



## Government Liaison Program (GLP) Weekly July 31, 2015



### ENGINEERS PARTICIPATE IN RECEPTION FOR FORMER PEO PRESIDENT AND FEDERAL NDP LEADER

PEO 2010-2011 President **Diane Freeman**, P.Eng., federal NDP candidate for Waterloo (second from left), hosted a reception for federal NDP Leader **Thomas Mulcair** MP (Outremont) (second from right) in Waterloo on July 24. With them in the photo are **Helen Wojcinski**, P.Eng., Ontario Society of Professional Engineers Director, **Catherine Mulcair** and **Nancy Hill**, P.Eng., PEO Awards Chair and past presidential candidate.

For more on this story, see page 6.

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](http://www.glp.peo.on.ca).

\*Deadline for all submissions is the Thursday of the week prior to publication. Next issue will be published on August 7, 2015.

# TOP STORIES THIS WEEK

1. PEO COUNCILLOR MEETS WITH FEDERAL MINISTER
2. ENGINEERING PROFESSOR AWARDED GRANT FROM THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH COUNCIL
3. CONSULTING ENGINEERS ONTARIO CEO CALLS FOR PARTNERSHIP TO FIX INFRASTRUCTURE DEFICIT
4. UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO STUDENTS CREATE SELF-DRIVING GOLF CART
5. PEO GLP EASTERN REGION ACADEMY AND CONGRESS TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 3
6. PEO SUDBURY CHAPTER CONFIRMS TAKE YOUR MPP TO WORK DAY

## BREAKING NEWS

### PEO COUNCILLOR MEETS WITH FEDERAL MINISTER

Longtime PEO Councillor and London Chapter Executive **Rakesh Shreewastav**, P.Eng., met with the Minister of State (Science and Technology) **Ed Holder** MP (London West) in the Minister's office on July 24.

Mr. Shreewastav told the *GLP Weekly* that "the discussion focused on Engineers Canada's recent labor market study related to the future of engineering positions and science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) related policies."

Mr. Holder announced on March 18 that the federal government will be investing \$10.9 million per year in activities to help youth develop the skills they need for careers in STEM field.

Mr. Shreewastav, is also a Director for Engineers Canada in Ontario.

For the full story, see: <http://bit.ly/1bjXL4I>.



PEO Councillor **Rakesh Shreewastav**, P.Eng., met with the Minister of State (Science and Technology) **Ed Holder** MP (London West) on July 24.

### CONSULTING ENGINEERS ONTARIO CEO CALLS FOR PARTNERSHIP TO FIX INFRASTRUCTURE DEFICIT



CEO of Consulting Engineers Ontario (CEO) **Barry Steinberg**, P.Eng.

CEO of Consulting Engineers Ontario (CEO) **Barry Steinberg**, P.Eng., was published in an op-ed article in the Hamilton Spectator on July 23.

He argued the need for the federal and the provincial governments to work together to combat the infrastructure deficit in Canada.

"Ontario is demonstrating its strong determination to resolve its infrastructure deficit," he said. "Ottawa must now step up, do the responsible thing and find a way to meet the province and its communities for its fair share. Ottawa's commitment to creating a partnership with Ontario will not only foster provincial success, but also greater economic activity and growth for the entire country."

For more on this story, click here: <http://bit.ly/1ewHvhu>.

## UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO STUDENTS CREATE SELF-DRIVING GOLF CART



University of Waterloo engineering students **Michael Skupien** and **Alex Rodrigues** won a \$35,000 award from Velocity.  
Photo credit: Varden Labs

Two University of Waterloo engineering students have designed and built a self-driving cart that was featured on CTV National News on July 26.

**Alex Rodrigues** and **Michael Skupien** founded Varden Labs in May. Since then, they have designed an autonomous (driverless) vehicle that can travel up to 20 kilometres per hour. It uses a series of motion detecting lasers and rooftop GPS system to steer clear of potential obstacles.

The university's start-up incubator, Velocity, has awarded them a \$35,000 grant for their start-up.

This project is designed to reduce the burden of hiring drivers at corporate campuses, retirement communities and resorts. Mr. Rodrigues and Mr. Skupien developed the technology to move people around in private, low-speed environments.

