



**TECHNOLOGY**  
**PROFESSIONALS**  
SASKATCHEWAN

**ASSOCIATION HISTORY**

# HISTORY OF TECHNOLOGISTS AND TECHNICIANS IN SASKATCHEWAN AND CANADA

Someone once said, *"It is hard to know where we are going, if we do not know where we have come from"*. We believe in this quote and put forth the following brief summary of facts and events that have been gathered over the years.

In 1961, the **"Federal Technical and Vocational Training Assistance Act"** was legislated in Ottawa. It provided for federal and provincial agreements by which the provinces received greatly expanded federal assistance in the building, equipping, and staffing of facilities for training in a wide range of disciplines, including engineering technology.

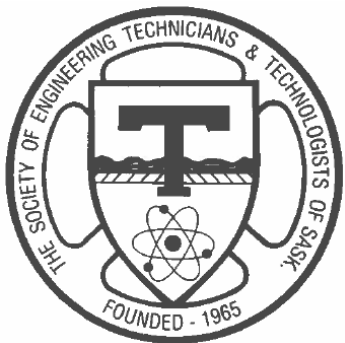
The following statement is an excerpt from "The Professional Engineer in Nova Scotia", Feb. 1973 by J.E. Terry, P.Eng.

*"Canada was faced with a technical personnel shortage. As the scope of engineering processes widened, it left a middle-ground function for which the journeyman was no longer prepared but in which the professional engineer would be under-utilized. It required a para-professional, one who would assist the engineer by performing design or application tasks of a more routine nature. But he would also have sufficient knowledge and understanding of engineering and scientific theory to make him capable of original design; innovation and improvisation; and inspection and supervision of some aspects of engineering design, construction and production."*

From this meagre beginning in 1961, when Canada had just a few technical institutions to 1966 when there were 40, to present day, where Canada has thousands of public and private colleges and institutes.

In 1959, the Saskatchewan Government advertised the offering of a 2-year course in Civil Engineering Technology, and a 2-year course in Radio-Television Electronics. The 1st year of Civil Engineering Technology was taught in Regina in the World War II H-Huts on Broad Street across from the Red Cross Building. The program was moved to Moose Jaw for the 2nd year. 17 Civil students graduated, one of which was Mike Majeran, who became the first President of The Society of Engineering Technicians and Technologists of Saskatchewan (SETTS) in 1965.

At that time, Dr. Reginald Bing-Wo, P.Eng., was the Association of Professional Engineers of Saskatchewan (APES) Registrar. He, and Jack Reid, P.Eng., assisted Mike Majeran and a number of his graduate collegemates from the Civil Engineering Technology program at Saskatchewan Technical Institute (STI) to organize a society for technology graduates, to be known as The Society of Engineering Technicians and Technologists of Saskatchewan (SETTS).



Dr. Reginald Bing-Wo, P.Eng.

The 1st two SETTS membership certificates were issued in August of 1961. They had neither dates or numbers. After being certified, Mike was appointed as Secretary Treasurer of the Board of Examiners. This position was challenging as there were no benchmarks to follow other than the academic criteria offered at the Saskatchewan Technical Institute (STI). The academic credentials of STI graduates were easy but we also had to assess applicants from I.T.T., Ryerson, the United Kingdom, DeVry, some with university credits, technologists from other provinces, and some with an abundance of discipline related experience but no formal academic training. Our profession owes a great deal of thanks to Dr. Bing-Wo, P.Eng., and Jack Reid, P.Eng. It was their wisdom and guidance that established the ground rules for where our profession is today.

The 1st SETTS General Meeting was called on February 22, 1964, and held in Moose Jaw at the Sportsman's Center. That is where Mike Majeran, Certified Engineering Technologist (CET), was elected as the 1st President of SETTS. Amongst the Executive Committee members who volunteered countless hours during the first two years were Stan Rankel, CET, Maurice Zimmerman, CET, Gordon Smith, CET, and Ken Hicks, CET. Following the formation of the Society, the Executive needed a Constitution, develop their goals, and design a professional ring for recognition.

