OVERALL GUIDING PRINCIPLES

• Land surveying underpins Canada’s economy by providing certainty for property boundaries.
• Land surveying principles ensure a consistent model of boundary definition.
• Boundaries must be clearly identifiable on the ground.
• Canadians have open access to land survey records.
• These principles apply to both land and sea.

PROVIDING ACCESS TO THE PROFESSION

• Canadians have access to land surveyors who are highly qualified professionals with consistent standards for licensing or certification across the country.
• Land surveyors maintain their technical relevance and make the best use of advanced technology.

PRINCIPLES FOR LAND SURVEYORS

• Owners of land create boundaries. The role of the land surveyor is to mark, find, describe and represent these boundaries.
• The character and physical location of some boundaries, such as water boundaries, can change over time.
• The establishment of a new boundary is not conclusive until the landowner consents to the survey and authorities sanction the survey.
• A land surveyor’s opinion in re-establishing an existing boundary must withstand the scrutiny of fellow land surveyors, boundary tribunals and the courts.
• Land surveyors use the best available evidence to re-establish a boundary.
• Land surveyors are cautious not to disturb settled possession.
• Land surveyors do not render conflicting opinions, simply because they have conducted the new survey with more precise methods.
• Land surveyors must be unbiased and provide assistance independent of and uninfluenced by the interests of a client.
• Land surveyors contribute foundational land management knowledge and provide leadership in the development/maintenance of property boundary data.