



# GLP WEEKLY TIMES

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PEO Vice-President **Christopher Chahine**, P.Eng. (centre) spoke at a press conference with **Monte McNaughton**, MPP (Lambton-Kent-Middlesex), Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development (left) on May 23. They announced the removal of the requirement for Canadian work experience to obtain the PEO licence.

## LABOUR MINISTER PRAISES PEO'S REMOVAL OF CANADIAN EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT

PEO has been recognized as the first regulatory body to remove the requirement of Canadian experience to obtain a professional licence. PEO participated in the press conference announcing the changes with Ontario Labour Minister **Monte McNaughton** on May 23.

“This is, quite frankly, a game-changer for newcomers coming here, but also for businesses who are struggling with a huge labour shortage.” said Minister McNaughton, who is also responsible for immigration, training and skills development.

For more on this story, see pages 2 and 3.

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# 'GAME CHANGER': ONTARIO ENGINEERS REMOVE CANADIAN WORK EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT FOR IMMIGRANTS

Jays continue gloomy streak in Rays series opener DiManno AI7

**IMMIGRATION**  
**Game changer**  
Ontario engineers remove Canadian work experience requirement A3

**BUSINESS**  
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Air Canada is now offering an equine transportation service B1



**TORONTO STAR**

WEATHER HIGH 20 C | SUNNY | MAP A22

TUESDAY, MAY 23, 2023

**ENGINEERING**  
**Regulator eases path for newcomers**  
Ontario body removes Canadian work experience rule for internationally trained professionals

**NICHOLAS KEUNG**  
IMMIGRATION REPORTER

Internationally trained engineers will no longer be required to have Canadian experience to be licensed in Ontario, as the province adopts a new law that is meant to remove the barriers keeping skilled immigrants from working in their former professions.

On Tuesday, Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO), which represents the fourth largest regulated profession in the province with 85,649 members, becomes the first professional regulatory body to remove the requirement from their application criteria.

"By no longer requiring proof of Canadian experience when applying for an engineering licence, PEO will effectively ensure that qualified international applicants are licensed fairly and without undue delay so they can actively work as engineers," said Jennifer Quaglietta, the regulator's CEO/Registrar.

"Our new application process for professional engineering licences is efficient, transparent and fair, and will provide most applicants with a registration decision within six months of submitting a completed application."

The lack of Canadian work experience has been cited as a key barrier to earning professional designations in Canada by skilled immigrants in returning to their fields of training.

In 2021, amid a labour shortage during the pandemic, the Ontario government introduced new regulations to force some professional regulators to drop Canadian work experience requirements from their licensing criteria — and to speed up processing times.

"This is, quite frankly, a game-changer for newcomers coming here, but also for businesses who are struggling with a huge labour shortage," said Labour Minister Monte McNaughton, whose ministry also oversees training, skills development and immigration.

"Only a quarter of internationally trained immigrants in our province are working in the professions they studied for. This is an injustice to these workers, and it doesn't take a math major to figure out the current numbers don't add up."

He said roughly 300,000 jobs continue to go unfilled across the province every day including thousands in engineering and it costs billions in lost productivity.

The amended Fair Access to Regulated Professions and Compulsory Trades Act covers 36 non-health-related professions and trades, ranging from architecture to teaching, social work, plumbing, electricians' work, autobody repair and hairstyling.

McNaughton said the regulatory bodies have until Dec. 2 to remove the Canadian work experience requirement, unless an exemption is granted for public health and safety reasons.

Regulators will be fined up to \$100,000 for non-compliance.

"We're not going to have any regulatory body stand in our way. We want to help lift immigrants up so they can earn more money for themselves and their families and also fill labour shortages and grow our economy," he told the Star in an interview. "There's going to be a zero tolerance."

Despite the removal of the Canadian experience requirement, licensing applicants to the engineering profession are still subject to a rigorous process that covers their knowledge and competencies in technical communication, project management and professional accountability.

Candidates are still required to have 48 months of professional experience in engineering and pass a national professional practice exam that includes ethics, professional practice, engineering, law and professional liability.

"This multi-faceted process will continue to ensure that all professional engineers meet rigorous qualifications for licences and that only properly qualified individuals practise engineering," Quaglietta said, adding that up to 60 per cent of the engineering licence applications each year are from internationally trained engineers.



**Professional Engineers Ontario CEO Jennifer Quaglietta** said the regulator's new application process aims to give most applicants a registration decision within six months of their application.

The Toronto Star published an article announcing the end of the requirement for Canadian experience for professional engineering licensure on May 23.

