



Government Liaison Program (GLP) Weekly

July 25, 2014



PEO MANAGER MEETS PREMIER FOLLOWING TABLING OF NEW BUDGET

A number of representatives from the engineering community attended the Ontario budget unveiling on July 14 in Toronto. From left to right: Jeannette Chau, P.Eng., Manager of Student and Government Liaison Programs, Lee Weissling, Ontario Society of Professional Engineers Manager of Policy and Government Relations, Kathryn McGarry MPP (Cambridge) Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Transportation, Shelly Jamieson, former Secretary of Cabinet, David Zurawel, Manager of Stakeholder Relations for Consulting Engineers of Ontario and former Executive Assistant to David Zimmer MPP. The group had an opportunity to meet a number of MPPs and Ministers after the budget was tabled. Ms. Chau also had a chance to meet Premier Kathleen Wynne MPP (Don Valley West) in her office. For more on this story see page 2.

Through the *Professional Engineers Act*, PEO governs over 80,000 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.

Past issues are available on the PEO Government Liaison Program website at www.glp.peo.on.ca

To sign up for this publication email: glpweekly@peo.on.ca

*Deadline for all submissions is the Thursday of the week prior to publication. Next issue will be published on August 1, 2014.

Top Stories This Week

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Breaking News

PEO MANAGER MEETS PREMIER FOLLOWING TABLING OF NEW BUDGET

Finance Minister **Charles Sousa** MPP (Mississauga South) tabled the Ontario budget in the Legislature on July 14 in Toronto. It was very similar to the budget introduced on May 1, which prompted the June 12 election.

The engineering community was well represented at the tabling of the budget with **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng., PEO Manager of Student and Government Liaison Programs, **Lee Weissling**, Ontario Society of Professional Engineers, Manager of Policy and Government Relations and **David Zurawel**, Manager of Stakeholder Relations for Consulting Engineers of Ontario all in attendance. PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown** was also in attendance.



PEO Manager of Student and Government Liaison Programs Jeannette Chau, P.Eng., (left) had an opportunity to meet Premier Kathleen Wynne (centre) following the budget announcement in the Legislature on July 14. With her in the picture is grade five student Aria Title who was visiting the Legislature for the first time.

Mr. Brown had a chance to speak with **Andrew Bevan**, the Premier's Principal Secretary about PEO issues regarding the building code.

MINISTRY RESPONDS TO PEO REGARDING BUILDING CODE CONCERNS

PEO has received a letter from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing **Ted McMeekin** MPP (Ancaster-Dundas-Flamborough-Westdale) regarding concerns announced in the budget that could infringe on PEO's jurisdiction over the practice of engineering.

Minister McMeekin in the letter to PEO President **Dave Adams**, P.Eng., said that the proposed amendments, "would not impact PEO's jurisdiction to regulate PEO licencees and are not intended to allocate design activities between PEO licencees and architects." The full letter is copied below:

Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing

Office of the Minister

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Ontario

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Mr. J. David Adams
Professional Engineers of Ontario
101-40 Sheppard Avenue West
Toronto ON M2N 6K9

Dear Mr. David Adams,

Thank you for your letter of July 9, 2014 regarding the proposed amendments to the Building Code Act, 1992 relating to the professional design of buildings. I am pleased to be able to respond to you and provide clarification on this issue.

Your letter raises concerns that the proposed amendments would, if re-introduced and approved by the Legislature, encroach on the jurisdiction of Professional Engineers Ontario ("PEO") to govern the practice of PEO licensees under the Professional Engineers Act, and of the Ontario Association of Architects ("OAA") to govern the practice of architects under the Architects Act. Let me assure you that this is not the case.

As you know, one of the key purposes of the Building Code Act, 1992 and the Building Code is to enhance public safety. This is also a key purpose of both the Professional Engineers Act and the Architects Act. Since these statutes and regulations each address different aspects of the design of buildings and the building industry, it is necessary that they work cohesively and consistently to help ensure that buildings in Ontario are designed and constructed in a manner that enhances public safety.

The proposed amendments to the Building Code Act, 1992 are intended to enable chief building officials to refuse to issue permits for the construction or demolition of a building that has not been designed by an appropriate professional. Under the current subsection 8 (2) of the Act, a chief building official is required to issue a building permit unless any of the listed circumstances apply. The proposed new clause 8 (2) (b.1) would add as a listed circumstance situations where the Architects Act or the Professional Engineers Act requires that the proposed construction of a building be designed by a professional engineer or an architect or a combination of both, and the proposed construction is not so designed. This would help to ensure that building permits are issued for construction of certain buildings only where they have been designed by a qualified professional as defined in the Professional Engineers Act and the Architects Act.

