandGazette.
- Implementing new Policies and Procedures with respect to hiring staff and students.
- Three Council meetings were held in October, December & February. Council minutes will be printed in the Annual Report for your information and review of council's business over the past year.
- Hiring an Executive Assistant, Lynn Murphy, on February 10, 2011. Lynn jumped in feet first tackling the many task asked of her. Keith and I are very pleased with her professionalism and work ethic. It is a pleasure to work with such a dedicated individual. Lynn will be attending our AGM and is looking forward to meeting many of you at that time.

- We have two requests to write the NLS Newfoundland & Labrador Exam under the Labour Mobility Agreement. We will be moving forward with these requests as quickly as possible.
- Processing 9 Discipline Files.
- Preparation of the 2010 Audit is nearing completion and the financial statement will be available in the 2010-2011 Annual Report.
- AGM seminars, presentations and social events have been finalized. You can find the AGENDA and Registration on our website www.surveyors.nf.ca. This information will also be mailed out to members very soon. A lot of work has gone into the planning of this year's AGM and we are looking forward to a positive turn out in Corner Brook.

Congratulation was sent out to our newest Newfoundland Land Surveyor Jonathan Williams, who officially became a member on October 18, 2010. Jonathon will be presented his Newfoundland & Labrador Licence at our upcoming AGM in April.

The Board of Examiners have reviewed the Applications of two Students for Articleship. Congratulations to Clifton Hawco, who began his Articleship on September 1, 2010 with Hawco, King, Renouf under the supervision of Arnold King, NLS and to Janeil Parrott who began her Articleship February 10, 2011 with N.E. Parrott Surveys under the supervision of Neil Parrott. We offer Clifton and Janeil complete support from the Association and wish them much success over the next year.

I want to thank Council for their continued dedication and professionalism as we all move forward this year. The Association office has an open door policy and look forward to hearing your thoughts and comments. Our 2010 – 2011 Annual Report will be available on our website www.surveyors.nf.ca Friday, March 25, 2011 which will include further detail.

Regards,



The Act Committee Report

The Act review Committee was struck during a time when government was offering a window of opportunity for professional associations to have their Acts revised. I won't get into the motivations for the agenda at this time; however it is, I believe, sufficient to say a change in government completely changed any opportunities Council may have seen at the time to facilitate revisions we deemed relevant and necessary.

Recently a member contacted myself regarding a court case in which "an engineer acted as and portrayed as surveyor." This case was "thrown out due to our Act not having penalties for this."

I have had discussions with members of the RCMP regarding enforcing parts of our Act specific to removal of survey markers. Apparently our Act needs to be specific in empowering agencies such as the RCMP to lay charges. Currently this is not the case.

Those two examples highlight the fact we as an Association may have a substantial "wish list" with respect to strengthening up parts of our Act which would better enable us to carry out our mandate to the public.

At our fall regional meeting some discussions revolved around having our Act reviewed by legal counsel. I am suggesting at this time Council, and the Professional Development Committee (in tandem with regional meetings) carry out a review/refresher of our Act. This would provide input from a large section of our membership. After such interaction and feedback the Committee would be much better able to summate and put forward concerns specific to a solicitor review. (that, or we'd be hopelessly confused)

Either way, I believe being proactive instead of reactive will leave us better prepared in the event of future opportunities to revise our Act.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Yates, Chair

LandGazette Report



Ian Edwards
President, IBL

Getting surveyors and others to engage with LandGazette continues to be a challenge. Currently the LandGazette database contains approximately 10,000 parcels; however, if we take approximately 50 surveyors inputting 100 jobs per year for a five year period we should be at the 25,000 level. Newfoundland and Labrador is the only province in Canada without a government-run cadastral system; we have an opportunity here to make a difference, to keep/take control of a layer of geospatial information that has been mandated to us by virtue of the Land Surveyors Act.

A recent agreement between the Association of Newfoundland Land Surveyors and Lands Branch will bring the Crown titles layer of information to LandGazette. In return IBL will provide Land's Branch staff with free searching capabilities; note however, they will still be charged the regular download fee for any files they wish to purchase, thereby protecting the individual surveyor's copyright. At this point in time, the Crown titles layer will be only visible to Lands Branch staff and to registered members of the ANLS.

During the initial phase of this agreement the Crown titles layer will be updated semi-annually, but as things advance it is expected that the titles layer will be made available in real time via a web map service. Remember, if we all input our surveys as they leave our offices, we will be able to keep this layer current through our own efforts.

