



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN SURVEYING  
The David Thompson National Geomatics Awards**

The Association of Canada Lands Surveyors and Professional Surveyors Canada are proud to announce the winners of the ninth annual David Thompson Awards! The awards were presented during the National Surveyors' Conference in Ottawa on March 2, 2017.

Celebrating excellence in the field of geomatics in Canada, the David Thompson National Geomatics Award was introduced in the winter of 2006-2007. The program was developed to recognize projects that exemplify the innovation and contribution to society that surveyors make every day to bring successful projects about for the betterment of all Canadians. The program has the two following categories:

- Challenging Cadastral Survey Project
- Challenging Non Cadastral Survey Project

**Challenging Cadastral Survey Project**

In the category *Challenging Cadastral Survey Project*, the winner was Christopher de Haan (pictured right receiving the award from great-great-great grandson of David Thompson, Brian Lennox) of Underhill Geomatics Ltd. for the project entitled: "Survey the natural boundary of the Toquana Indian Reserve # 4". Underhill Geomatics was hired to conduct a survey of Toquana IR #4 that included a boundary limit of "high tide of the Theodosia Inlet". However, the limit of the high tide was only discernable on the ground for short periods each day and was not possible to survey before the water receded. Instead, a drone was used to obtain 800 aerial photographs of the area during high tide while the elevations of the highest tide was measured. A DTM was then created and the contour of the measured elevation was used to delineate the limit of the high tide.

Runners up for this award were Derek French of Derek A. French Professional Services Inc. for the project entitled: "PEI-NB Cable



Interconnection Upgrade Project” and Peter Yorke of WSP Canada Inc. for the project entitled: “ICE District”.

### **Challenging Non Cadastral Survey Project**



In the category *Challenging Non Cadastral Survey Project*, the winner was James Ferguson (pictured left) of Tulloch Engineering for the project entitled: “Engineering Survey of Metrolinx’s Go Transit Electrification Project”.

This project used a unique hybrid surveying approach to accommodate surveying 270 km of railway corridors that were consistently in use. This was accomplished by using mobile LiDAR surveying primarily at night to collect visible features, followed by conventional ground surveys to fill in missing features and static LiDAR

surveys for bridges inaccessible by mobile LiDAR.

Runners up for this award were G.C. Friesen of Underhill Geomatics Ltd. for the project entitled: “Whitehorse Erik Nielsen International Airport Obstacle Limitation Surfaces Survey” and David Gurnsey of Altus Geomatics Ltd. for the project entitled: “Augmented Reality system”.

The Association of Canada Lands Surveyors (ACLS) introduced the David Thompson National Geomatics Awards Program in cooperation with all professional surveying associations across Canada through Professional Surveyors Canada (PSC).

The David Thompson National Geomatics Awards Program is open to all commissioned surveyors who are members of a Canadian surveying association, submitting projects that have been completed within the last three years. The deadline for submissions is January 15, 2018.



The ACLS is a national self-regulating professional association that is the licensing body for professionals surveying in the three Canadian territories, in the Federal parks, on Aboriginal reserves, as well as on and under the surface of Canada’s oceans. It has over 600 members located across Canada (and the world), with expertise in surveying, photogrammetry, remote sensing, geodesy, hydrography and land information systems. For details, please visit: [www.acls-aatc.ca](http://www.acls-aatc.ca)

Professional Surveyors Canada is conceived, developed, and run by Canadian surveyors, and is dedicated to building and enabling a strong multi-faceted community of surveying professionals committed to exceeding expectations. <http://www.psc-gpc.ca>

For more details on the David Thompson National Geomatics Awards Program, please visit:  
<http://davidthompsonawards.ca/home/>

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