The proposed amendments would not impact PEO's jurisdiction to regulate PEO licensees and are not intended to allocate design activities between PEO licensees and architects. Rather, the proposed amendments would refer specifically to the allocation of design activities as set out in the Professional Engineers Act and Architects Act. The proposed amendments are intended to complement the Professional Engineers Act and Architects Act.

Our intent is that any question that a chief building official has regarding whether a particular building is required to be designed by a PEO licensee or architect under the Professional Engineers Act or Architects Act, would be referred to PEO and/or OAA. As per the current process, PEO and OAA may, in some cases, refer those questions to the Joint Practice Board.

I understand that extensive consultation on this matter occurred in 2010 and 2011 between my Ministry, PEO, OAA and the Ontario Building Officials Association. Our records indicate that input was received from the Registrar of PEO at that time. It is my understanding that support was provided at that time from stakeholders for the policy content reflected in the proposed amendments to the Building Code Act, 1992. In addition, at that time, my Ministry indicated that any further technical requirements could be addressed through regulatory amendments to the Building Code. We remain committed to working with PEO to review any regulatory amendments to the Building Code that may be required.

I would be pleased to have staff continue to work with you as we proceed to move forward with any potential regulatory changes to help address any remaining questions or concerns. Please feel free to have your staff contact Brenda Lewis, Director, Building and Development Branch to have further conversations.

Thank you for sending me your concerns.

Best regards,



Ted McMeekin
Minister

cc: Hon. Madeleine Meilleur, MPP, Attorney General
Hon. Charles Sousa, MPP, Minister of Finance
J. William Birdsell, President, Ontario Association of Architects
Daniel J. Young, M. Eng., President and Chair, Ontario Society of Professional Engineers
Michael Seiling, CBCO, President, Ontario Building Officials Association
David Bannister, P. Eng., Chair, Consulting Engineers Ontario
Arlene Gregoire, Chair, LMCBO

CANADA'S SCIENCE MINISTER AND MPS MEET WITH ENGINEERING REPRESENTATIVES AT PEO

Thirteen representatives of PEO, Ontario Society of Professional Engineers and Consulting Engineers of Ontario met on July 10 at PEO with **Gary Goodyear**, Canada's Minister of State for Science and Technology and MP for Cambridge-North Dumfries.



Canada's Science Minister Gary Goodyear MP (Cambridge-North Dumfries) (sixth from left) participated in an information session at PEO Headquarters with engineering representatives on July 10. With him in the photo from left to right are: Willowdale MP Chungsen Leung, Parliamentary Secretary for Multiculturalism; Natasha Pender, Vice-President of the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario; Barry Steinberg, P.Eng., CEO of the Consulting Engineers of Ontario; Jeannette Chau, P.Eng., PEO Manager of Student and Government Liaison Programs; Lee Weissling, Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE) Manager of Policy and Government Relations; Nanda Lwin, P.Eng., GLP Chair of PEO's Willowdale-Thornhill Chapter; Don Valley East MP Joe Daniel; Paul Acchione, P.Eng., Past-President OSPE; Gerard McDonald, P.Eng., PEO Registrar; Scarborough GLP Chair Narayana Asogan, P. Eng.; and PEO Chapter Manager Matthew Ng., P.Eng.

The group discussed federal government economic initiatives in southern Ontario among other issues.

Government participants in the session included Willowdale MP **Chungsen Leung**, Parliamentary Secretary for Multiculturalism, Don Valley East MP **Joe Daniel** and **Natasha Pender**, Vice-President of the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario. Ms. Pender has been with the federal government for over 10 years and prior to that worked for the Ontario government.

Mr. Goodyear and Ms. Pender did presentations.

PEO Registrar **Gerard McDonald**, P.Eng., hosted the session. PEO Chapter representatives were Willowdale-Thornhill GLP Chair **Nanda Lwin**, P. Eng and Scarborough GLP Chair **Narayana Asogan**, P. Eng.

Also representing PEO were Deputy Registrar for Tribunals and Regulatory Affairs **Johnny Zuccon**, P. Eng, Manager of Student and Government Liaison Programs **Jeannette Chau**, P. Eng, Chapter Manager **Matt Ng**, P. Eng, and Coordinator **Yulia Milashchenko**, Engineering Dimensions Associate Editors **Mike Mastromatteo** and **Nicole Axworthy** and PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown**.