For more on this story, click here: <http://bit.ly/1GXMajp>.

## ENGINEERING PROFESSOR AWARDED GRANT FROM THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH COUNCIL



University of Toronto engineering Professor **Emma Master**, P.Eng.  
Photo Credit: Roberta Baker

University of Toronto engineering Professor **Emma Master**, P.Eng., has been awarded a \$2.8 million grant from the European Research Council.

Ms. Master is searching for natural enzymes with the potential to transform plant material from forestry and agricultural waste into greener alternatives.

For more on this story, click here: <http://bit.ly/1gM600Q>.

# EVENTS ATTENDED

## PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANT HOSTS ANNUAL COMMUNITY EVENT

**Mike Colle** MPP (Eglinton- Lawrence), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Labour, hosted his annual community BBQ on July 23 at the Columbus Community Centre in Toronto.

PEO West Toronto Chapter GLP Chair **Parvin Marzban**, P.Eng., attended the event. Ms. Marzban spoke to Mr. Colle and other community members who were present.

Mr. Colle has been actively involved with PEO in the past, including attending a Take Your MPP to Work Day last year. When he served as the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, he worked closely with PEO when introducing the *Fair Access to Regulated Professions Act*.

Also participating was PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown**.



**Mike Colle** MPP (Eglinton- Lawrence), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Labour, hosted his annual community BBQ on July 23 in Toronto. With him in the photo is PEO West Toronto Chapter GLP Chair **Parvin Marzban**, P.Eng.

## ENGINEERS PARTICIPATE IN EVENT WITH PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANT



**Bas Balkissoon** MPP (Scarborough-Rouge River), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services (left photo, left and right photo, right), hosted his annual community BBQ on July 19. Also attending the event were PEO Scarborough Chapter GLP Committee Members **Uthayan Thurairajah**, P.Eng., (left photo, right) and **Narayana Asogan**, P.Eng., (right photo, left).

**Bas Balkissoon** MPP (Scarborough-Rouge River), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, hosted his annual community BBQ at the Malvern Town Centre on July 19.

Attending the event were PEO Scarborough Chapter GLP Committee Members **Uthayan Thurairajah**, P.Eng., and **Narayana Asogan**, P.Eng.

Mr. Balkissoon has worked closely with PEO, the Scarborough Chapter and the engineering community as a whole. He was a special guest at PEO's 2015 Annual Order of Honour Awards Gala on April 24 and is a long time supporter of the PEO Scarborough Chapter.

## ENGINEER AND POLITICIANS FROM ALL THREE LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT ATTEND CLIMATE CHANGE TRAINING



PEO Manager of Student and Government Liaison Programs **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng., (left photo, right and right photo, right) attended the Climate Reality Leadership Corps training in Toronto from July 9 to 10. Also participating in the event were Environment and Climate Change Minister **Glen Murray** MPP (Toronto Centre) (left photo, left) and his Parliamentary Assistant **Amrit Mangat** MPP (Mississauga-Brampton South) (right photo, left).



Climate Reality Leadership Corps training took place in Toronto from July 9 to 10 with special guests Premier **Kathleen Wynne** MPP (Don Valley West) (right) and former U.S. Vice President **Al Gore** (left).

The Climate Reality Leadership Corps training took place in Toronto from July 9 to 10.

The event brought together a group of committed individuals, focused on understanding the impacts of climate change and implementing solutions to the climate crisis.

Participating in the event were former U.S. Vice President **Al Gore**, Premier **Kathleen Wynne** MPP (Don Valley West), Minister of the Environment and Climate Change **Glen Murray** MPP (Toronto Centre) and his Parliamentary Assistant **Amrit Mangat** MPP (Mississauga-Brampton South).

Undertaking training was PEO Manager of Student and Government Liaison Programs **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng.

## PEO PRESIDENT PARTICIPATES IN AMERICAN NATIONAL SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS ANNUAL MEETING

PEO President **Thomas Chong**, P.Eng., attended the “Future of the Professional Engineer” 2015 Annual Meeting and Conferences in Seattle from July 15 to 19. It was hosted by the American National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE).

