




Association of Ontario Land Surveyors

***Professional Standards and Practice  
Commission Report***

**Gavin Lawrence, Commission Chair**

Annual General Meeting  
February 26, 2021



# COMMITTEES

<b>CC</b>	<b>Screens, investigates and considers complaints</b>
<b>DC</b>	<b>Hears and determines allegations of professional misconduct and/or incompetence</b>
<b>FFFNTF</b>	<b>Makes recommendations regarding pricing survey records</b>
<b>MPTF</b>	<b>Addresses potential and real losses of monumentation</b>
<b>PSC</b>	<b>Develops, maintains and provides advice with respect to standards of practice</b>
<b>PWSRI</b>	<b>Maintains and enhances the PSRI and develops policies</b>
<b>SRDC</b>	<b>Reviews and recommends practices for the Survey Review Dept.</b>
<b>UUC</b>	<b>Initiates and pursues strategic activities that would improve public safety and the efficiency and safety of cadastral survey activities related to underground utilities</b>

# Complaints Committee

Chair: Kevin Thom

The Committee currently has 6 members, 2 council liaisons & 2 lay councilors.

## Major Achievements for 2020

- In 2020 we had 29 formal complaints. 11 of these 29 complaints were initiated by 3 complainants (we average 17 complaints per year)
  - A temporary Complaints Committee dealt with 4 of these files.
- The statutory Committee currently has 10 files in progress;
  - 4 files are being held in abeyance due to ongoing litigation or matters before the courts
  - 1 file is at a stage where the Committee has considered the materials and a written decision is being drafted
  - 1 file is awaiting submissions in response to an interim decision
  - 4 files are in the early stages and we're still awaiting submissions
- The Committee continues work on amendments to its manual.
- We're still planning to make amendments regarding how we deal with complaints against former members. (Workload has interfered)

## Upcoming Challenges to be addressed

- Need additional members
- Need to find a way of balancing workload, particularly in advance of meetings and away from the Chair
- Need to find a better way of using the AOLS portal

# Complaint Committee Statistics

	2018	2019	2020
<b>Total complaints:</b>	14	21	29
Number of Complainants			21
<b>Nature of Complaints:</b>			
Sketches Issue	1		1
Right-of-Entry	1	1	
Contractual – (Protracted Timeline / Communication) Incl. Client aware of the complexity of a project and the nature of fees? Includes undertaking work that is beyond the member’s resources to complete in the time agreed upon?	6	5	5
Professional Misconduct	3	2	9
SRD Referral	1	3	
Incorrect Survey?	1	9	9
CAD File – Grid vs. Ground	1		
Incompetence			3
Not Truly a complaint ( Who is responsible ?)		1	
Disgruntled complainant seeking additional information on old complaint			2
Complaint initiated by another OLS			4

Some of the above complaints do not readily fit within one category. Professional Misconduct and Incorrect Survey tend to be catch-all’s.

2 of the professional misconduct complaints were initiated by other members.

2 of the incompetence complaints relate to water boundaries & applicable common law principles

Only 5% of completed files were referred to Council

# Committee: Discipline Committee

Chair: Dave Kovacs

Committee is currently comprised of 20 members which includes 2 Lay Councilors.

## Major Achievements for 2020

- 3 hearings completed in 2020
- On November 12 & 13, 2020, ten members of the Discipline Committee completed both the basic and advanced modules of the Discipline Orientation Workshop offered by the Health Profession Regulators of Ontario (HPRO).
- It is expected that the remaining 10 DC members will complete the same training in Spring 2021.

## Upcoming Challenges to be addressed

- Committee is putting together some draft recommendations to bring to Council regarding some administrative issues that arose as result of recent discipline hearings and court decisions.

# Fair Fees for Field Notes

Chair: Andrew Mantha

Committee is currently comprised of 20 members which includes 2 Lay Councilors.

## Major Achievements for 2020

- Prepared a final report to Council advising of the average fees being paid for field notes
- Drafted a bulletin for Council establishing maximum pricing for survey record searches. This bulletin was passed as Bulletin 2020-01, (Pricing of Field Notes and Survey Records)

## Upcoming Challenges to be addressed

- The Task Force will be performing another survey of the membership in 2021



# Monument Protection Committee

Chair: Mart Himma

## Major Achievements for 2020

- Marketed the monumentation protection video prepared last year
- The Committee did not meet for most of the year

## Upcoming Challenges to be addressed

- Reconsideration of deferred monumentation.

# Professional Standards Committee

Chair: Joseph Young

## Major Achievements for 2020

- Title Searching Cybrary established (in partnership with Anne Cole and Izaak deRijcke (Four Point Learning)).
- Field Notes and Party Chief Seminar developed with CEC.
- Checklists for various types of survey projects.
- Updates to Practice Manual.
- Office Calculations and Drafting Seminar outline prepared
- Document posted for Considerations for Professional Oversight in a virtual environment (Technical and Remote Workers).
- Appropriate Firm Survey Records Research for Legal Surveys guidelines started.
- Schedule 28 – Survey Act update, definitions wording review and update.
- Survey Business Practices Checklist started.

## Upcoming Challenges to be addressed

- Survey Business Practices Checklist and Survey Record Searching guidelines
- Other new activities to be determined by committee, Executive Director, SRD Manager and/or AOLS Council.



