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PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM
GLP WEEKLY

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**PREMIER, MP AND MPPS TO SHARE THOUGHTS
AT THE PEO GOVERNMENT RELATIONS CONFERENCE**

NDP Attorney General Critic **Gurratan Singh**, MPP (Brampton East) (right) will be speaking at the 2020 PEO Government Relations Conference on Friday, November 6. Here he is with with then PEO President **Nancy Hill**, P.Eng. (centre) and (from left to right): PEO’s Manager of Government Liaison Programs **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng., CEO/Registrar **Johnny Zuccon**, P.Eng., Government Liaison Committee (GLC) Chair and Regional Councillor **Warren Turnbull**, P.Eng. and GLC Vice-Chair and Councillor **Arjan Arenja**, P.Eng., during a Queen’s Park visit on November 20, 2019.

For more on this story, see page 4.

Through the *Professional Engineers Act*, PEO governs over 89,000 licence and certificate holders, and regulates and advances engineering practice in Ontario to protect the public interest. Professional engineering safeguards life, health, property, economic interests, the public welfare and the environment.

Past issues are available on the PEO Government Liaison Program (GLP) website at <https://www.peo.on.ca/index.php/about-peo/glpl-weekly-newsletter>

Deadline for submissions is the Thursday of the week prior to publication. The next issue will be published on September 25, 2020.

TOP STORIES THIS WEEK

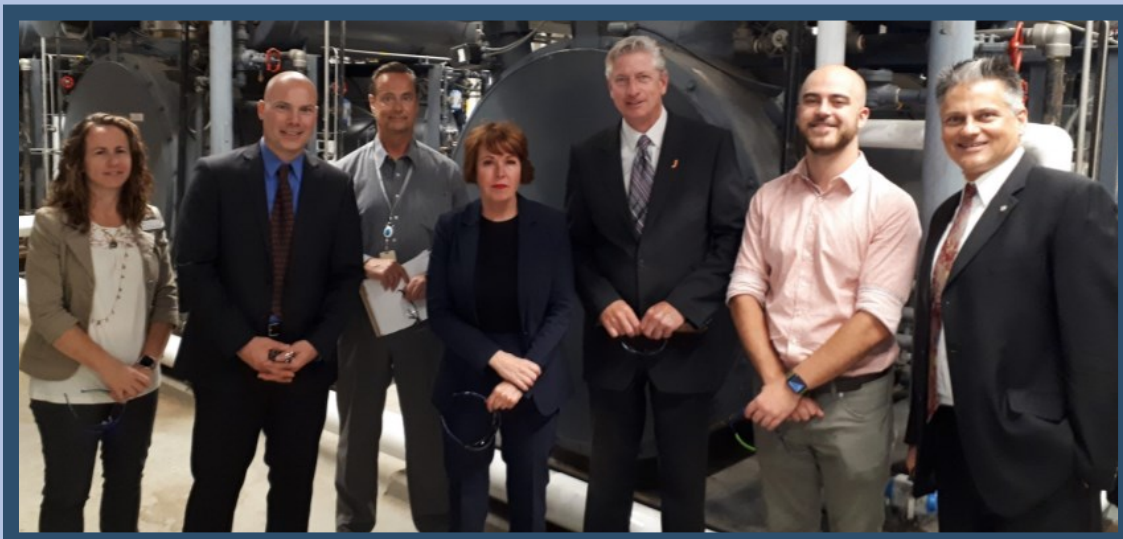
1. ONTARIO AND QUEBEC PREMIERS MEET
2. PEO PRESIDENT PARTICIPATES IN YORK CHAPTER TOWNHALL WITH THORNHILL MPP
3. PEO EASTERN REGION COUNCILLOR SHARES HER THOUGHTS ON THE GLP

PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM WORKS

The Legislature reconvened on September 14, following a two month summer break. As MPPs continue to participate in events online, the PEO York Chapter invited **Gila Martow** (Thornhill), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Francophone Affairs to be a guest speaker at their town hall, alongside PEO President **Marisa Sterling**, P.Eng. Planning is still underway for the annual PEO Government Relations Conference, which will include presentations from an MP, Party Leaders and Attorney General Critics. This week, GLP Weekly interviewed PEO Eastern Region Councillor **Chantal Chiddle**, P.Eng., who shared her thoughts on the Government Liaison Program.

PEO NEWS

ENGINEERING DIMENSIONS FEATURES HOSPITAL THAT HOSTED PEO MEMBERS FOR A TAKE YOUR MPP TO WORK DAY



Jane McKenna, MPP (Burlington) (centre), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Labour, was the guest of honour at the PEO Hamilton-Burlington Chapter 'Take Your MPP to Work Day' on September 23, 2019. It was hosted at Joseph Brant Hospital. Also in the photo are (left to right) PEO Hamilton-Burlington Chapter Chair **Julie Wedzinga**, P.Eng., GLP Chair **Mike Bell**, P.Eng., Joseph Brant Hospital's Facilities Manager **Andy Niendorf**, President and Chief Executive Officer **Eric Vandewall** and Chapter Representatives **Darcy Snyder**, P.Eng., and **Ron Finnigan**, P.Eng.