The Toronto Star featured the government's announcement of PEO ending the requirement for Canadian experience for licensure in its May 23 issue. It included an interview with PEO's CEO/Registrar **Jennifer Quaglietta**, P.Eng.

To read the full article, see [here](#).

## PEO COUNCILLOR UPDATES MINISTER ON PEO'S NEW LICENSING PROGRESS

PEO Lieutenant Governor Councillor **Sherlock Sung** has provided his MPP **Michael Parsa** (Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill) with an update on the new online licence process for PEO.

He provided the update on May 15 and copied PEO York Chapter GLP representative **Bayo Awoyemi**, GLP Chair **Reza Mahmudipour**, PEO Councillors **Nanda Lwin P.Eng.**, and **David Kegul P.Eng.**, PEO Chapter Coordinator **Julie Hamilton** and PEO government relations consultant **Howard Brown**. This followed a meeting with the Minister on Nov. 4, 2022.

Here is a copy of his note to Minister Parsa.

"Hello Minister Parsa,

An update that PEO has today rolled out the new online licence application process to align with the *Fair Access to Regulated Professional and Compulsory Trades Act* (FARPACKTA) amendments in advance of July 1, 2023. More details here: <https://www.peo.on.ca/latest-news/peos-new-licence-application-process-launches-today>



**Sherlock Sung, B.A.Sc.**  
Lieutenant Governor-in-Council Appointee



**Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP**  
(Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill)

### UPDATE Monday, May 15, 2023

Today, PEO has launched our new licence application process that makes applying for an engineering licence more efficient, transparent, and fair for all applicants. These changes help to ensure PEO's compliance with recent amendments to the *Fair Access to Regulated Professions and Compulsory Trades Act* (FARPACKTA).

#### 'Am I Ready to Apply?'

The new process begins with candidates filling out an **"Am I Ready to Apply?" survey**, which is a brief questionnaire on engineering academic and experience qualifications that supports candidates in determining if they are ready to apply for a licence. Qualified candidates will then receive an application to formally begin the new licence application process. Those who don't qualify to apply after completing the survey, will be informed of next steps.

#### What to know about PEO's new licence application process

- **Application eligibility**—Prospective applicants must demonstrate the required academic and experience qualifications **before applying**.
- **Academic requirements**—The academic requirement to apply for a P.Eng. licence is a bachelor's degree in an engineering program accredited by the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (CEAB) or a bachelor's degree that meets PEO's acceptance criteria plus successful completion of a confirmatory examination program.

- **Experience requirements**—At time of application, candidates are required to demonstrate completion of 48 months of experience that meets requirements for engaging in the practice of professional engineering, as evidenced by a **competency-based assessment (CBA)**. CBA is a tool that assesses readiness for licensure by examining engineering competencies across several categories (technical, communication, project management, professional accountability, etc.) in which all professional engineers must be competent to support effective practice and public safety.

PEO's new application process ensures applicants will receive a registration decision within six months\* of submitting a completed licence application.

*\*Registration decisions will be reached within six months for at least 90% of all completed applications received.*

For the latest updates on PEO's licence application process, please visit the **PEO website**.



*continued from page 3...*

Further work was at the March 31 2023 Council meeting, policy decision was made to work with the office of the Attorney General to amend Regulation 941 to eliminate the Canadian Experience requirement from licensure. Lastly, PEO did indeed implement its mandatory continuing professional development program as of January 1, 2023.

<https://peo.on.ca/licence-holders/mandatory-cpd>. We look forward to receiving CPD reports as the third element of this program by December 31, 2023, for practicing licence holders and those permitted to practice.

**Start the PEAK program**

Beginning January 1, 2023, continuing professional development (CPD) is a requirement for professional engineers and limited licence holders to maintain their licence every calendar year. This new requirement does not apply to provisional and temporary licence holders or engineering interns (EITs).

The new requirements are based on the voluntary Practice Evaluation and Knowledge (PEAK) program that has been piloted for more than five years. The new mandatory PEAK program supports PEO's public interest mandate by helping to ensure that licence holders practise competently and ethically. In turn, licence holders demonstrate their commitment to continually improving their engineering practice.

The new requirements outlined in the new regulation **section 51.2 of Regulation 941** under the *Professional Engineers Act* in Ontario took effect on January 1, 2023. This regulation section describes an annual requirement for continuing education and professional development and how PEO will administer, monitor and enforce this requirement. This regulation section means PEO joins all other Canadian engineering regulators in having a mandatory CPD requirement for their licence holders.

The following chart indicates the PEO status options and the corresponding PEAK program requirements and licence allowances and restrictions.

