



Media Release

London Engineer Celebrated for Exceptional Contributions to the Profession through Education and Government Outreach Efforts

Toronto – (April 27, 2015) – For his passion and contributions to education and government outreach programs, Oscar R. Avila, P.Eng., MBA, FEC, of London, has been named a Member of the Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO) Order of Honour. He was inducted into the Order at an April 24 gala in Toronto.

A long-time member of PEO's London Chapter, Avila chaired it from 2007 to 2009, during which it flourished in membership growth and positive organizational changes.

During his time chairing the chapter's Education Outreach Committee, Avila implemented and consolidated activities that encourage students to learn more about the profession and to consider a career in engineering. Many of these initiatives stem from the chapter's involvement in National Engineering Month, including its Mathletics competition, career fair participation, presentations to local high school students and the connecting of local industry with the surrounding engineering community.

A pioneer in the chapter's government outreach efforts, Avila chaired its Government Liaison Program committee, establishing strong relationships with local elected officials. In 2011, he successfully led the committee's staging of the chapter's first all-candidates debate, which raised the profile of engineering locally and the issues affecting the profession.

Oscar says he appreciates the opportunities he's been given to help young minds pursue careers in engineering through his chapter's education outreach initiatives, as well as the chances to inform government and members of his community about how engineers apply technology to enhance the quality of life for society.

The Order of Honour pays tribute to individuals who have rendered conspicuous service to the engineering profession. The rank of Member is bestowed upon those who have served the profession by contributing substantially to its operation or improvement in its status.

About Professional Engineers Ontario

Through the *Professional Engineers Act*, PEO governs over 83,000 licence and certificate holders and regulates professional engineering in Ontario to serve and protect the public. Professional engineering safeguards life, health, property, economic interests, the public welfare and the environment. Professional engineers can be identified by the P.Eng. after their names.

-30-

For additional information or interviews, please contact:

David Smith, Manager, Communications
Tel: 416-840-1068; 800-339-3716, ext.1068
Cell: 416-458-4140
Email: dsmith@peo.on.ca