

Licensing issues for cadastral surveying: Parochialism, cooperation & mobility

Khaleel Khan (Canada Centre for Cadastral Management) Brian A. Ballantyne, and Peter Sullivan

Licensing land surveyors by provincial and Canada Lands survey associations is ostensibly done in the public interest, to ensure that practitioners' education, experience, skills and ethics are high. For instance, a distinction is made between the licenses required to survey on and off Canada Lands. However, such noble aims must now confront four issues. First, must a survey of wellsite licenses on Indian Reserves in western Canada be performed by a surveyor holding a dual commission - CLS and the relevant provincial land surveying license? Second, who can survey in the British Columbia offshore, and indeed, in Canada's offshore in general? Third, why have only 20 surveyors availed themselves of the Mutual Recognition Agreement allowing for inter-provincial mobility? Fourth, what are the implications of the Agreement on Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility (TILMA) on the autonomy of surveyors' licensing bodies, on surveyors' mobility and on the commonwealth?