(BURLINGTON) - *Engineering Dimensions* published a story featuring Joseph Brant Hospital (the location of a September 'Take Your MPP to Work Day', which was hosted by the PEO Hamilton-Burlington Chapter. The hospital is now home to Ontario's first temporary pandemic response unit. Click [here](#) to read the full article.

ONTARIO AND QUEBEC PREMIERS MEET



Premier **Doug Ford**, MPP (Etobicoke Centre) (left) held a meeting with Quebec Premier **Francois Legault** (right) on September 10, following the Legislature reconvening.

PHOTO CREDIT: TVO 'The Agenda'

After a two month summer hiatus, the Legislature reconvened on Monday, September 14.

MPPs will continue to practice social distancing while sitting in the House.

Click [here](#) to review the 2020 Parliamentary Calendar to see when the Legislature is in session.

Prior to returning to Queen's Park, Premier **Doug Ford**, MPP (Etobicoke North) held a meeting with Quebec Premier **Francois Legault** in Mississauga to discuss their ongoing response to COVID-19.

Both Premiers Ford and Legault called on the federal government to increase provincial health care funding.

As well, both Premiers have agreed to host an annual face to face summit.

Premier Ford will be delivering greetings at the 2020 PEO Government Relations Conference (see page 4).

PREMIER, MP AND MPPS TO SHARE THOUGHTS AT THE PEO GOVERNMENT RELATIONS CONFERENCE



Marilyn Gladu,
P.Eng., MP (Sarnia-
Lambton)



Premier **Doug Ford,**
MPP (Etobicoke
North)



NDP Attorney
General Critic
Gurratan Singh,
MPP (Brampton
East)



Liberal Attorney
General Critic
Lucille Collard MPP
(Ottawa-Vanier)



Association of
Professional
Engineers and
Geoscientists BC
CEO/ Registrar **Ann
English,** P.Eng.

The PEO Government Relations Conference Committee continues to plan for the upcoming 2020 PEO Government Relations Conference. It will be held virtually on Friday, November 6.

The following elected officials and stakeholders have confirmed they will be speaking at the Conference:

- **Marilyn Gladu,** P.Eng., MP (Sarnia-Lambton), who was recently appointed as Critic for the President of the Queen's Privy Council and Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario
- Premier **Doug Ford,** MPP (Etobicoke North)
- NDP Attorney General Critic **Gurratan Singh** (Brampton East)
- Liberal Attorney General Critic **Lucille Collard,** MPP (Ottawa-Vanier)
- CEO/Registrar, Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC, **Ann English,** P.Eng.

Training sessions will be held for PEO Councillors, Chapters and GLP representatives, of which will hopefully cover all of Ontario's 124 ridings.

Discussions will be held on understanding the value and role of PEO as a regulator, the purpose, value and role of the GLP, identifying ways that the GLP can strengthen PEO's role and understanding drivers of the Ontario government.

The Conference Committee Co-Chairs are Brantford Chapter Chair **Vicki Hilborn,** P.Eng and Government Liaison Committee (GLC) EIT representative **Alex Weryha,** EIT.

Other members of the Committee include Regional Councillor and GLC Chair, **Warren Turnbull,** P.Eng., PEO Councillor **Lorne Cutler,** P.Eng., Former PEO Councillor and Engineers Canada representative **Changiz Sadr,** P.Eng., Manager, Government Liaison Programs **Jeannette Chau,** P.Eng. and PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown.**

EVENTS WITH MPPs

PEO PRESIDENT PARTICIPATES IN YORK CHAPTER TOWNHALL WITH THORNHILL MPP



Gila Martow, MPP (Thornhill) (centre) Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Francophone Affairs was the guest speaker at the PEO York Chapter town hall on September 9. Also participating was PEO President **Marisa Sterling**, P.Eng (top of the screen, centre left).

The PEO York Chapter hosted an online town hall on September 9.

The Chapter invited guest speakers **Gila Martow**, MPP (Thornhill), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Francophone Affairs, Ryerson University Chemical Engineering Professor **Dr. Hadis Zarrin**, Simcoe-Muskoka Chapter representative and mechanical engineer from Innovative Automations Inc, **Trefor Armstrong**, P.Eng., Peyttec Inc employee **Peyman Moeini**, P.Eng, KPMG employee **Dennis Woo** and PEO President **Marisa Sterling**, P.Eng. to participate.

Also participating on the town hall were: Former PEO Councillor and Engineers Canada Director **Changiz Sadr**, P.Eng., York Chapter Chair **Annabelle Lee**, P.Eng. and York Chapter's Business and Community Outreach Director **Oliver Xiao**, P.Eng.

