



# MINUTES

## GOVERNMENT LIAISON COMMITTEE (GLC)

Tuesday, September 20, 2016, 6:00pm – 9:00pm (Dinner: 6-7pm; Meeting: 7-9pm)

PEO HQ, Room 8A

Teleconference Dial In: 1.866.512.0904 Access code: 8804517#

Chair:	Darla Campbell, P.Eng.	P.Eng. active in a Riding Association
Vice-chair:	Gabe Tse, P.Eng.	GLP Chair
Members:	Matthew Jelavic, P.Eng.	Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE)
	Daniel King, EIT	EIT representative
	Matthew Jelavic, P.Eng.	Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE)
	Warren Turnbull, P.Eng.	Regional Councillors Committee
	Michael Chan, P.Eng.	Advisory Committee – Volunteers
	Bill Allison, P.Eng.	Consulting Engineers Ontario (CEO) – via teleconf
Ex-Officio:	Howard Brown	PEO Government Relations Consultant, Brown & Cohen
Staff Advisor:	Jeannette Chau, P.Eng.	PEO Manager, Student and Government Liaison Programs
Regrets:	Rakesh Shreewastav, P.Eng.	Engineers Canada BG&E Representative
	Rick Hilton, P.Eng.	LGA Councillor
	Angel Serah	Student representative
Observer:	Ishwar Bhatia, P.Eng.	
Guest:	Patrick Sackville	OSPE Policy Lead

### 1. Call to Order

Darla Campbell called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

### 2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Gabe Tse motioned to approve the Agenda. Warren Turnbull seconded the motion. All approved. .  
Warren Turnbull motioned to approve the minutes from Aug 15th, 2016. Michael Chan seconded the motion. All approved.

Strategy session Notes – Warren Turnbull motioned to approve receiving of the Strategy session Notes. Daniel King seconded the motion. All approved.

### 3. Partner reports

#### CEO (Bill Allison)

##### Prorogation of Provincial Parliament and Throne Speech

- At the request of the Premier, Lt. Governor Dowdeswell prorogued provincial parliament Thursday Sept 8<sup>th</sup>, triggering a Throne Speech delivered at the opening of the 2<sup>nd</sup> session of Ontario's 41<sup>st</sup> provincial parliament Monday Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>
- At the heart of the Throne Speech was the government's commitment to reduce residential and commercial hydro bills by 8% starting January, 2017 for average household savings of

\$130 annually. People living in Northern Ontario can save as much as 20% for savings of as much as \$540 annually

- The government also pledged to create more public daycare spaces and improve elementary school student test scores
- It remains to be seen whether the government was able to successfully reset the narrative for the remainder of its mandate

**Bill 186 – *An Act to establish the Ontario Retirement Pension Plan***

- Legislation was abandoned with the federal government's commitment to develop an enhanced Canada Pension Plan, increasing benefits to 1/3 of earnings from the present 1/4

**Bill 201 – *An Act to Amend the Election Finances Act & the Taxation Act, 2007 (Political fundraising and campaign finance reform)***

- The legislation was reintroduced for the new session of provincial parliament and is now known as **Bill 2, *Election Finances Statute Law Amendment Act, 2016***
- The bill has passed first reading
- The first round of consultations by the Standing Committee on General Government took place over the summer
- The second round of consultation is expected
- CEO is monitoring this issue for any potential impact it may have on its members

**CEO Queen's Park Day**

- Nothing new to report – program development continues
- CEO's second annual Queen's Park Lobby Day is taking place Monday October 17<sup>th</sup>
- CEO is arranging meetings with government ministers and opposition MPPs of all parties

**Independent Review of the *Construction Lien Act & Prompt Payment***

- The government has announced it will release the report and recommendations of the Independent Review of the Construction Lien Act on Monday Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>
- A webinar on the report is being hosted for stakeholders that took part in the consultation process on Wednesday Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>
- The government is expected to consult Ontario's infrastructure sector on the findings of the report before deciding how to proceed with any reforms to the Construction Lien Act
- This is expected to be a cautious process that will take some time

**Bill 6 – *The Infrastructure for Jobs & Prosperity Act***

- Nothing new to report – work continues
- CEO continues to work with the government of Ontario to further define specific elements of this framework legislation
- Government officials continue to develop a new regulation to reform the current asset management plan guidelines