PEO STATUS OPTIONS			LICENCE ALLOWANCES & RESTRICTIONS		PEAK PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS		
SITUATIONS	PRACTICE STATUS	LICENCE STATUS	CAN I PRACTISE, INCLUDING USE THE SEAL?	CAN I USE THE P.Eng. TITLE?	ELEMENT 1 – Practice Evaluation <small>due every January 31</small>	ELEMENT 2 – Professional Practice Module <small>due every January 31</small>	ELEMENT 3 – CPD Report <small>due every December 31</small>
<i>I am practising or intend to practise.</i>	Practising	Permitted to practise	✓	✓	✓ Declaration & Questionnaire	✓	✓
<i>I am not practising and agree to CPD hours for a Licence Status of "Permitted to practise."</i>	Not practising	Permitted to practise	✓	✓	✓ Declaration & Questionnaire	✓	✓
<i>I am not practising and prefer no CPD hours for a Licence Status of "Not permitted to practise."</i>	Not practising	Not permitted to practise	✗	✓	✓ Declaration & Survey	✓	
<i>I am on fee remission.</i>	Not practising	Not permitted to practise	✗	✓	✓ Declaration & Survey	✓	
<i>My licence is suspended.</i>	Not practising	Not permitted to practise	✗	✗	✓ Declaration & Survey	✓	

Licence holders can change their statuses anytime through the PEAK program.  
 Fee remission enrollees cannot change their statuses until they exit fee remission.  
 Holders of a suspended licence cannot change their statuses until the suspension is lifted.

Everything you need to know about the new, mandatory PEAK program is provided below in the video introduction and the following sections.

I've herein cc'ed PEO East Central Region Councillors **Nanda Lwin** and **David Kiguel** as FYI of our meeting.

We look forward to speaking again in the future or at any local community events.

Thank you,  
 Sherlock Sung  
 PEO Councillor"



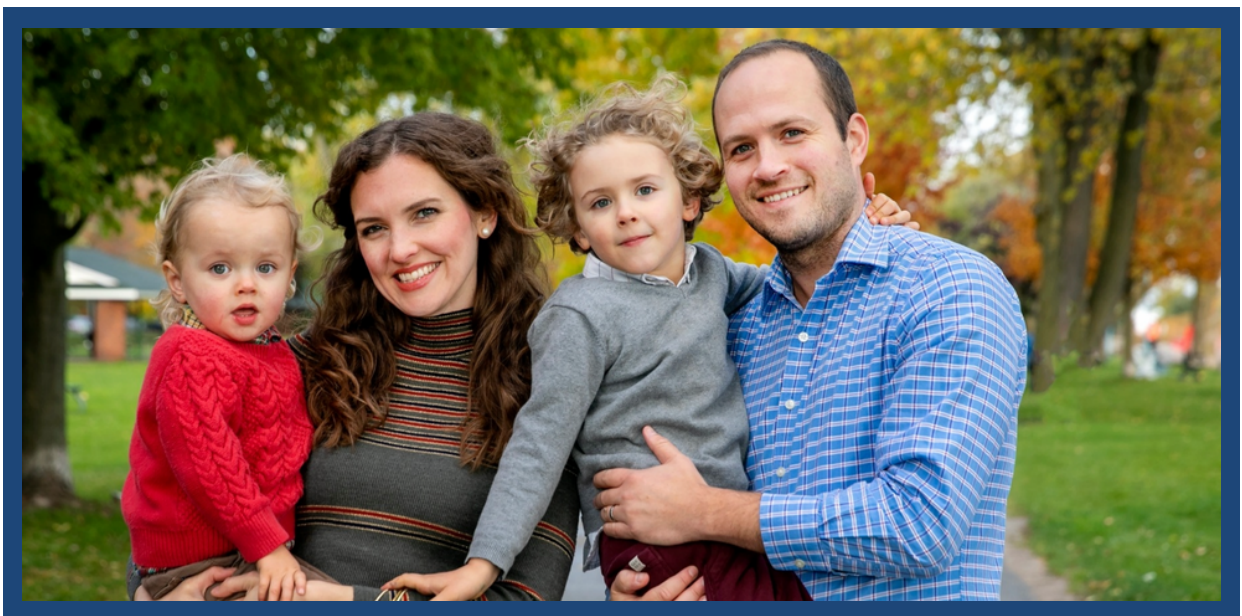
## KINGSTON MPP AND BEACHES-EAST YORK MP DECLARE FOR ONTARIO LIBERAL LEADERSHIP

**KINGSTON** — Kingston and the Islands MPP **Ted Hsu** and Beaches-East York MP **Nathaniel Erskine-Smith** have joined the race to be the next Ontario Liberal leader.