Representing Consulting Engineers of Ontario was CEO **Barry Steinberg**, P. Eng, who is also chair of the PEO Government Liaison Committee.

Representing the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers were Past-President **Paul Acchione**, P. Eng and Manager of Policy and Government Relations, **Lee Weissling**.

There was a wide ranging discussion on issues such as the federal government's role in the Ring of Fire, transportation funding, IPO ownership, role of pure sciences and coordination with provincial initiatives.

For information on the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario, visit FedDevOntario.gc.ca or call 1-866-593-5505.

FOUR ENGINEERS AND EIT RUNNING IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Four Engineers and an EIT are running in races to win municipal council seats in the October 27 elections.



Andrew Dowie, P.Eng.

Andrew Dowie, P.Eng., who is PEO's Windsor-Essex Chapter Chair is running in Tecumseh, **Dave Andre**, P.Eng., will seek the seat in Toronto-Danforth and **Ron Starr**, P.Eng., is running for re-election in Mississauga. **Ghada Melek** is an EIT also running for a council seat in Mississauga.

Part of PEO's Government Liaison mandate is to encourage engineers to get more involved in public affairs and encourage more engineers to run for public office.

"My work experience as an engineer and in government administration has provided me the skills, knowledge and experience to understand how municipal services are delivered. I'd like to put these to great use to make my neighbourhood and my community an even better place."

Mr. Dowie is a long-time PEO volunteer who is also a former policy and economic development officer in the Windsor Mayor's office. He was the first Chapter representative on the PEO Government Liaison Committee. Learn more about Mr. Dowie at <http://www.andrewdowie.ca/>.



Guy Boone, P.Eng.

Guy Boone, P.Eng., is an electrical engineer and an active PEO volunteer in the Ottawa Chapter. He is running for a seat in Ottawa's Ward 20.

He is currently a safety advisory at SafetyGuy Consulting and is focusing his campaign on improved health and safety in Ottawa. To connect with Guy follow him on twitter at:

<https://twitter.com/GuyBoone>.



Dave Andre, P.Eng.

Dave Andre, P.Eng., a civil engineer, will seek a seat in Toronto-Danforth, Ward 29, in the upcoming Toronto election.

He works as a technical specialist in the building construction and has already secured endorsements from former federal cabinet minister Maria Minna, the former MP for the riding and **Case Ootes**, Councillor for Ward 29 Toronto – Danforth, 1998-2010. Learn more at his website: <http://www.votedaveandre.com/>.



Ron Starr, P.Eng.

Ron Starr, P.Eng., is running for re-election in Mississauga. He was elected in 2010 to Council to represent Ward 6. He also served as Ward 7 Councillor for the City of Mississauga and Region of Peel between the years of 1978 – 1980.

For more information on Mr. Starr go to: <http://www.ronstarr.ca/>.



Ghada Melek, EIT

Ghada Melek is an EIT who is running for a council seat in Ward 6 of Mississauga. She studied Mechanical Engineering at the University of Windsor.

Ms. Melek held a community barbeque on July 13 in the riding. It was attended by over 200 residents.

For more information on Ms. Melek's campaign go to: www.ghadamelek.ca.

PEO wishes all engineering candidates good luck in the upcoming election and encourages any others running to provide us with campaign details.

Events Attended

PEO PRESIDENT-ELECT ATTENDS COMMUNITY EVENT WITH MPP



PEO President-Elect **Thomas Chong** P.Eng., attended a community event hosted by **Soo Wong** MPP (Scarborough-Agincourt) on July 12.

The two discussed the need to proclaim the Repeal of Industrial Exception along with other current affairs.

PEO President-Elect Thomas Chong, P.Eng., with Soo Wong MPP (Scarborough-Agincourt) on July 12 in Scarborough.

GLP CHAIR MEETS WITH NEW MPP AND PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANT

PEO Grand River Chapter GLP Chair **Gabe Tse**, P.Eng., met with **Daiene Vernile** MPP (Kitchener Centre) Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Research and Innovation on July 11 in the riding.



PEO Grand River Chapter GLP Chair Gabe Tse, P.Eng with Daiene Vernile MPP (Kitchener Centre) and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Research and Innovation and Research at their July 11 meeting in Kitchener.

Ms. Vernile was a long time CTV journalist and TV producer before entering politics. Mr. Tse is the newest Chapter representative for the PEO Government Liaison Program.

