

Godfrey Archbold

BC Land Title Authority Exceeds Goals *for* First Year *of* Operation

The BC Land Title and Survey Authority completed its first full year of operation on March 31, 2006.

It is an independent organization responsible for the registration of all legal survey plans over Crown and private land in the province, as well as the accuracy and security of land titles for all privately held land.

The Authority successfully completed the transition to an independent organization and exceeded all the performance targets in our Operating Agreement with the provincial government. At the same time, we were successful in meeting the significant challenge of a record number of transactions in the “hot” British Columbia real estate market.

When establishing the Authority, one of our highest priorities was to achieve faster transaction times to meet the needs of clients, stakeholders, and the BC public. In the 2005/2006 fiscal year, we processed a record 1.23 million land title registration applications in an average of 4.9 days for land title documents and 4.2 days for land title survey plans. This notably exceeded our performance target of 6 days for this service. We also completed 1356 *Land Act* survey confirmations in an average processing time of less than 13 days, significantly below our performance target of 21 business days.

In our first full year of operation, a great deal of effort was focused on the Authority being a leader in information technology-based services. In this regard, one of our most important milestones was reached in July 2006, when the submission of electronic survey plans became a reality as a result of legislative amendments coming into force.

The electronic survey plan is being widely used for land surveys; we also have received a substantial number of well site plans in electronic format from the oil and gas sector. Further implementation of digital survey plans is a high priority for the coming months.

These and other business improvements support the Authority's goal of enhanced client service through effective use of technology. Electronic filing saves time and money for clients, and also means better access for users across the province.

Feedback from clients indicates a high level of satisfaction with our operations. While we are pleased with this response, we also are strongly committed to developing an even more effective relationship with our clients.

In addition to the above-noted achievements, the Authority has taken important steps to set the stage for long-term success by developing a Corporate Strategic Plan and a 3-year Business Plan. In developing our short- and long-term strategies, we have benefitted greatly from the input of the

Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC). The SAC provides us with perspectives from professionals engaged in land title and survey activities on a daily basis. Along with the Board of Directors, the SAC plays an important role in our accountability to clients, stakeholders, and the public.

I am pleased we have accomplished so much in the early days of the Authority, but acknowledge there are many opportunities to build on these achievements and position the Authority for long-term success.

The Society of Notaries Public of British Columbia has made important contributions to our success to date. We expect this will continue through The Society's representative on the Authority's Stakeholder Advisory Committee, Wayne Braid, the Secretary/ Executive Director of The Society.

To access our 2005/2006 annual report and other information about the Authority, I encourage you to check our public Website at www.ltsa.ca. ▲

As CEO of BC Land Title & Survey, Godfrey Archbold successfully transitioned British Columbia's land title and survey systems from government to an independent and accountable authority. He holds a BA in Political Science and History and a Masters of Public Administration.

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