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# Media Release

## Ajax engineer recognized for volunteer contributions to create link between the profession and the local community

Toronto – (April 26, 2018) – In recognition of his tireless and enthusiastic volunteer service to the profession, Derek Van Ee, P.Eng., FEC, of Ajax, has been named a Member of the PEO Order of Honour. He was inducted into the Order at a gala on April 20 in Toronto.

Van Ee began volunteering with Professional Engineers Ontario right after receiving his licence, playing a key role in Lake Ontario Chapter's long-term success as a member of the chapter's executive for the past 15 years. He has served as the chapter's vice chair, chair and past chair, and empowered new board directors and volunteers.

An avid promoter of education outreach activities, Van Ee initiated the Durham Popsicle Bridge Competition in 2006. Through the competition, the chapter reached out to the local community to promote engineering. The contest has grown to become a signature National Engineering Month event.

"Through our chapter's popsicle stick bridge competition, we have reached out to hundreds of students and their parents to promote engineering while having fun at the same time," he says.

Van Ee has also created joint PEO and Ontario Society of Professional Engineers events to promote engineering in the region; developed the chapter website into a reliable information hub; and organized a group email list for chapter executives to share upcoming events and meetings.

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

Under the authority of the *Professional Engineers Act*, PEO governs over 87,500 licence and certificate holders and regulates professional engineering in Ontario. PEO's mission is to regulate and advance the practice of engineering to protect the public interest. Its vision is to be the trusted leader in professional self-regulation. 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. Holders of limited licences can be identified by LEL or LET after their names.

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