This is a major step forward, as it enables practicing surveys to personally view (24/7) the Crown titles layer and make more informed professional decisions with respect to the services they provide. It should also prove to reduce the number of discrepancies the Crown is experiencing with survey returns and provide an additional tool to review cadastral information that falls outside their jurisdiction. This is indeed a win win win for the land survey community, the government of Newfoundland and Labrador and the public.

On another front, the LandGazette parcel layer is now viewable inside RAMS (Regional Asset Management System), a web based municipal GIS that is currently being used by more than a dozen municipalities in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador. RAMS clients will still need to sign into LandGazette to search and retrieve detailed information or to download related data.

IBL continues to make improvements to LandGazette. If you have any questions or constructive suggestions, please do not hesitate to call 1-888-666-1996.

Regards,

Ian Edwards, President
Information Brokerage Limited

NAD83 (CSRS) CANADIAN SPATIAL REFERENCE SYSTEM NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

By now, most of you are aware the Province of Newfoundland & Labrador will eventually be making the transition from NAD83, (also called NAD83(Original)), to NAD83(CSRS). The Surveys & Mapping Division, Lands Branch, of the Department of Environment & Conservation has been relaying this message to ANLS members over the past number of years from various presentations at Annual General Meetings. The following is a brief overview of the relationship between NAD83 and NAD83(CSRS) and where the Division is with respect to this transition.

The Surveys & Mapping Division started using GPS in 1986 with a pilot project on the Northern Peninsula. This project involved the establishment of a frame network akin to the earlier First Order Networks in days

past. GPS technology was still young and acceptance by the majority of those within the Surveying Profession had yet to be realized. The Surveys & Mapping Division, through various projects, did accept the technology and have not looked back.

This brings us to the transition from NAD83 to NAD83(CSRS).

Preferring stable coordinates that do not change over time the Geodetic Survey Division of Canada developed NAD83, a reference frame meant to be locked to the North American tectonic plate. It is based on the Geodetic Reference System 1980 (GRS80) ellipsoid. It was originally thought to be geocentric but it is now known to be offset from the geocenter by about 2 metres due to the limited accuracy of absolute positioning at the time. With advances in positioning technology, new adjustments of NAD83 were produced.

With advances in space-based technologies, a much more accurate spatial reference frame was determined. The International Terrestrial Reference Frame (ITRF). The ITRF is the official scientific global spatial reference frame. Because of tectonic plate motion worldwide, ITRF coordinates change over time. NAD83(CSRS) Coordinates will change over time and will continue to do so. In order for the coordinates to remain stable, an epoch of time was determined. This epoch is based upon the crustal motion at a certain period. Coordinates in this province will be based upon ITRF2005.

NAD83 and NAD83(CSRS) are based on the same fundamental NAD83 Reference system. They are merely different realizations or adjustments with different levels of accuracy. Taking into account these errors, NAD83 and NAD83(CSRS) are completely compatible with one another.

Where are we now?

The Surveys and Mapping Division has established a High Precision Network (HPN) of existing Horizontal & Vertical Survey Markers throughout the Province. There are 448 of these markers mostly on the Island of Newfoundland (see attached figure). They were independently surveyed by GPS starting in 2000 with spacing of 200km, 50km and 10km intervals. These markers will constitute the framework of the geodetic network in our province for the future. These 448 markers have been adjusted to NAD83 (CSRS).

GPS knows no boundaries with respect to referencing surveys to control networks. Horizontal markers are not required in the immediate area any longer. These 448 Markers allow the Surveyor to reference their surveys to Geodetic Control. The Division may establish additional Horizontal Markers in specific areas but not at the scale of previous years. Before we decided to set up the HPN the Division was using GPS to establish various networks throughout the province and to re-observe existing networks. We also established various networks throughout the province since we made the decision to establish a HPN. Since the advent of GPS in 1986, we have occupied & observed GPS data on approximately 2025 existing Horizontal & Vertical Survey Markers. We are now to the point that we are comfortable with combining the GPS data of these markers with the historic trigonometric and horizontal conventional data of the other 5000 markers. We have approximately 7000 markers located in the ground in the province and there is still much to do before we establish NAD83 (CSRS) values for these Markers.

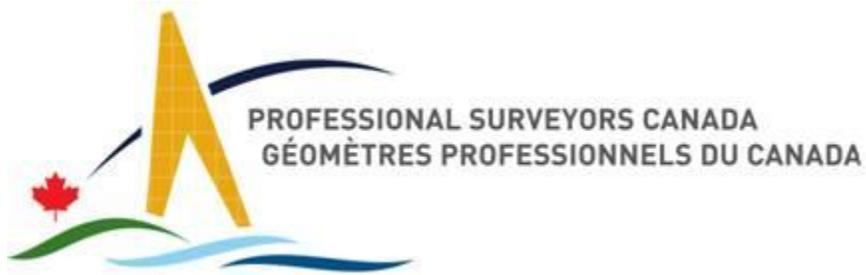
When we complete the NAD83 (CSRS) adjustment our concentration will then turn to the compilation and release of the new Control Survey Database. This database will contain horizontal & vertical control descriptions, horizontal & vertical control index maps, NAD27, NAD83, NAD83 (CSRS) coordinate values and vertical control elevations which is similar to our current Database.