# Province Wide Survey Records Index Committee

Chair: Alister Sankey/Joseph Lin

## Major Achievements for 2020

- Continued to guide the development of the Provincial Survey Records Index (PSRI) with some enhancements:
  - Undockable plan views to allow better views of plans when adding records
  - Inclusion of “&” in records
  - Allowed linking multiple file types to records
  - Removal of “all” when searching for concessions or plans and removed searching limit as a result
  - Ability to clone record attributes to save data entry
- For the 2020 calendar year –
  - 490,427 new records were added to the PSRI
  - 27,604 record searches were performed
  - 64 error observations were recorded
  - 203 firms have credentials, but many have not been actively using the system

## Upcoming Challenges to be addressed

- Addressing processes once the regulation requiring mandatory use is passed

# Survey Review Department Committee

Chair: Laura Gibson

## Major Achievements for 2020

- Policy changes to initiate reviews for construction projects and for registered members (starting with a self assessment form)
- Reviewed all post-review surveys
- Updated the Point system for reviews
- Summarized data for the last five years to understand the most serious issues feed the new Dashboard
- Considered risks in a special workshop
- Recommended an increase in sticker fees to maintain a balanced budget
- Enabled the use of virtual stickers (i.e. controlled numbers instead of mylar stickers)

## Upcoming Challenges to be addressed

- Consolidating and updating the SRD Practice Manual
- Moving forward with review of registered members and of construction projects

# Underground Utilities Committee

Chair: Peter Lamb

## Major Achievements for 2020

- Reviewed new items in CSA S250:20 revised mapping/survey standard for OPS
- Article drafted on CSA S250:20 for OPS
- Purchased copy of CSA S250:20 for AOLS
- Reviewed draft plan/profile of UG survey
- Reviewed SABUR proposal for three products

## Upcoming Challenges to be addressed

- Ensuring surveyors have access to provide services

# Committee Members

## CC

Kevin Thom: Chair

Trevor McNeil | Andy Shelp | Bret Magee | Bill Webster | Crystal Cranch (part year) | Peter Feren | Jeremy Matthews | Steve Balaban | Travis Hartwick | John General (LGA) | Andrew Dowie (LGA) | Kevin Wahba (Registrar)

## DC

Dave Kovacs: Chair

Nancy Grozelle | Gerhard Auer | Ophir Dzaldov | Bob Jordan | Richard Miller | Dan Quinlan | Terry Dietz | Bob Fligg | Richard Murray | Doug Hunt | Tom Kristjanson | Bruce Parker | Paul Edward | Leslie Higginson | Saša Krcmar | Julia Meldrum Smith | Paul Miller | David Wilton | Paul Gregoire | Patricia Meehan (LGA) | Peter Meerveld (LGA)

# *Committee Members*

## **FFFNTF**

Andrew Mantha: Chair

Andy Shelp | Anna Aksan | Al Jeraj | Susan MacGregor

## **MPTF**

Mart Himma: Chair

David Lamont | Bill Harper | Simon Kasprzak | Sabir Ahluwalia |  
Paul Benedict | Dave Bianchi | Grant Stidwill | Kevin Kujala  
| Hugh Coutts | George Zervos

## **PSC**

Joseph Young: Chair

Paul Wyman | Ronald Berg | Jack Keat | Chris Bunker | Ted  
Williams | Normans Taurins | Tom Packowski | Anna Aksan |  
Brian Maloney (staff) | Kevin Wahba (staff)

# *Committee Members*

## **PWSRI**

Joseph Lin: Chair

Spiro Sinnis | David Brubacher | Tom Czerwinski | Joseph Lin |  
Chris Bunker | Phillip Swift | Amar Loai | Ali Gholami | Edwardo  
Linhares | Ron Querubin | Ganesh Sundar | Brian Maloney  
(staff)

## **SRDC**

Laura Gibson: Chair

Andrea Tieman | Rob McKibbon | Gabriel Laframboise | Julia  
Meldrum Smith | Paul Francis | Gavin Lawrence | Tom Packowski  
(staff)

## **UUC**

Peter Lamb: Chair

Gary Auer | Paul Benedict | Dave Kovacs | Peter Skuro | James  
Dorland | Nigel Day | Maureen Mountjoy



Association of Ontario Land Surveyors

***Governance Commission Report***



# Fees Mediation Committee

Chair: Brent Larocque

## Major Achievements for 2020

- Addressed 3 files
- In one particular file, we feel that we were instrumental in having both sides communicate with one another and resolve an issue without the need for arbitration
- We conducted a major overhaul of the manual. It is now more detailed regarding how we conduct our works. Once finished the public will be more knowledgeable about our Committee and our operations.

## Upcoming Challenges to be addressed

- Finalize manual and improve mediation processes
- Consider future legislative changes that could transfer functions to the Complaint Committee



# Legislation and Regulation Taskforce

Chair: James Dorland

## Major Achievements for 2020

- Regulation Changes
  - Submitted to Council and MNRF
    - MNRF Lawyers returned suggested wording to taskforce for review
    - Wording finalized for vote by Council and the membership
- COVID provided opportunity for *Act* Changes
  - *Surveyors Act*
    - Legislation to formally allow AOLS to utilize electronic voting methods & virtual meetings
  - *Surveys Act* –
    - Controlled the disposition of survey records ensuring that they remain with a holder of a Certificate of Authorization

## Upcoming Challenges to be addressed

- Updating/Modernizing the *Acts*

# *Committee Members*

## **FMC**

Brent Laroque: Chair

John Merrlles | Michelle Pearson | Harold Hyde | Murray  
Purcell | Anna Aksan | Martha George (LGA)

## **LRTF**

James Dorland: Chair

Andrea Tieman | Ophir Dzaldov | Chris Musclow | Andy Shelp |  
Roger Grose | Russ Hogan | Brian Maloney