Mr. Tse provided an overview of the PEO Government Liaison Program and its goals. Ms. Vernile was very receptive and the two agreed to co-host a new style of town hall meeting that draws on social media and webinar technology in addition to a live audience.

The town hall topic will be the sustainability of infrastructure investments in Ontario. It is expected that the event will be held in the fall.

Work in progress

PEO PRESIDENT TO PARTICIPATE IN AUG 20 RECEPTION WITH PREMIER



Dave Adams, P.Eng

Premier **Kathleen Wynne** MPP (Don Valley West) will host her annual summer patio reception on August 20 in Toronto. PEO President **David Adams**, P.Eng., is scheduled to attend as is new OSPE CEO **Sandro Perruzza**, Consulting Engineers of Ontario CEO **Barry Steinberg**, P.Eng., and President of the Professional Engineers Government of Ontario **Ping Wu**, P.Eng.

The event attracts Cabinet Ministers and Parliamentary Assistants and is a great opportunity for stakeholders to interact with MPPs. With the new cabinet just named on July 2, PEO looks forward to engaging with Ministers in their new portfolios.

President Adams is looking forward to speaking with the Premier about the Ontario Building Code, the Elliott Lake Inquiry and other regulatory issues.

EASTERN REGION GLP ACADEMY TENTATIVELY BOOKED FOR NOVEMBER 15 IN BELLEVILLE

PEO has tentatively booked the GLP Eastern Region Academy and Congress for November 15 in Belleville.



Belleville

Academy and Congresses are held in each region of the province every year to train and engage local PEO GLP volunteers on events for the year ahead.

More details will be made available for this event in the coming weeks.

Upcoming Events

August 7 - Premier **Kathleen Wynne** MPP (Don Valley West) will attend the Ontario Liberal Women's Caucus Golf Tournament at King's Riding Golf Club, 14700 Bathurst St., King City. Registration is at 7 a.m., Shotgun start is at 8:30 a.m. followed by a reception at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$2,400 for a foursome. For more information, contact Suaad Ali at 416-260-1608 ext. 240 or sali@ontarioliberal.ca.

August 12 – Members of the Ontario Liberal Caucus and Premier **Kathleen Wynne** MPP (Don Valley West) will attend a Golf Tournament at Eagle Creek Golf Club, 109 Royal Troon, Dunrobin. Registration is at 8 a.m., Shotgun start is at 9 a.m., followed by a reception at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$2,600 for a foursome. For more information, contact Ivy-Lea Lunau at 613-422-264 or ilunau@ontarioliberal.ca.

August 16 – PC MPP **Steve Clark** (Leeds-Grenville) will host the 'Afternoon in the Islands,' at the Glen House Resort, 409 1000 Islands Pkwy., Gananoque. Tickets are \$150 each, RSVP is recommended. For more information or to RSVP, visit <https://secure.ontariopc.com/Events/586>.

August 20 – Premier **Kathleen Wynne** MPP (Don Valley West) will host the Annual Patio Party, sponsored by the Ontario Liberal Fund. Tickets are \$500 each, RSVP is recommended. For more information or to RSVP, contact Howard Brown at 416-844-1180 or howard@brown-cohen.com.

NEW! August 20- Yvan Baker MPP (Etobicoke Centre) will host an Evening on the Lake, at the Garden by the Lake, 2607 Lake Shore Blvd W. Tickets are \$125. RSVP is recommended. For more information please contact contactyvanbaker@gmail.com or visit <http://www.ontarioliberal.ca/GetInvolved/>.

NEW! August 25 - Norm Miller MPP (Parry Sound –Muskoka) will host the Annual Norm Miller Golf Day, at Deerhurst Highlands Golf Course, 1235 Deerhurst Dr., Huntsville. Registrations begins at 10:30 am. Tickets are \$250 each. RSVP is recommended. For more information email normmiller.pc@gmail.com.

September 22 – Minister of Finance **Charles Sousa** MPP (Mississauga South) will Chair a Golf Tournament at Rattlesnake Point Golf Club, 5407 Regional Road 25, Milton. Members of the Ontario Liberal Caucus and Premier **Kathleen Wynne** MPP (Don Valley West) will attend. Registration starts at 7 a.m., Shotgun start is at 8:30 a.m., followed by a reception at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$3,200 for a foursome. For more information, contact Suaad Ali at 416-260-1608 ext. 240 or sali@ontarioliberal.ca.

If you have any comments, additions, or questions, please do not hesitate to call or email:

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