The Division will also have to compile a new version of GeoCalc which will allow the user to be able to transform coordinates from NAD27 to NAD83 to NAD83 (CSRS). There is still much work to do but we are confident that we will accomplish the task within the near future.

For more information about NAD83 (CSRS) I encourage the members of ANLS to visit the NRCAN Website at http://www.geod.nrcan.gc.ca/online_data_e.php. It is free to join and there is a wealth of information available to the Surveyor.

Respectfully submitted,

Dominic Howard, NLS



Advocating for an integrated and dynamic Canadian
surveying profession.

Professional Surveyors Canada:

Conceived, developed, and run by Canadian surveyors, Professional Surveyors Canada is dedicated to building and enabling a strong multi-faceted community of surveying professionals committed to exceeding expectations.

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Apply online at psc-gpc.ca

Copyright

Copyright has been a hot topic once again. After several conversations with Dave Vallis, ANLS' Representative with the Copyright Enforcement Group, he suggested that the following "**Letter of Commitment**" be posted in this Newsletter as a reminder to those members who may not have not yet made the commitment to become part of this Group. The program is backed by the Association and has the support of Council with several members on board. Council would like to encourage all members to partake in this program.

LETTER OF COMMITMENT TO THE LAND SURVEYORS COPYRIGHT ENFORCEMENT GROUP

There is evidence that the intellectual property rights of Land Surveyors in Canada are being abused.

We the undersigned are committed to enforcing our intellectual property rights to ensure that any infringement is stopped or that we are fairly compensated for the use of our work product. We join and support with the many other Land Surveyors of the Copyright Enforcement Group to investigate steps necessary to enforce our copyright.

As a representative of our firm, along with the many private survey firms in Canada, we are committed to contribute \$350.00 as our contribution toward the legal option on the issue of copyright of our plans of survey and the management of the group.

Payments should be made out to:

*Land Surveyors Copyright Enforcement Group
c/o T.A. Bunker, O.L.S., C.A.,
P.O. Box 1180, 150 John St. N.,
Gravenhurst, ON
P1P 1V4*

Yours truly,

Detach Here

FIRM NAME: _____

Please include Contact Information

Mailing Address: _____

Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

PROJECT MANAGEMENT ESSENTIALS FOR LAND SURVEYORS

Why use Project Management?

- Find best “business” practices that apply to your business.
- Focus on objectives: scope, cost and time; consistent achievement.
- Focus on customer requirements.
- Find ways to increase customer satisfaction with your business practices.
- Focus on business: earning a profit.
- Identify new business and career opportunities.
- Avoid surprises!

This a full day facilitated workshop includes expert instruction, hands-on exercises with surveyor specific scenarios, and group discussions aimed at allowing participants to learn from the instructors knowledge base and each other’s real life experiences.

As an active workshop participant, you will:

- Discuss tools and best practices of Project Management; especially those tools which can improve your business practices.
- Learn about specific issues of Scope Management, Time Management, Cost Management, Quality Management, Risk Management, and Communication Management

Build your own Project Management “lessons learned” by sharing others’ Project Management experiences



**PROJECT MANAGEMENT
ESSENTIALS FOR
LAND SURVEYORS**

LEARN HOW TO:
Save Time Money & Stress

Learn from Experts
Discuss real case studies
Take home new skills
Enhance Your

- » Project management skills
- » Potential for Profitability
- » Professionalism
- » Practice

The content is designed specifically for Canadian Surveyors by Procept, a leader in project management training, in conjunction with the AOLS and made available nationally through Professional Surveyors Canada.

Fee for the workshop is \$150 plus HST for Professional Surveyors Canada members, or \$300 plus HST for non-members*, and includes seminar workbook, coffee breaks and lunch. A certificate of completion for CPD purposes will be provided by Professional Surveyors Canada.