Mike and the SETTS Executive members spoke to the students at the Moose Jaw Campus on a few occasions regarding the importance of becoming certified by the profession. They even turned to the Soviet Union for help. Dr. Nicholaev, a Professor of Economics from Moscow, was a guest speaker at the University of Regina in engineering. The Executive invited the Professor to speak to members at the SETTS 2nd Annual Meeting and he accepted. What an excellent turnout he generated. He described how education had developed in the USSR since the Revolution, saying that development in the technical field had reached the point where the number of technologists and technicians greatly exceeded the number of engineers. A technologist in their country was made to feel he is a creative worker in order that he would be of the most benefit to himself, science, society, and their country.

In Saskatchewan, the SETTS was organized and established under the aegis of APES in 1965. At that time, the professional designation used by both technicians and technologists was "CET".

In September 1972, the SETTS opted to join the newly incorporated Canadian Council of Engineering Technicians and Technologists (CCETT). At the time of inception, the CCETT included all provinces except Prince Edward Island (due to an external mix-up) who joined very shortly thereafter. In the beginning, there were 4 basic aims or objects of the CCETT but by April 1978, the National Directors of the CCETT had approved new Guiding Principles of the CCETT.

In 1983, The Canadian Council of Professional Engineers (CCPE) transferred the ownership of the Letter Patent "CET" (Certified Engineering Technologist/Technician) from the Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario (APEO) to the CCETT. From that day forward, only constituent members of the CCETT, upon signing the "Assignment of Authority" agreement with the CCETT, could lawfully grant the "CET" designation.

In 1984, SETTS Council decided to seek their own autonomy and left the management provided by APES since their inception. Jaime Feltis, who had been working at the APES office doing the administrative work for SETTS since 1979, was hired as the first employee and Registrar of SETTS, and today remains the CEO / Registrar.

In 1985, the CCETT changed its incorporation to better reflect the scope of technology within Canada, and it subsequently became known as The Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists (CCTT). At this time, CCTT not only represented the engineering technologies but now also the applied science technologies that had emerged.

CCTT also offered a Professional Technology Ring for use by all registered professional technologists and technicians in Canada.



The Professional Ring is a symbol of professionalism and is traditionally worn on the fifth finger. It is the exclusive domain of registered professional applied science / engineering technologists and certified technicians in Canada. The ring is formed by a repeating pattern of five gears bracketed by a maple leaf on each side. The gears represent the five members of the engineering / design team: trades person, technicians, technologists, engineers, and scientists. The ring is available for purchase to TPS Professional Technologists (PTech), and Certified Technicians (CTech) only.

On May 4th, 1988, the Association changed its name from SETTS to the *"Saskatchewan Applied Science Technologists and Technicians"* (SASTT), to better reflect the various disciplines represented; and registered under the ***"Non-Profit Corporations Act"*** as an interim measure until our profession achieved its own provincial legislation.

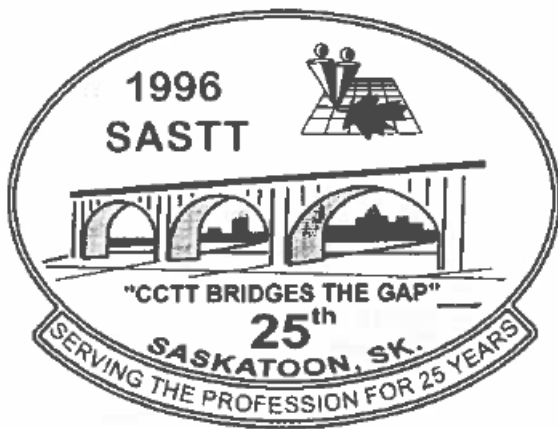
SASTT officially signed the *"Assignment of Authority to Grant the "CET" Designation"* agreement with the CCTT and became the official agent in Saskatchewan to grant "AScT" to registered technologists, and "CTech" to registered Technicians, in addition to fulfill its obligations to police the professional designation of "CET". Having two distinct professional designations allowed the public to recognize the difference between those who were registered as technologists, and those registered as technicians.



