

Surveyors – Land Professionals, Adventurers, Pioneers and Now Entrepreneurs?

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SUMMARY

Surveyors are known as land professionals that provide expertise and knowledge in the cadastral and land management activities. They are a vital component in managing land and the base rock for creating the built environment. Over the years and in different countries the role of surveyors has changed and varied. As countries like Australia and Canada were settled and land opened up for new uses, surveyors were adventurers and pioneers.

This role continues in other countries in the world as land uses change. This paper explores how Surveyors developed particular personal and professional characteristics that have made them successful. It identifies possible differences between other professions and what this means for the profession in the field.

Increasingly within our rapidly changing world, surveyors are becoming change agents in many fields of their activity. Are surveyors becoming more entrepreneurial as a profession? What does this mean for the profession and what are the likely changes that will be seen in the future shape of the profession. The paper will identify trends over a number of years in the surveying profession and discuss future directions. It will identify impacts on how surveyors currently work and suggest some possibly models for introducing change.

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