



THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS

Behind the Scene

BY JACK YOUNG, CHAIRMAN

THE BOARD of Examiners is charged with the responsibility of evaluating and admitting students to the surveying profession in Ontario. When a student commences articles he is roughly half way through his or her survey education, having completed the four year university program or its equivalent which represents approximately 32 months of formal education. He then becomes articled and begins a 24- to 30-month education in the "school of hard knocks" under the guidance and instruction of the articling surveyor and a member of the Board of Examiners.

The Board of Examiners consists of the Chairman, who is the Vice President of the Association, the Registrar, four members appointed by Council and two government appointed members. In addition, there are presently 16 assistants to the Board who are land surveyors appointed by Council. The main task of the assistants is to monitor the articled student through this important part of his education. Each monitor and Board member has three to five students under monitoring charge. This requires a great deal of time and patience, especially when the demands of their own practice are heavy.

The term of articles for the student begins after the Board of Examiners has approved his educational background. The student and the surveyor attend a Board of Examiners meeting in April or September when the articles are signed and the student is assigned a monitor. The work of the monitor with the student begins at this meeting. The monitor meets with the student and surveyor to discuss the work outline for the next two years. A detailed work program is established to ensure that the student will receive experience in as many areas of surveying as possible. The program must include a minimum of 12 months in the field at the party chief level and six months experience in the office.

The work of the monitor continues with the review of the quarterly work reports submitted by the student, which reports have been signed by the surveyor as well. The reports include a time log, sample plans and field notes relating to projects which were done under the partial or direct supervision of the student. These reports are confidential as it is not the intention of the Board to monitor the surveyor's practice, only the student. The monitor also receives reports every six months from the surveyor indicating the student's progress in

the work environment. The monitor replies to each work report, indicating where improvements can be made and recommending where additional work is needed. The monitor acts as the liaison between the student and the Board.

When the monitor and the surveyor are satisfied with the progress of the student they submit certificates of experience, at which time the student is permitted to write his professional examination prior to being commissioned as an Ontario Land Surveyor.

Other work of the Board, with respect to articling, includes marking of the mandatory field note assignment, the statutes exams and assisting in the one-week lecture course which the student attends midway through the article period.

The members of the Board and the surveyors who article students, deserve a great deal of credit from the profession for their voluntary contribution to the education and training of our future surveyors.

I am sure I speak for all members and assistants of the Board of Examiners as to how rewarding it is to see a student who has been guided through the system receive his certificate at the convocation luncheon of the annual meeting.

The present Board consists of:
Jack Young, Chairman, John Boyd, Secretary/Registrar, Doug Simmonds, Jim Nicholson, Peter Moreton, Carl Rooth, Ray Moore, Darshan Kapoor.

The assistants are:
Ardon Blackburn, Blain Martin, Lorraine Petzold, Chris Sexton, Dennis Fisher, David Lambden, Lynn Patten, David Schultz, Peter Stringer, John Vinklers, Peter Allen, Rob Stirling, Paul Wyman, Graham Bowden, Ian Robinson, David Woodland.

A couple of interesting points with respect to our prospective surveyors: firstly, that only about half the students who become articled begin their formal education in first year at Erindale. The remainder transfer into the program from other educational institutions. Secondly, that at the September Board meeting, five Erindale graduates became articled to their fathers. In addition, there are presently nine sons and three daughters of surveyors in the program at Erindale. ●