***Professional Surveyors Canada membership is currently available on line at psc-gpc.ca**

Project Management Essential for Land Surveyors is designed and facilitated by Keith Ferndale, MBA, PEng, PMP, President of Procept Associates Ltd., and a native of Corner Brook NL. Procept is a premier provider of professional training programs. Keith is also adjunct lecturer in the M.Eng program in the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering, University of Toronto. Prior to his current roles, he spent a 20-year career in the management of industrial construction projects. Keith was President of the Southern Ontario Chapter of the Project Management Institute, receiving an Outstanding Contribution award. He has been a member of the Project Management Forum of the Conference Board of Canada and the advisory board for the ProjectWorld Canada conference. He is a member of the Association for the Advancement of Cost Engineering, Canadian Society for Training and Development, and is on the Board of Directors of the Project Management Association of Canada.

Annual General Meeting 2011

April 28, 29, 30, 2011
Glynmill Inn
Corner Brook, NL

You will be receiving your AGM within the next couple of weeks. I wanted to highlight a couple of things that will be taking place at this year's AGM so make plans to join us in Corner Brook.

Highlights –

- On Thursday, April 28, 2011 we are offering a Professional Development Workshop entitled **Project Management Essentials for Surveyors**. This will be presented by Professional Surveyors Canada. The cost will be \$150.00 for PSC members and \$300.00 for non PSC members. Members are encouraged to register as soon as possible - there is limited seating available. Registration and payment **MUST** be received by our Office no later than **April 4, 2011**.
- The **President's Dinner and Dance** will be held on **Friday, April 29, 2011** with the tickets costing only \$50.00 each. We have a one man band booked (Dave McHugh) the word is that he is quite the entertainer; so mark your calendar now and make plans to come and enjoy some *West Coast Culture*. Robin & Joan are looking forward to seeing all members come out and enjoy good friends, good food, and good music. The evening will be semi-formal.
- The President's Luncheon is scheduled for **Saturday, April 30, 2011**. Join Joan & Robin for an informal lunch right at the historic Glynmill Inn. Members with 25 & 30 years' service will be honoured.
- None of our members will want to miss out on the **Kitchen Party** that Joan & Robin have planned for Saturday evening. This *Newfoundland Party* will include the traditional Screech-In and Comedy with music supplied by our own Survey Crew. Old fashion Newfoundland food and drink will ensure that we all will stay long into the night and enjoy as only Newfoundlanders can!
- HIGHTLIGHT PRESENTERS –
 - Ian Edwards, IBL, Presentation - "LandGazette Refresher" in which Ian will highlight the recent positive developments to gaining access to crown title lawyers.
 - Allan Chafe, Director, Surveys & Mapping Division, Department of Environment and Conservation Presentation - NAD83 (CSRS) CANADIAN SPATIAL REFERENCE SYSTEM

This is your Association; your Annual General Meeting; if it is to be a successful; you the Member must attend and participate not only in the business meetings but in all aspects of the convention. Come and network with fellow professionals and join in the planned social events. Bring your partner so they can take in the Accompanying Persons Program. The AGM AGENDA and Registration information is available on-line.

Go to www.surveyors.nf.ca to REGISTER TODAY!

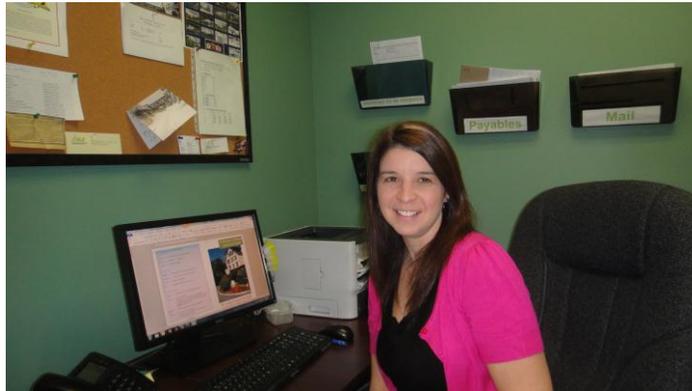
Your 2010-2011 Council



Back Row: Keith Renouf, Robin Davis, Garry Temple, Rick Legge
Front Row: David Hodder, Gary Hughes, Neil McNaughton,
Robert Way
Missing: Neil Parrott, David Robbins

Reminder -

**Membership Dues
Due & Payable on
March 31, 2011**



Introducing Lynn Murphy

ANLS Scholarship Awards

John Berghuis, NLS, Association of Newfoundland Land Surveyors
Presented - Peter J. Berghuis Award (\$500.00)

Neil MacNaughton, Vice President, Association of Newfoundland Land Surveyors -
Presented - Association of Newfoundland Land Surveyors Award (\$500.00)

Congratulations -

Kimberley Picco	Geomatics Engineering Technology Co-op III
Colette Ducey	Geomatics Engineering Technology Co-op III