



THE SURVEYOR GENERAL  
LEGAL SURVEYS BRANCH

YOUR FILE .....

OUR FILE .....

October 19, 1979

CIRCULAR LETTER TO ALL BRITISH COLUMBIA LAND SURVEYORS

Re: General Survey Instructions

The new Land Title Act comes into force on October 31st, 1979.

In preparation for this, the General Survey Instructions were revised to reflect correct section references to the new Act, and at the same time incorporate housekeeping corrections as well as certain changes considered appropriate and desirable.

These revised Instructions were submitted to Legislative Counsel in early April, with the expectation that they would be gazetted and copies distributed in advance of the October 31st deadline. Current rules and vetting procedures in the Ministry of the Attorney-General governing new regulations has, however, necessitated rewriting entirely the regulations in a format acceptable to Legislative Counsel. Parts of the regulations are now near completion, but will not be available when the new Act becomes effective.

THEREFORE, until the new General Survey Instructions are available, the presently existing Instructions will remain in effect.

The most significant changes or additions which will appear in the new regulations include the following:

- As an alternate to red outlining on plans, a heavy black line 1mm. to 1.5mm in width may be used. On highway right of way plans, where green outlining was called for, such areas shall be "hatched".
- In addition to giving the ratio scale on plans, a bar scale shall be shown.
- Bearings on plans shall, as a general rule, be shown as full circle bearings, clockwise from north.
- The scale of 1:750 is included as a permissible plan scale.

The above changes may be adopted now if desired, prior to regulatory approval. By copy of this letter, Land Title Office personnel will be so advised.

With regard to the Land Title Act Regulation issued by the Attorney General (B.C. Reg 334/79) you will note that the surveyor's oath in Form L has

been dropped in favour of a declaration (new Form 9).

Also, in line with charges made for certain statutory procedures under the Land Act, a fee is now charged under the Land Title Act for applications for accretions, corrections of erroneously recorded water boundary locations, explanatory plan applications in the E and N Railway Belt, for certification of a natural boundary location within a statutory right of way, and for two phase posting block outline survey applications.

It is my understanding that strict compliance with the new Land Title regulations will be subject to a "grace" period until December 31, 1979 after which the Registrar's discretion will apply.

Copies of B.C. Reg. 334/79 and the booklet "Guide to the New Land Title Practices" are available from the Land Title Offices.

Yours truly,



R. W. Thorpe,  
Surveyor General.

RWT:kd