MPP Martow spoke about the Government's concerns related to COVID-19, as well as their plans to create an efficient phased reopening, which will result in minimal impact to Ontario businesses. She mentioned the work engineers are doing in creating PPE, supporting front line workers and helping Ontarians.

President Sterling discussed what PEO has done so far such as: accepting online licence applications, hiring a consultant to create a plan to return employees back to PEO Headquarters in phases and safely.

PEO EASTERN REGION COUNCILLOR SHARES HER THOUGHTS ON THE GLP



PEO Eastern Region Councillor **Chantal Chiddle**, P.Eng., (third from the left) with Municipal Affairs and Housing Minister **Steve Clark**, MPP (Leeds-Grenville -Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes) (centre) at the 2019 PEO Eastern Region GLP Academy and Congress in Kingston on November 23, 2019.

This week's interview is with PEO Eastern Region Councillor **Chantal Chiddle**, P.Eng.

1. What is your experience dealing with the political process?

My only experience with the political process was running for PEO Eastern Region Councillor. I had anticipated a more fulsome process, but for me it was rather simple and not really involved.

If I was to infer any reasons for this, I would say it is due to a low voter participate rate among PEO licence holders. I do not think it is intentional, but perhaps a symptom of busy lives and maybe apathy.

2. Why did you get interested in government liaison activities at PEO?

I am not officially involved in the GLP at PEO, but I have attended two GLP Academy and Congresses, most recently the one in Kingston last November with a Minister and two other MPPs. My interest in the GLP is stemmed from assisting our representatives to meet the mandate of the program.

I truly believe that for government to make sound and logical policy, they need to listen to subject matter experts. Licenced engineers are both subject matter experts and tasked with the broader matter of protection of the public.

3. What do you think the biggest challenges are of the GLP?

I believe one of our challenges is the fact that we as a regulator are not as vocal as other groups. PEO continues to be more accommodating than I feel is needed.

I use the example of PEO's attempted Repeal of the Industrial Exception as the basis of my concern. We need to continue to keep this and other topics moving, in the interest of PEO's mandate as a protector of the public interest.

4. What do you think the biggest opportunities are for the GLP?

By far, PEO's biggest opportunity is the breadth and scope of the expertise within the volunteer pool and the licence holders as a whole. PEO needs to leverage that expertise much more readily than is happening currently, and share their knowledge with MPPs so that the government can be aware of the insight PEO has to offer.

GLP TRIVIA CONTEST

CONGRATULATIONS to former PEO GLP Chair of the Thousand Islands Chapter, **Ray Linseman**, P.Eng., for being the first to submit the correct answer to:

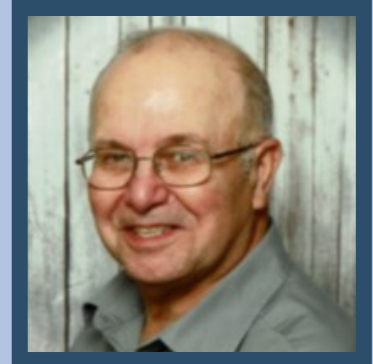
Who is the long-time Lake of the Woods Chapter Executive that was appointed to PEO Council?

Answer: Scott Schelske, P.Eng.

This week's question: What is the name of the PEO Scarborough Chapter Chair who attended an event with MPP Mitas on August 30?

Join the Contest: Test your knowledge of the *GLP Weekly* with our weekly trivia question! Send your answers to **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng., at jchau@peo.on.ca by Monday, September 21.

You may only win once in a four-week span.



Ray Linseman P.Eng., is the winner of the last GLP Trivia contest.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, September 21 –Education Townhall with NDP Leader Andrea Horwath, MPP (Hamilton Centre) at 7 PM. To register, visit: <https://www.ontariondp.ca/mobilize-monday-safereturntoschool-5>

Tuesday, September 22 to Thursday, September 24– Ontario Environment Industry Association presents the Environment and Cleantech Business + Policy Forum with guest speakers including Environment, Conservation and Parks Minister **Jeff Yurek**, MPP (Elgin-Middlesex-London). To register visit pheedloop.com/bpf2020/site/register

Saturday, September 26-Education Townhall with Joel Harden, MPP (Ottawa Centre), NDP Accessibility and Seniors Critic from 1 to 3 PM.

To register, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/385749355740907/>

STAYING IN TOUCH WITH MPPs DURING COVID-19

At this time, GLP Weekly will not be sharing any upcoming in-person events, in order to encourage PEO licence holders to practice social distancing and to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

This does not mean they will no longer have opportunities to engage with MPPs that they have built relationships with. MPPs are still receiving and sending emails, taking calls, conducting meetings remotely, and happy to connect.



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

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