In 1996, SASTT hosted the 25th Anniversary of CCTT in Saskatoon. A tree was planted by the Bessborough Hotel to commemorate the event. Additionally, a national contest was held to design a pin for the occasion. Brent Bradford, ASCT, submitted the chosen design!



*Planting the seed for the future: CCTT President Charles Hare, RET, Saskatchewan's Deputy Premier, the Honourable Dwain Lingenfelter and SASTT President Brian Cobbledick, ASCT symbolically planting a tree to commemorate CCTT's twenty-fifth anniversary*



(L to R): Brent Bradford, ASCT, receiving Award for pin design from Chris Ehmann, ASCT, President

Following some fifteen years of lobbying the Government, the "*Saskatchewan Applied Science Technologists and Technicians Act*" (SASTT Act) was unanimously passed in the Legislature in 1997! Due to a number of stakeholder groups lobbying the Government over numerous issues pertaining to our legislation, the Act did not receive proclamation until October 1998. As of 2025, the "SASTT Act" is the only provincial legislation in Canada that includes exemption clauses for members of our profession in both the "*Engineering and Geoscience Professions Act*", and the "*Architects Act*".

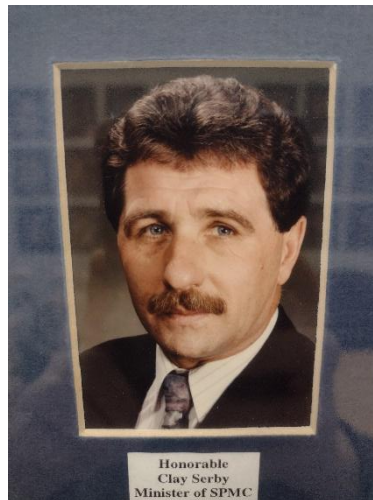


The following members of the SASTT Professional Affairs and Legislation Committee (PALC) worked tirelessly for decades to see the “*SASTT Act*” come to fruition.



(L to R): Bill Allen, ASCT, Jim Brandt, ASCT, Dan Crites, ASCT, Jaime Feltis, ASCT, Ron Smith, ASCT, Chair of PALC, and Dale Rutherford, ASCT

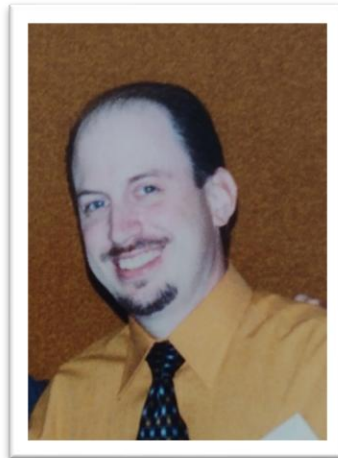
Our profession will be forever grateful to the Minister of Advanced Education, Responsible for the “*SASTT Act*” for carrying the Bill through First, Second, and Third Readings in the Legislature.



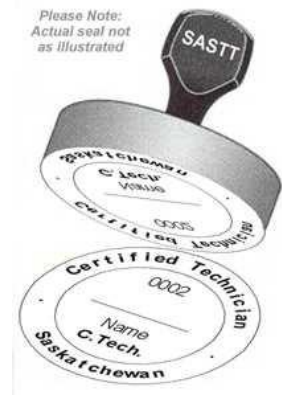
Hon. Clay Serby,  
Minister of Advanced Education, and  
Minister Responsible for the “*SASTT Act*”.

