



Professional Engineers  
Ontario

Government Liaison Program



# GLP WEEKLY TIMES

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**Natalie Pierre**, MPP (Burlington) (front, centre) was the guest speaker at the PEO Hamilton-Burlington licensing ceremony on November 10th. With her in the photo are recipients of the license as well as Chapter Chair **Mike Bell**, P.Eng. (front, centre-right), and Vice-Chair **Ron Finnigan**, P.Eng. (front, centre-left).

## MPP CONGRATULATES PEO AT HAMILTON-BURLINGTON CHAPTER LICENCE CEREMONY

BURLINGTON - **Natalie Pierre**, MPP (Burlington) was the guest speaker at the PEO Hamilton-Burlington chapter licence ceremony in Burlington on November 10th.

During her ten-minute speech, she congratulated the newly licensed members, as well as PEO on their leadership in being recognized as one of the first professional regulatory body to remove a Canadian work experience requirement from its application criteria.

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# TORONTO'S CHIEF ENGINEER, MPP, AND PROFESSORS TO SPEAK AT PEO GLP SUMMIT



City of Toronto Chief Engineer and former assistant Deputy Minister of Transportation **Jennifer Graham Harkness**, P.Eng. (left), joins University of Western Ontario professor **Kate Graham** (centre left), University of Toronto professor **Ken Jull** (centre right) and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, **Deepak Anand**, MPP (Mississauga–Malton) (right) as confirmed speakers for the PEO GLP training summit on November 18th.

City of Toronto Chief Engineer and former Ontario Assistant Deputy Transportation Minister **Jennifer Graham Harkness**, P.Eng., has been confirmed as a guest speaker. She will participate in a morning panel on PEO's regulatory role with **Deepak Anand**, MPP (Mississauga–Malton), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, and University of Toronto professor and regulatory legal expert **Ken Jull**. University of Western Ontario professor and leadership expert **Kate Graham** will also speak after lunch.

PEO has also confirmed speakers across a variety of fields for the GLP training summit on November 18th. They include PEO CEO/Registrar **Jennifer Quaglietta**, P.Eng., President **Roydon Fraser**, P.Eng., and External Relations Director **David Smith**.

Attorney General **Doug Downey**, MPP (Barrie--Springwater--Oro-Medonte) and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade **Andrew Dowie**, MPP (Windsor--Tecumseh) will both offer video greetings.

PEO Government Liaison Committee (GLC) Chair **Jeffrey Lee**, P.Eng., (left), Vice-Chair **Asif Khan**, P.Eng. (centre) and Chapter Coordinator **Julie Hamilton** (right) will also be leading sessions.

PEO Lake Ontario GLP Chapter GLP representative **Wintta Ghebreiyesus**, P.Eng., and PEO Ottawa Chapter GLP representative **Zaineb Al-Faesly**, P.Eng., will also be chairing sessions.

# FORMER PEO PRESIDENT IS FIRST FEMALE EVER ELECTED TO INTERNATIONAL POST



Former PEO President **Catherine Karakatsanis**, P.Eng., addresses representatives at the 2023 Global Infrastructure Conference in Singapore in September. Photo credit: **Morrison Hershfield**

Former PEO President **Catherine Karakatsanis**, P.Eng., has been elected president of the international engineering body known as la Fédération Internationale des Ingénieurs-Conseils (FIDIC), and is known in English as the International Federation of Consulting Engineers. Ms. Karakatsanis is the first female president of the organization in its 110 year history.

Ms. Karakatsanis previously served as President of PEO, Engineers Canada, and the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers. She also worked closely with the PEO Government Liaison Program, which included meeting regularly with Ontario Ministers and MPPs, as well as hosting events for PEO.

Ms. Karakatsanis spoke eloquently on a TVO program regarding the value of the profession during an hour-long panel discussion with MPPs, and renowned current affairs journalist Steve Paikin. To view this discussion, [click here](#).

FIDIC represents over one million engineers and 40,000 firms in about 100 countries across the world.



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## MPP CONGRATULATES PEO AT HAMILTON-BURLINGTON CHAPTER LICENCE CEREMONY

BURLINGTON - MPP **Natalie Pierre** (Burlington), whose brother is also an engineer, spoke about the important work that engineers do in Ontario in the public interest.

PEO Hamilton-Burlington Chapter Chair **Mike Bell**, P.Eng., and Vice-Chair **Ron Finnigan**, P.Eng., congratulated the 21 newly licensed members, and awarded certificates to each.

MPP Pierre was first elected in 2022 and is the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Colleges and Universities.



Newly elected MPP **Natalie Pierre** (Burlington) (left) speaks with PEO Hamilton-Burlington Chapter Chair **Mike Bell**, P.Eng. (right) during the PEO Hamilton- Burlington licensing ceremony on November 10th in Burlington.

## PEO FEATURED IN CTV'S REPORT ON REMOVAL OF CANADIAN WORK REQUIREMENTS

During a CTV report on the provincial government's efforts to ban the use of Canadian work experience as a requirement in job postings or application forms, PEO was commended as one of the first professional regulatory body to remove a Canadian work experience requirement from its application criteria. To read the article, [click here](#).

"For far too long, too many people arriving in Canada have been funnelled toward dead-end jobs they're overqualified for," Labour Minister **David Piccini**, MPP (Peterborough--Northumberland) said in a statement.

PEO was also referenced in the media release by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development in their announcement of the changing of work requirements. To read the ministry's media release, [click here](#).



Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development Minister **David Piccini**, MPP (Peterborough--Northumberland) announced the changes as part of the province's most recent *Working for Workers Act* on November 14th.

## FORMER PREMIERS TO SPEAK AT LEADERSHIP VOTE NEXT WEEKEND

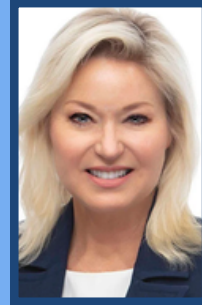
Former premiers **Kathleen Wynne** and **Dalton McGuinty** will be guest speakers at the announcement of the new leader of the Ontario Liberals on Dec 2 at the Metro Toronto Convention centre.

The candidates are:

- Mississauga Mayor **Bonnie Crombie**
- **Nate Erskine-Smith**, MP (Beaches--East York)
- **Ted Hsu**, MPP (Kingston and the Islands)
- **Yasir Naqvi**, MP (Ottawa Centre)

PEO has worked closely with several of the candidates over the years including MP Naqvi when he was Ontario's Attorney General, Mayor Crombie when she was an MP in helping make the federal government aware of the need to address PEO's regulator mandate and MPP Hsu in his work with PEO Kingston chapter.

Voting will take place on November 25th and 26th. To learn more about the leadership candidates, [click here](#).



Liberal leadership candidates (clockwise from top left) **Bonnie Crombie**, **Nate Erskine-Smith**, MP (Beaches--East York), **Yasir Naqvi**, MP (Ottawa Centre) and **Ted Hsu**, MPP (Kingston and the Islands)



## 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 November 24.

If you have any comments, additions or questions about the *GLP Weekly Times*, please call or email: Howard Brown, Brown & Cohen Communications & Public Affairs Inc. | 321 Brooke Avenue, Toronto, ON M5M 2L4 | Direct line: 416-783-1140 | Cell: 416-844-1180 | [howard@brown-cohen.com](mailto:howard@brown-cohen.com) | [www.brown-cohen.com](http://www.brown-cohen.com)