

FIG Commission 7 e-Newsletter June 2014



From : Daniel ROBERGE, Chair
To: FIG Commission 7 Delegates, Correspondents and Friends
Cc: FIG Office, Copenhagen

FIG COMMISSION 7 ANNUAL MEETING AND GEOCONFERENCE 2014



The Commission 7 team, in close collaboration with our Canadian colleagues and the Fédération des géomètresfrancophones (FGF – the Francophone Federation of Surveyors), is preparing this year a unique event which will take place in the Old Quebec City, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

This great happening will start with the Commission 7 meetings on 7-8 October 2014 at the Montmorency Forest, one hour drive from Quebec City. Montmorency Forest is an experimental forest owned and managed by Laval University, a nice, quiet and natural area for a retreat to report on our work and achievements and to prepare the next Commission 7 Workplan. The draft program of the annual meeting is available on the website: www.geocongres2014.ca/en/fig-meeting. For the delegates interested to make a presentation during the Commission 7 Annual meeting, please send the topic to: figcom7@gmail.com

Then, on October 9 and 10, you will be invited to take part in the GeoConference 2014 (www.geocongres2014.ca/en). The theme of the GeoConference 2014 is « *Revoir notre monde* » (Revisiting Our World), and is organized by the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), the Canadian Institute of Geomatics, the Ordre des arpenteurs-géomètres du Québec (Québec Order of Land Surveyors), and Laval University. It will be a unique opportunity to discuss, share ideas about the future of land management and Geomatics from a perspective of sustainable development, and this, in four sub-themes, quite related to Commission 7 hot topics:

- Smart cities and Spatially enabled society
- Land management
- Climate change and natural disasters
- Improving quality of life

Renowned speakers will be invited to present their views and to enable discussion around each of these sub-themes. Among them, Mrs Vanessa Lawrence, Secretary General of Ordnance Survey International and co-chair of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management initiative (UN-GGIM) and Mr. Carlo Ratti, professor and chair of the Massachusetts Institute of Technologies (MIT) Senseable City Lab and included in the Wired Magazine's 'Smart List 2012 of the 50 people who will change the world'. They will take part to the session on Smart Cities and Spatially enabled society. Mr. Gavin Adlington, the World Bank Land Program Team Leader and Chryssy Potsiou, president-elect of the FIG are among the speakers in the session on Land Management. In the session on Disaster Management and Climate Change, we will have the honour to welcome Mr. Edmond Mulet, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN) for Peacekeeping Operations. Mr. Mulet will talk about his experience as head of the UN Mission in Haiti following the devastating earthquake in 2010. Clarissa Augustinus, Head of the Land and Global Land Tool Network in UN Habitat will join the session on Improving the quality of living. With the addition of key speakers from FIG Commission 7 and FGF, the round table at the end of each of these sessions will be for sure, of high interest. Finally, an honorary doctorate should be awarded to Mr. Hernando de Soto, President of the Institute for Liberty and Democracy and one of the most influential economists in the world.

With the participation of such respected speakers and the involvement of major national and international organizations, this event promises to be as successful as the previous conference held in 2007, which attracted nearly 1,200 delegates from 40 countries.

Registration and Accommodation

FIG Commission 7 and FGF delegates are invited to **make their room reservation now** in order to benefit from advantageous rates negotiated (www.geocongres2014.ca/en/venue). This period of the year is the high touristic season in Quebec, namely because of the colourful trees all around. Numerous cruises are stopping by Quebec.

We suggest to FIG Commission 7 and FGF delegates to make their reservation at the Hotel Palace Royal but they can also select one of any other hotel listed. FIG Commission 7 delegates will be picked up from Quebec on 7 October 2014 at 8:00 to go to Montmorency Forest. This means, they should stay in Quebec the night before.

You can also register now. FIG Commission 7 delegates should **select the package GeoConference 2014 – Special FIG** which includes registration to all activities from Tuesday, October 7th to Friday, October 10th including the FIG Commission 7 annual meeting at the Montmorency Forest with transportation, access to conferences, exhibition, meetings, lunches, coffee breaks and 3 evening events (Get together, Champlain and Banquet). An exceptional offer not to be missed!

For those who would like to sleep in the Montmorency Forest¹ on Oct. 7th, please make the request by sending an email to figcom7@gmail.com. Considering the limited number of rooms, priority will be given to official delegates of FIG Commission 7² and FGF² and on the basis of first come, first serve.

As the General Assembly of the Fédération des géomètres francophones (FGF) will be in Quebec City on Oct. 8th at 16:00, a bus will leave the Montmorency Forest for Quebec City after lunch for those who wish to attend.

For those who require a visa to enter to Canada, we can prepare a personalized invitation letter upon request.

If you need an invitation letter or for any other question about this joint event, please contact us: figcom7@gmail.com

Please join us in Québec City in October 2014 and let's revisit our world together!

FIG CONFERENCE 2014, KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

The FIG Conference in Kuala Lumpur has been a great success thanks to our Malaysian colleagues and the FIG Office. Commission 7 contributed to a large extend to the quality of the program with 25 technical and special sessions. A big thank to all of the speakers, chairs, rapporteurs and organizers of special sessions. We would like to acknowledge the FIG Office staff for their much appreciated support.

FIG COMMISSION 7 ANNUAL MEETING AND INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON LAND POLICIES AND LAND GOVERNANCE, YAOUDE, CAMEROON

¹ For those registering for the night in the Montmorency Forest, we recommend that you make your reservation for your hotel room in Quebec for the duration of your stay. This way, you will bring just a light baggage for a one night sleep in the forest.

² Accommodation in Montmorency Forest will be free of charge for the official delegates of FIG and FGF. Number of rooms is limited.

The Annual meeting held in Yaoundé in October 2012 was combined with the General Assembly of the Fédération des géomètres francophones (Francophone Federation of Surveyors) and an International symposium on Land Policies and Land Governance. The symposium and workshop attracted about 150 colleagues. The proceedings of the symposium will be published, thanks to the support of GLTN / UN Habitat in both French and English. The presentations are available on the FIG website and on <http://fig2013-c7.jimdo.com>

Thank you to Claire Galpin, the Commission 7 vice-chair of Administration and Communications and to François Mazuyer and Bénédicte Fournier for having organized this event.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW FIG PRESIDENT-ELECT

Commission 7 team wishes to congratulate Mrs Chryssy Potsiou who was elected as president of FIG for the next term of the FIG Office. Mrs Potsiou is the first woman to access to the higher position of our international organization. It is a great achievement and we are very proud of her. Mrs Potsiou can count on the full support of the FIG Commission 7 team.