Once the “*SASTT Act*” was proclaimed in 1997 our registration under “*The Non-Profit Corporations Act*” ceased. Sections 3 and 5 of the “*SASTT Act*” address the Association’s legal status as a body corporate.

In 2002, SASTT introduced a Professional Seal for Applied Science Technologists, and Certified Technicians. Mr. Russell Mack, ASCT submitted the selected design for the Seal:



Russell Mack, ASCT



In May 2002, a group of water resource technicians graduated from a special program created by Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAT), SaskWater, and SASTT. Joe Maciag, ASCT, was instrumental in having a number of employees who worked in small towns around the province, in earning the professional designation of Certified Technician upon completion of the program.



In October 2007, SASTT was successful in having Applied Science Technologists, and Certified Technicians, recognized as Qualified Electrical Workers in the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations.

In 2007, SASTT withdraws as a member of the Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists (CCTT) for the following reasons:

- not following its Bylaws
- exceeding budgets established by the Board of Directors; and
- ensuring that all provincial professional associations are treated equally, and paying the same fees to the national body.

In 2009, SASTT rejoined CCTT. Chris Ehmann, AScT, President of SASTT, endorsed a National Transferability Agreement with other provincial Presidents.



In 2009, the Ordre of Technologue du Quebec withdrew its membership in CCTT citing a legal challenge with the Government of Quebec.

In 2010, the following provincial technology associations discontinued membership with CCTT, and formed Technology Professionals Canada (TPC):

- Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of British Columbia (ASTTBC)
- Association of Science and Engineering Technology Professionals of Alberta (ASET)
- Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists (OACETT)
- Saskatchewan Applied Science Technologists and Technicians (SASTT).

Later, on January 13, 2016, TPC was officially incorporated.



In 2012, SASTT was successful in having Applied Science Technologists, and Certified Technicians, recognized as Qualified Persons in numerous Saskatchewan Environmental Codes:

- |                           |                |                     |
|---------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| a) Corrective Action Plan | c) Sewage Main | d) Water Main       |
| b) Hydrostatic Testing    |                | e) Site Assessment. |

TPS registered technologists are also recognized as Qualified Persons under the “*Water Security Act*”, and the “*Condominium Property Act*”.

In 2012, SASTT introduced a mandatory Professional Liability Insurance program for all its members.

In December 2013, with the assistance of the Canadian Standards Association, TPC created an accreditation agency called Technology Accreditation Canada (TAC) which was incorporated federally. TAC is the sole accreditation body for the engineering technology and applied science profession in Canada. TAC’s mission is to deliver world class accreditation, collaborating with educational institutions to support their delivery of the highest quality education, providing confidence to graduates and employers.

In 2015, SASTT Board of Directors embarked on rebranding the Association with a new logo and business name.

SASTT turned 50 years young in 2015.



Mike Sazynski, ASCT, President

Two keynote speakers were on hand to share in the celebration:



Mike Majeran, ASCT  
First Member of our Profession



Hon. Scott Moe, Minister  
Responsible for the “SASTT Act”

In 2016, SASTT, and Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST) signed a Joint Working Agreement to continue supporting and promoting careers in Technology.



(L to R): Jaime Feltis, ASCT, CEO, Mike Sazynski, ASCT, SASTT President, Dr. Larry Rosia, Saskatchewan Polytechnic President, and Jamie Hilts, Saskatchewan Polytechnic Dean of Technology

In 2018, TAC presented the faculty of Saskatchewan Polytechnic with certificates recognizing national accreditation of fourteen of the colleges engineering technology and applied science programs.



In May 2019, SASTT registered a legal business name to conduct its operations and Technology Professionals Saskatchewan (TPS) was formed. Both, SASTT (the corporate name). and TPS (the business name) are legal.