**Long Term Infrastructure Plan Consultation**

- The government is expected in the near future to being a comprehensive consultation to develop its next long term infrastructure plan
- The consultation is expected to take some time, include multiple phases and deliver a new plan in time for the 2018 provincial election

**Municipal Class Environmental Assessment System Reform**

- Nothing new to report

- This issue remains in the shadow of the government’s current cap-and-trade system and environmental reform efforts

**Litigation Exclusion**

- Nothing new to report – work continues
- CEO is actively pursuing this issue with the City of Toronto
- CEO continues to pursue this issue at the provincial and municipal level

**City of Toronto – Broader Construction Association Consultation Group**

- Nothing new to report
- CEO remains an active member of this consultative body working with City staff to address infrastructure policies and delivery
- The success of this body will be shaped by the City’s willingness to communicate in a collaborative, proactive and transparent way with CEO

**Municipal Engineers Association/Consulting Engineers of Ontario Standard Agreement**

- Nothing new to report – work continues

**OSPE (Matthew Jelavic)**

On Tuesday, September 20, OSPE is running its #AnEngineerWasHere public awareness campaign to remind Ontarians that the work of the engineering profession impacts every part of their daily lives. This campaign involves street teams and a day-of activation in Toronto, media outreach and ad buys. All OSPE members, partners and even government contacts were informed in advance and encouraged to participate in the campaign (Siemens Canada, Metrolinx and CN Tower are just a few on board).

Sandro Perruzza, Sue Tessier and Catrina Kronfli met with the Deputy Minister of the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development & Mines on August 24th to discuss the Ring of Fire and OSPE’s ongoing role in the discussions on how to move the project forward. Five of the Deputy Minister’s policy staff were there.

Sandro Perruzza, Michael Monette, Jonathan Hack and Patrick Sackville met with the Minister and the Parliamentary Assistant from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change. The meeting was a result of OSPE’s open letter campaign to the Wynne government regarding their reluctance to engage the engineering community on matters of significant policy that engineers are uniquely qualified to provide expertise on.

OSPE is also in discussions with the Brookfield Institute to determine whether there can be joint research project on a topic around engineering, innovation and entrepreneurship that is mutually beneficial to both organizations, and are exploring other potential partners to push our public policy issues in a collaborative manner.

**ESSCO (Angel Serah)**

The University of Toronto is back as a conditional member with ESSCO  
The PEO Student Conference is being held from November 4th to 6th at Carlton University. The theme for the conference is "*The Power of the P.Eng.*"  
Implementation of a new Director to keep track of ESSCO information (including history) to provide a sense of continuity and help the ESSCO executives keep track of ESSCO's direction throughout the years.

### **Engineers Canada**

The Engineers Canada representative was absent. No items reported.

## **4. OSPE PAN program presentation**

Patrick Sackville gave a presentation on the OSPE PAN program. It is important for both organizations to work together to help avoid confusion amongst MPPs. Patrick and Gabe Tse recently attended an OSPE/PEO joint meeting with Catherine Fife, MPP. Gabe spoke regarding regulatory issues (the Repeal) and the OSPE member spoke of the OSPE employment labour report and energy report. The good – can have effective meetings and raise the level of understanding and awareness of the politicians

The bad – when MPPs meet with a PAN or GLP representative, they are sometimes presenting different messages.

The ugly – sometimes MPPs receive completely contradictory messages from different engineers and as a result don't understand where we stand on issues.

Patrick commented that the GLP demonstrates an impressive level of access to politicians.

OSPE has lots of information in their reports. Complex issues are tough to explain.

OSPE is looking at the Election Reform guidelines and how OSPE can get access to politicians once the reforms are in place. One way is to deliver meaningful information to politicians in this space. For example, what can we do for you? How can we become better assets to government?

Warren Turnbull asked if we are focusing on the right targets for our meetings? Should we also engage with politician's staff? Bureaucrats? Patrick felt that the current targets are fine, however it is good to also engage with staff and bureaucrats.

On behalf of the GLC, Darla Campbell thanked Patrick for coming.

## **5. Sub-committee Reports**

### **Regulatory Issues sub-committee**

The new chair of the Regulatory Issues sub-committee is Daniel King. There are a number of issues that the sub-committee is tracking.

Bernie Ennis provided a written report of overview of the current regulatory issues which was sent to the GLC.