Mr. Chong represented PEO in addressing the House of Delegates, consisting mostly of the Presidents of Societies of Professional Engineers from across the United States. Also attending were Engineers Canada CEO **Kim Allen**, P.Eng., Engineers Canada President **Digvir Jayas**, P.Eng., **Bart Korman**, P.E., Missouri House of Representative (District 42), and Japan Society of Professional Engineers President **Takeya Kawamura**, P.E.

Mr. Chong told the *GLP Weekly* that his speech was well received. The event provided an opportunity to connect with American counterparts and to exchange ideas with the common goal of advancing the engineering profession and enhancing the value of licensure.

Almost 400 delegates attended the meeting.



PEO President **Thomas Chong**, P.Eng., attended the “Future of the Professional Engineer” 2015 Annual Meeting and Conferences hosted by the American National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) in Seattle from July 15 to 19.

## ENGINEERS PARTICIPATE IN RECEPTION FOR FORMER PEO PRESIDENT AND FEDERAL NDP LEADER



PEO Past President and Waterloo City Councillor **Diane Freeman**, P.Eng., (left) hosted a reception for federal NDP Leader **Thomas Mulcair** MP (Outremont) (right) in Waterloo on July 24.

PEO 2010-2011 President **Diane Freeman**, P.Eng., federal NDP candidate for Waterloo, hosted a reception for federal NDP Leader **Thomas Mulcair** MP (Outremont) in Waterloo on July 24.

A number of community leaders attended as well as engineers **Helen Wojcinski**, P.Eng., and **Nancy Hill**, P.Eng. Ms. Wojcinski is also a Director of Ontario Society of Professional Engineers. Ms. Hill is the PEO Awards Chair and past presidential candidate.

Mr. Mulcair said he’s been “reluctant to call anyone a star candidate,” however he felt “Ms. Freeman was one.”

Ms. Freeman is also a three-term Waterloo City Councillor. She was proclaimed for the federal NDP candidate for Waterloo on May 28.

She will be running against Conservative incumbent **Peter Braid** MP (Waterloo), Parliamentary Secretary for Infrastructure and Communities, and Liberal candidate **Bardish Chagger**.

Also participating was PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown**.

# WORK IN PROGRESS

## PEO GLP EASTERN REGION ACADEMY AND CONGRESS TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 3



PEO Ottawa Chapter GLP Chair **Hubert Mamba**, EIT, will host the GLP Eastern Region Academy and Congress.

PEO has selected the date for its GLP Eastern Region Academy and Congress.

It will be hosted by the PEO Ottawa Chapter and will be held in Ottawa on October 3. PEO Ottawa Chapter GLP Chair **Hubert Mamba**, EIT, will be hosting the event.

Previous GLP Academies and Congresses have been held in Hamilton, Windsor, London, Cambridge, Belleville, Kingston, Thousand Islands, Sudbury, Thunder Bay, Timmins and Blue Mountain.



## PEO SUDBURY CHAPTER CONFIRMS TAKE YOUR MPP TO WORK DAY

PEO Sudbury Chapter will participate in its first Take Your MPP to Work Day with **France G elinas** MPP (Nickel Belt), NDP Aboriginal Affairs, Francophone Affairs and Health and Long-Term Care Critic on September 11.

This event will be held at SNOLAB, an underground laboratory specializing in astroparticle physics in the Vale Creighton Mine. It opened in May 2012 and was constructed for the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO) solar neutrino experiment.

This will be the eighth Take Your MPP to Work Day. Previous MPP participants include Labour Minister **Kevin Flynn** MPP (Oakville), **Cindy Forster** MPP (Welland), NDP Labour Critic, **Bob Bailey** MPP (Sarnia-Lambton), PC Natural Resources Critic, **Mike Colle** MPP (Eglinton-Lawrence), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Labour, **Teresa Armstrong** MPP (London-Fanshawe), NDP Critic for Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade and Seniors' Affairs, **Arthur Potts** MPP (Beaches-East York), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, **Indira Naidoo-Harris** MPP (Halton), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, and **Yvan Baker** MPP (Etobicoke Centre), Parliamentary Assistant to the President of the Treasury Board.



