

CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 196

April 10, 1968

TO ALL MUNICIPALITIES:

It has come to my attention that "incidents" have occurred where municipal employees in connection with various outside construction or maintenance projects have temporarily removed survey monuments set under statutory authority by British Columbia Land Surveyors, at considerable expense, in the course of their professional duties.

I am advised that, in certain cases, the monuments were first of all referenced, then removed and finally, after the job in hand was completed, were replaced. I have no doubt that the intention of employees and their supervisors was good, and this office appreciates proper care and consideration being given to such monuments.

However, despite the best intentions, such action could easily result in confusion and possibly in needless litigation. The B. C. Land Surveyors who set these monuments assume a professional responsibility for them but this responsibility understandably terminates when the monuments in question have been disturbed.

The only lawful procedure is for a practising B. C. Land Surveyor to carry out, or to supervise, the necessary referencing and subsequent replacing of such monuments. Failure to conform could result in the violator at least being responsible for the expense of proper reestablishment of any markers affected.

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