### **GLP Chair Engagement sub-committee**

A GLP Chairs teleconference was held on September 15<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-5:30 pm.

Agenda topics were:

- Joint PEO/OSPE Conference & Queen's Park Day on Oct 26
- Update on the Repeal of the Industrial Exception

- Update on the Continuing Professional Competency Program
- Take Your MPP to Work Day
- Status update on the GLC search for a GLP chair representative
- Other items GLP chairs would like to discuss – generic emails for GLP chairs. OSPE membership for GLP chairs.

**Action: Jeannette Chau to provide the GLP chairs and the GLC a list of GLP chairs names and the MPPs that are assigned to them**

**Action: Jeannette Chau to contact Matthew Ng and investigate obtaining generic emails for GLP chairs**

### **Take Your MPP to Work Day**

The 2016 goal for Take Your MPP to Work Day is to engage 12 MPPs. We currently have completed nine. Howard has identified potential MPPs to reach out to.

**Action: Howard and Jeannette to reach out to the chapters who are responsible for the targeted MPPs and see if they will host a Take Your MPP to Work Day with them**

### **Joint PEO/OSPE Government Relations Conference sub-committee**

Panelists and speakers are being confirmed. The program has been drafted. The theme is Engineers Working Together. A suggestion was made to present the GLP chapter awards at the conference. The award winners will still be mentioned during the Queen's Park MPP reception that evening, but will not have to present it to them there which will save time.

MP Marc Garneau, P.Eng. is not able to attend and be the keynote speaker, however Howard Brown is requesting a video message from him.

### **Queen's Park Day**

Howard has sent out softcopies of invitations to MPPs and has received several confirmations already. Darla Campbell will be MC again this year. Eventbrite is being utilized for registration for Queen's Park Day and the Government Relations Conference to help keep track of the guests easier.

Daniel King and Angel Serah will continue with organizing the Engineering Games

Plans to display Take Your MPP to Work Day poster boards again this year, similar to last year.

The Attorney General has confirmed to speak at Queen's Park day. MPPs Jagmeet Singh and Randy Hillier have confirmed. The giveaway item will be socks with the PEO logo.

Gabe Tse requested volunteers from the GLC required to help for that day.

**Action: Any GLC members who are interested in volunteering, please let Gabe Tse or Jeannette Chau know.**

## **6. Strategy - Industrial Exception workplan**

An update on the Industrial Exception was provided by Jeannette Chau. The Burden Reduction Act will be presented again in the Legislature. After second reading it will go to committee. PEO plans to speak at the committee hearings.

## **7. GLP Engagement: Measuring what we do**

- Feedback from Windsor-Essex was received on the scorecard.
- Howard asked if there was somewhere to acknowledge the number of MPPs they have assigned to them, as it is more difficult to manage a relationship with six or seven MPPs than with one or two of them.
- **Action: Jeannette Chau to follow up with Lakehead and Niagara chapter consultations**

## **8. New or Other business**

**Work Plan 2017** – Warren Turnbull moved to approve the 2017 GLC Work Plan. Gabe Tse seconded the motion. All present approved.

**Action: Jeannette Chau to submit the 2017 GLC Work Plan for approval by Council**

**HR Plan 2017** – the GLC discussed the committee representation and suggested that changes needed to be made to the Terms of Reference. There is no longer an OCEPP rep on the GLC since OCEPP does not exist any longer. The description of the OSPE position reads that it is an OSPE PAN representative, rather than an OSPE Board member. The GLC wished to broaden the GLP chair position to include those who might have been previous GLP chairs. The GLC also wished to change the LGA Councillor position to a Councilor position so that more Councilors would be eligible. The GLC also wished to add in a position of past-chair so that continuity is not lost. With those changes, the 2017 HR Plan would also have to be adjusted.

**Action: Darla Campbell to make discussed changes to the Terms of Reference and send to the GLC for approval. Once approved by the GLC, Jeannette Chau to submit to the ACV for peer review, prior to submitting to Council for approval.**

**Action: Darla Campbell to revise the 2017 GLC HR Plan and send to the GLC for approval, then submit to Council.**

### **Next meeting and adjournment**

The next GLC meeting will be held via teleconference on Tuesday October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 4:30-6:00pm. The Government Relations Conference & Queen's Park Reception will be held on October 26<sup>th</sup>. Matthew Jelavic motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Gabe Tse. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.