**France G elinas**  
MPP (Nickel Belt)

All MPPs toured companies in their ridings to see and understand the important work that professional engineers do in their communities. Any MPP interested in participating in such an event is welcome to contact PEO Manager of Student and Government Liaison Programs **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng., at [jchau@peo.on.ca](mailto:jchau@peo.on.ca).

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**NEW! August 4** - Ontario PC Party members will host the South Central Region Appreciation BBQ at The Landing Restaurant, Fifty Point Conservation Area, 1479 Baseline Rd., Stoney Creek, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. There is no cost to attend. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/1KtJbXM>.

**August 7-9** – The Couchiching Institute for Public Affairs Annual Conference will be held at the YMCA Geneva Park Conference Centre, Orillia. Rates are \$932.25 each for two nights and \$706.25 for one night. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/1FmUteu>.

**August 9** - Associate Minister of Finance **Mitzie Hunter** MPP (Scarborough-Guildwood) will host her Annual Summer Fun Fest at Morningside Park, 390 Morningside Ave., from 12 to 3 p.m. There is no cost to attend. For more information, contact [mhunter.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:mhunter.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org).

**August 9** - **Mark Adler** MP (York Centre) is hosting his annual Community BBQ at Earl Bales Park, Picnic Site 3, 4169 Bathurst St. from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. There is no cost to attend. For more information, contact 416- 638-3700 or by [mark.adler@parl.gc.ca](mailto:mark.adler@parl.gc.ca).

**August 11** - NDP House Leader **Gilles Bisson** MPP (Timmins-James Bay) will host his Famous Salmon Fishing Fundraiser at Bluffers Park Marina, 7 Brimley St. South, starting at 12 p.m. Tickets are \$600 each. For more information, contact [GBisson@ndp.on.ca](mailto:GBisson@ndp.on.ca).

**August 12** - **Yvan Baker** MPP (Etobicoke Centre), Parliamentary Assistant to the President of the Treasury Board will host a BBQ to celebrate the anniversary of his election victory at 2607 Lake Shore Blvd. West starting at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$125 each. For more information, contact [myroslava@rogers.com](mailto:myroslava@rogers.com).

**August 12** – Former Premier **Mike Harris** will host the PC Leader’s GTA Golf Classic with PC Leader **Patrick Brown** at ClubLink’s The Country Club, 20 Lloyd St., Woodbridge, from 10:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$1,500 each. For more information, contact Van Tran at 416-848-8156 or by [rsvp@ontariopc.com](mailto:rsvp@ontariopc.com).

**NEW! August 15** - PC Leader **Patrick Brown** will host a Breakfast Meet and Greet at the Royal Canadian Legion Orleans, 800 Taylor Creek Rd., Orleans, from 9 to 11 a.m. Tickets are \$25 each. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/1pxJdl>.

**NEW! August 15** - Ontario PC Party members will host the Ottawa Region Appreciation BBQ with PC Leader **Patrick Brown** at the Ottawa Conference and Event Centre, 200 Coventry Rd., Ottawa, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. There is no cost to attend. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/1MvRUsT>.

**August 15** – PC House Leader **Steve Clark** MPP (Leeds-Grenville) hosts the 29th Annual “Afternoon in the Islands” at Glen House Resort, 1000 Islands Parkway from 3 to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$150 each. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/1HXu486> or contact Rob Horton at 613-34503436 or Tim Sutton at 613-258-1724.

**August 19** – **Lisa MacLeod** MPP (Nepean-Carleton), PC Critic for President of the Treasury Board is hosting her 10th Annual Golf Classic and Maritime Surf & Turf at the Emerald Links Golf and Country Club, 6357 Emerald Links Dr., Greely from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$200 each. For more information, contact Kayla Fernet at [lisa@lisamacleod.ca](mailto:lisa@lisamacleod.ca).

**NEW! August 20** - Ontario Women’s Liberal Commission will host a garden party in support of the Judy LaMarsh Fund in Toronto from 6 to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$300 each. For more information contact Lynne Steele at [owlc@lpco.ca](mailto:owlc@lpco.ca).

**August 25** – Ontario Liberal Party’s 10th Annual Patio Party with Premier **Kathleen Wynne** MPP (Don Valley West) at The One Eight, 55 Bloor St. West, Manulife Centre, 51st Floor from 6 to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$500 each. For more information, contact Suaad Ali at 416-260-1608 ext. 240 or by [sali@ontarioliberal.ca](mailto:sali@ontarioliberal.ca).



