

To my fellow Engineers

My Name is **Randall (Randy) Walker** and I am running for the position of Councillor at Large with Professional Engineers Ontario, 2024-2026

As I was a councillor for 4 years, some of you may already know me. For those that do not, I was Quinte Chapter Chair from 2007-2014, then past chair. I have attended pretty well every CLC and AGM since 2007. I currently work as a senior project engineer with Kruger paper doing both automation engineering and project management. I have added my linked in profile for those of you more curious of my previous employment and training.

I served as Eastern Regional Councillor for 4 years (2019-2023) and have been involved with shepherding of big changes within PEO. We performed a full review of PEO and made changes to move the board to its proper executive decision-making board rather than a working board. We have had success and we have had failure, but I believe we will emerge from these changes a better more influential group.

I am asking the members of PEO to be involved in the process that determines your future. Please review the candidates that are running, ask questions, and be informed.

As a P.Eng, we are all equal, not separated by race, sex, colour or religion. The place a person comes from does not matter, we are Engineers and we speak with a common voice. That voice is integrity, respect and honour to our ring.

I have been doing engineering in one form or another long before I received my license to practice. Growing up on a small farm in rural Ontario, we learn by hands-on, mechanical and electrical. We learn by trial and error what is a good design and what is a poor design, we learn why codes of practice are in place when things fail far too early or getting frustrated due to poor design. Teenage years are spent learning, absorbing, and in my case programming as well as learning electrical design and practice. The school I attended was a polytechnical institute that got accredited while I was there. So, instead of graduating with a 4 year technical diploma, I graduated with a B.Eng. This path of hands on learning has enabled me to work with both blue and white collar I have a great understanding of the needs of engineers and how that affects those all around us on a daily basis.

Engineering has two separate but important paths, those that practice privately (working for companies), and those that go into a more public role requiring the approval of PEO and the associated Certificate of Authorization that comes with it. At the council level, both groups must be represented so that policy can be enacted that keeps all citizens (the public) safe along with moving the province and the world forward. Engineering is done on the world stage and PEO must aspire to be world class.

In the almost 30 years of practicing, I have had the privilege like a lot of my fellow engineers to do many separate lines of engineering and asked to solve many complex problems that come up,

some far outside of our field of training. Being an engineer, we learn how to read, understand, and execute the knowledge that we absorb from books, hands-on, and guidance from our peers. I believe and have demonstrated that with the system we have in place, we can make the future of all people better and will play an important role in shaping future policy.

My role at council, if I am elected, is to work along side fellow councillors, staff and key stake holders to ensure all voices are heard. We still have much to do at PEO specifically with regard to so many emerging disciplines that quite frankly, we are not keeping pace with. There are also a great many social and infrastructure needs that will have to be shouldered by groups like our own.

Some of the following are real-world issues that need to be addressed sooner rather than later.

1. Infrastructure for a growing population and an increasing reliance on electricity.
2. Green engineering, how to make our world a safer green place for all.
3. Education of first-world engineers to understand third-world issues.
4. Identify new sources of energy for our ever-hungrier planet.
5. Working with OSPE our advocacy body to make STEM more appealing to young students
6. Major advances in technology that threaten our personal data and wealth.
7. Addressing climate change with engineering innovation that requires PEO policy.

We have a great many challenges ahead of us, and I would like to be there at the front to lead and respond to these challenges.

Thank you for considering me to represent you, my fellow engineers at the council table.

Randall (Randy) Walker P.Eng

LinkedIn

https://www.linkedin.com/in/randywalkerpeng/?lipi=urn%3Ali%3Apage%3Ad_flagship3_feed%3BxIFURsc2SlyOZZkDEidHig%3D%3D