The 3D vector graphic represents numerous meanings related to SASTT and has a modern flare. The TP (Technology Professionals) is the focal point of the logo with the shape of the Province of Saskatchewan designed within. The geometric focused latitude / longitude grid lines were incorporated to help with the overall symmetry of the logo. By incorporating the shape of Saskatchewan rather than using a literal "S" it adds depth to the concept itself and offers exceptional opportunity for branding opportunities.

The color selection for Technology Professionals Saskatchewan evolved throughout the project and symbolizes the long horizons in Saskatchewan, with green portraying wide-open fields, and the vast blue skies. Complementing these colors, is the metallic grey, which highlights the shape of our province, represents leadership, strength, and a solid foundation. The globe is surrounded by technology and its professionals are represented worldwide.

In 2020, the following provincial professional associations joined TPC .... once again, we became a family of nine:

- Association of Technicians and Technologists of Newfoundland and Labrador (AETTNL)
- Certified Technicians and Technologists of Manitoba (CTTAM)
- Island Technology Professionals of Prince Edward Island (ITP)
- New Brunswick Society of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists (NBSCETT)
- Certified Technicians and Technologists of Nova Scotia (TechNova)

In 2022, the Marketing Committee implemented the first TPS Photo Competition. The purpose of the Photo Competition is to build a library of images which represent the disciplines in which our members are employed or have businesses, to use in a variety of publications and media.

In April 2024, the TPC Leadership Council, comprised of all nine provincial presidents, unanimously agreed to move towards a distinct designation for Technologists across Canada, that being, Professional Technologist (P.Tech.). For many decades the provincial professional associations could not agree on one designation, Various designations were used across Canada, including "C.E.T.", "A.Sc.T.", "P.Tech.", "R.E.T." which was not only confusing to the public, but it led to issues with members transferring from one province to another. New Brunswick, and Newfoundland associations have been using the P.Tech designations for registered Technologists since the early 2000's.

Immediately following the April 2024 agreement of the provincial presidents, TPS filed a request with the Saskatchewan Government to amend its Regulatory Bylaws and change "A.Sc.T." to "P.Tech.". In October 2024, TPS was granted this request, and all registered professionals were issued P.Tech. certificates.

On May 23, 2025, the 60th Anniversary of our profession was held at the RCMP Depot in Regina.