MPP Hsu, who was elected as an MPP in the June 2022 provincial election, was a federal MP from 2011 to 2015. He recently sent a video message to PEO Kingston Chapter for its recent Licensing certificate ceremony. MP Erskine-Smith has been a federal representative for his riding since he was first elected in 2015.



Ted Hsu, MPP (Kingston and the Islands) speaks at a public event.



Nathaniel Erskine-Smith, MP (Beaches-East York) and his family.

## MISSISSAUGA MAYOR ANNOUNCES FOR LIBERAL LEADERSHIP



**Bonnie Crombie**  
Mississauga Mayor



**Yasir Naqvi**  
MP (Ottawa Centre)



**Stephanie Bowman**  
MPP (Don Valley West)

**MISSISSAUGA-** Mississauga Mayor **Bonnie Crombie** has set up an exploratory committee to determine if she will enter the Ontario Liberal leadership race.

Mayor Crombie as reported in the previous edition of *PEO GLP Weekly Times* has been asked to run for leadership by a number of prominent party members, former ministers, MPs, MPPs and others. Mayor Crombie has served as Mayor of Mississauga since 2014 and previously served as a Councillor and a Member of Parliament. She is a regular participant in PEO events.

Also looking at vying for the leadership include:

- **Stephanie Bowman**, MPP (Don Valley West)
- Former Ontario **Attorney General Yasir Naqvi**, now MP for Ottawa Centre

For those interested in learning more about the details of the Ontario Party Leadership Election, please see [here](#).



## MEET YOUR MPPS

This week, the PEO *GLP Weekly Times* features **Doug Ford**, MPP (Etobicoke North) and **Bhutila Karpoche**, MPP (Parkdale—High Park) so PEO licence holders can get to know their representatives. For a full list of MPPs, click [here](#).

### DOUG FORD MPP — ETOBICOKE NORTH

**Doug Ford**, MPP was elected as the MPP for Etobicoke-North in 2018 on the same day as he won the premiership of Ontario. He was re-elected in June of 2022. He is also the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs.

Previously, Premier Ford served as a Toronto city councillor from 2010 to 2014. Previously, he also served on the Civic Appointments Committee and the Government Management Committee at Council.

He also had a successful business career with Deco Labels.



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

### BHUTILA KARPOCHE (PARKDALE — HIGH PARK)



**Bhutila Karpoche**, MPP  
(Parkdale — High Park)

**Bhutila Karpoche**, MPP was the first person of Tibetan heritage to be elected to public office in North America in June 2018. She was re-elected in June 2022. She is the NDP critic for Affordability and GTA Issues. She served for many years as the Legislative Assistant for her predecessor and former MPP **Cheri DiNovo**.

An epidemiologist by training, she is a public health researcher focusing on the social determinants of health.

She holds degrees from the University of British Columbia and the University of Toronto and is a Ph.D. candidate in public health policy at Toronto Metropolitan University.

# GLP TRIVIA CONTEST

Congratulations to former PEO Councillor **Noubar Takessian**, P.Eng., for being the first to submit the correct answer to last week's trivia question!

**Last week's question:** Who was the MPP who spoke at the PEO East Toronto Chapter licensing ceremony on May 11?

**Answer:** MPP Stephanie Bowman (Don Valley West)

Honourable mention to former PEO Scarborough Chapter Chair **Narayana Asogan**, P.Eng., who also sent in the correct answer.

**This week's question:** Which Ontario minister recognized PEO for removing the Canadian experience requirement for licensure?



Former PEO Councillor **Noubar Takessian**, P.Eng., is the winner of last week's Trivia Contest.

Test your knowledge of the *GLP Weekly Times* with our trivia contest!

Send your answers to **Howard Brown** at [howard@brown-cohen.com](mailto:howard@brown-cohen.com) by **Monday, June 5**.

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

## WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM?



The goals of PEO's Government Liaison Program (GLP) are:

- To ensure that the government, PEO licence holders and the public continue to recognize its regulatory mandate, in particular its contributions to maintaining the highest level of professionalism among engineers working in the public interest.
- To have the government view PEO as a partner and understand and support PEO's policy direction.

Through the *Professional Engineers Act*, PEO governs more than 90,000 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/aboutpeo/glp-weekly-newsletter>

Deadline for submissions is Thursday the week prior to publication. Our next issue is **June 9**.

If you have any comments, additions or questions about the *GLP Weekly Times*, please call or email:  
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