# UPCOMING EVENTS

**NEW! August 26 - John Fraser** MPP (Ottawa South), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care (Health), will host his 2nd Annual Blues, Brews & BBQ Fundraiser with 24th Premier of Ontario **Dalton McGuinty** at 16 Malcolm Pl., Ottawa from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$250 each. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/1IraKky> or contact Ivy-Lee Lunau at 613-422-2645, or by [events@ospla.ca](mailto:events@ospla.ca).

**NEW! August 30** - Ontario PC Party members will host the Toronto Region Appreciation BBQ at Barbara Hall Park, 519 Church St., Toronto, from 12 to 2 p.m. There is no cost to attend. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/1LNyQVa>.

**August 31 – Norm Miller** MPP (Parry Sound-Muskoka), PC Critic of Aboriginal Affairs, and Northern Development and Mines (Ring of Fire Issues), will host his annual golf day at Rocky Crest Golf Resort, 20 Barnwood Dr., Mactier, at 10:30 a.m. Golf, cart and dinner tickets are \$250 each, or \$1,000 per foursome. Single dinner tickets are \$50 each. For more information, contact [normmiller.pc@gmail.com](mailto:normmiller.pc@gmail.com).

**NEW! September 10** - Ontario PC Party members will host the Central West Region Appreciation BBQ at Conestoga Place, 110 Manitou Dr., Kitchener, from 6 to 8 p.m. There is no cost to attend. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/1Owkcks>.

**NEW! September 10 - Nancy Hill**, P.Eng., and **Helen Wojcinski**, P.Eng., will host the “Help Send the First Woman P.Eng. to the House of Commons” fundraiser for PEO Past President and Waterloo City Councillor **Diane Freeman**, P.Eng., at Wildcraft Grill Bar, 425 King St. North, Waterloo from 6 to 9 p.m. Tickets are \$200 each. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/1VJ5fRw>.

**NEW! September 17** – Healthy Transport Consulting will host the Future of the Car symposium with the Minister of Transportation **Steven Del Duca** MPP (Vaughan) at the Sheraton Airport Hotel, 123 Queen St. West from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Early bird tickets are \$395 until August 17. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/1fuaSC3>.

**September 19 – Cindy Forster** MPP (Welland) NDP Labour Critic is hosting a celebration of 40 years of NDP service in the riding of Welland with NDP Leader **Andrea Horwath** MPP (Hamilton Centre) and Deputy Government House Leader **Jim Bradley** MPP (St. Catharines) at the Canadian Croatian National Home, 6 Broadway Ave, Welland starting at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$100 each. For more information, call Andy Roy at 905-735-4302 or by [aroy4@cogeco.ca](mailto:aroy4@cogeco.ca).

**September 30** – Ottawa-Orléans Provincial Liberal Association and **Marie-France Lalonde** MPP (Ottawa-Orléans) is hosting an evening reception with Attorney General **Madeleine Meilleur** MPP (Ottawa-Vanier) at Hart House, University of Toronto from 6 to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$500 each. For more information, contact at 416-206-7122 or by [kyle.j.reaburn@gmail.com](mailto:kyle.j.reaburn@gmail.com).

**NEW! October 1 - Sergio Marchi**, President and CEO of the Canadian Electricity Association and former MP (York West), will speak at the Ontario Energy Network Networking Luncheon at Fairmont Royal York Hotel, 100 Front St. West, from 11:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets are \$79 for members and \$99 for non-members. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/1loRqgR>.

**November 26** - Former Ontario Finance Ministers **Greg Sorbara** and **Dwight Duncan** will co-chair the 32nd Annual Churchill Society dinner taking to support democracy education with guest speaker Canadian Diplomat **Louise Fréchette** and the 2015 Award for Excellence in the Cause of Parliamentary Democracy recipient Ontario's 21st Premier **Bob Rae** at Concert Hall, Royal York Hotel from 6 to 9 p.m. Early Bird Tickets are \$225 each, up to August 31. For more information, contact 416-410-3377 or by [info@churchillsociety.org](mailto:info@churchillsociety.org).

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

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