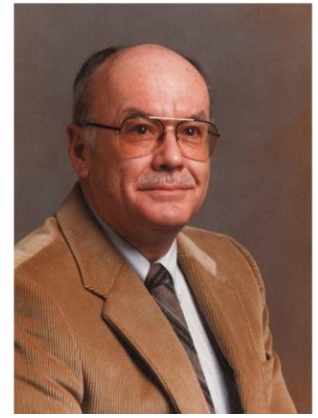
# TPS Past Presidents



Mike Majeran, PTech  
1964-1965



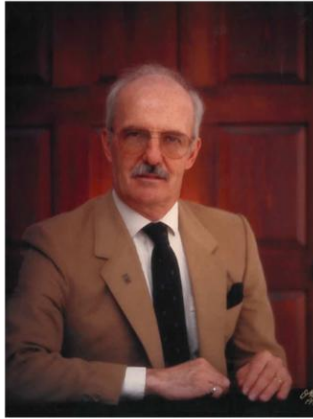
Stan Rankel  
1966-1967



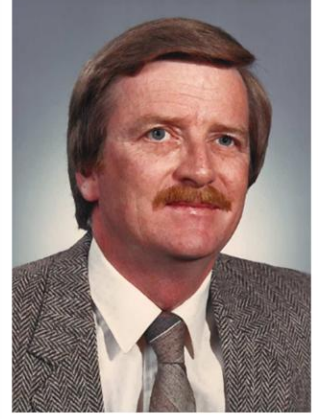
Moe Zimmerman, PTech  
1968-1969



Larry Easton  
1970-1971



Murray McIvor, PTech  
1972-1973



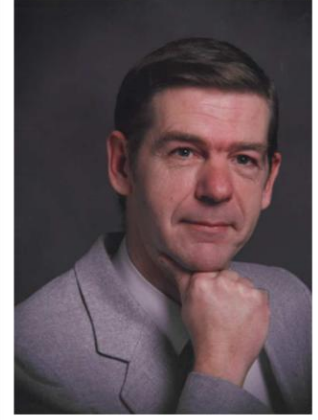
Lorne Gifford  
1974-1975



Randall Dennie  
1976



Les Thompson  
1977-1978



Don Capewell  
1979-1980



# TPS Past Presidents



Bob Turner, PTech  
1980-1981



Les Hill, PTech  
1982



Ron Smith, PTech  
1983-1984



Bill Allen, PTech  
1985-1986



Ron Smith, PTech  
1987-1988



Dale Rutherford, PTech  
1988-1989



Dan Crites, PTech  
1989-1990



Peter Kruszelnicki, PTech  
1990-1991



Enid Bailey  
1991-1992

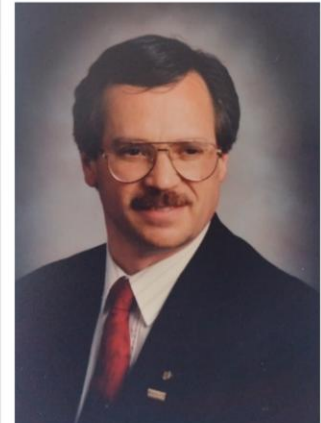
# TPS Past Presidents



Jim Brandt, PTech  
1992-1993



Neil Johnson  
1993-1996



Brian Cobbledick  
1996-1997



John Walker  
1997-1999



James Hoffman, PTech  
1999-2001



Kelly Nelson, PTech  
2001-2003



Christopher Ehmann, PTech  
2003-2005



Darin Schindel, PTech  
2005-2007



Michael West, PTech  
2007-2009

# TPS Past Presidents



Steve Oszust, CTech  
2009-2011



Edward Worrall, PTech  
2011



Kelly Ljunggren, PTech  
2011-2012



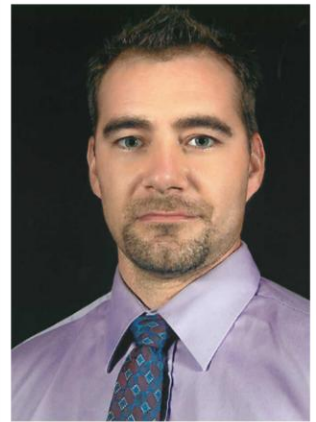
Steve Oszust, CTech  
2012-2014



Richard Zepick, PTech  
2014-2015



Michael Sazynski, PTech  
2015-2017



Michael Blenkin, PTech  
2017-2019



Steve Oszust, CTech  
2019-2021



Doug Helmeczi, PTech  
2021-2023



Frank Van Breugel, CTech  
2023-2025





Troy Libke, PTech  
President 2025

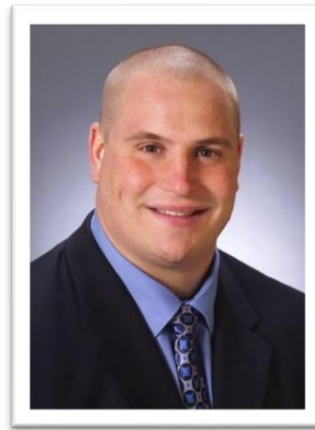


Jaime Feltis, PTech  
CEO / Registrar

## **TPS 2025 Public Appointees**



Betty Hoffart, FCPA, FCMA  
2019 to present



Scott Schultz, CAIB  
2024 to present

## **TPS Chairpersons 2025**



Greg Koch, PTech  
Marketing Committee Chair



Dick Belton, PTech  
Registration Board Chair



Ron Smith, PTech  
Examination Board Chair

**TPS ... serving the Profession for 60 Years.**