



Professional Engineers
Ontario

Government Liaison Program



GLP WEEKLY TIMES

MARCH 1, 2024 | VOLUME 18, ISSUE 7



Vijay Thanigasalam, MPP (Scarborough - Rouge Park), Ontario's Associate Minister of Transportation (top row, fifth from left) was a guest speaker at the PEO West Central Symposium on February 24.

ASSOCIATE MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION SPEAKS AT PEO WEST CENTRAL SYMPOSIUM

MISSISSAUGA - Over 300 professional engineers and others participated in the PEO West Central Symposium, *Engineering Today for Tomorrow* on February 24 at The Trinity Hall Canadian Coptic Centre in Mississauga.

Vijay Thanigasalam, MPP (Scarborough - Rouge Park), Associate Minister of Transportation spoke at length about the province's transportation initiatives and PEO's important role as the regulator of professional engineering in Ontario. Also in attendance was **Sheref Sabawy**, MPP (Mississauga - Erin Mills), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery.

The Co-Chairs of the event were PEO Councillor **Pappur Shankar**, P.Eng., and PEO Brampton Chapter's **Ranjit Gill**, P.Eng. The keynote speaker was **Gary Rose**, EVP of Nuclear, Canada at AtkinsRéalis, and the President and CEO of Candu Energy Inc.

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Sheref Sabaway, MPP (Mississauga - Erin Mills) (centre left) attended the PEO West Central Symposium on February 24. Also in photo are (from left to right) PEO Councillors **Ravinder Panesar**, P.Eng., and **Pappur Shankar**, P.Eng., PEO Mississauga Chapter's GLP Chair **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng., Chapter Chair **Karanjeet Singh**, P.Eng., and **Basim Toma**, P.Eng.

Mr. Shankar provided a welcome message and acknowledged PEO West Central Region's over 20,000 professional engineers and over 3,000 engineering interns (EITs). He also acknowledged PEO's role as the regulator of professional engineering in the public interest.

This symposium was eligible to be utilized by PEO licensees as a contribution towards the new continuing professional development (CPD)/PEAK requirements.

He also highlighted the four panels taking place at the symposium:

- **Steve Pepper**, Chair of the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers Energy Task Force moderated a panel titled *Emerging Technologies* with speakers such as **Arun Dixit**, P.Eng., PEO's Vice President, Digital Transformation & Corporate Operations.
- PEO CEO/Registrar **Jennifer Quaglietta**, P.Eng., moderated a panel titled *Women in Engineering* which featured speakers such as **Marisa Sterling**, P.Eng., and **Stephanie Smith**, P.Eng.
- **Gary Williams**, P.Eng., moderated a panel titled *Local Consultants - Engineering Canada's Energy Future* which featured speakers such as **Jim Sarvinis**, P.Eng., and **Ivor Shaw**, P.Eng.
- **Evan Mamas**, P.Eng., moderated a panel titled *Local Entrepreneurs* which featured speakers such as **Rick Szymczyk** and **Mustafa Khdair**.

For more information on the Symposium, please see [here](#).

PEO COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS ARE IN

Congratulations to the newly elected PEO 2024-2025 Councillors! Click [here](#) to view the candidate statements and [here](#) to view the election results.

PRESIDENT-ELECT



Fred Saghezchi, P.Eng.

VICE PRESIDENT



Guy Boone, P.Eng.

COUNCILLOR-AT-LARGE



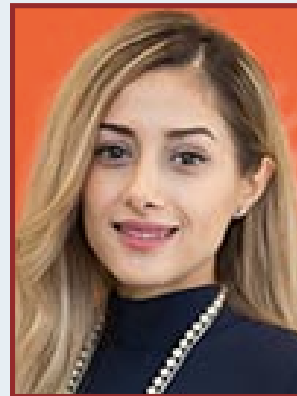
Randy Walker, P.Eng.

EASTERN REGIONAL COUNCILLOR



Chantal Chiddle, P.Eng.

EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL COUNCILLOR



Shahandeh Hannah Ehtemam, P.Eng.

WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCILLOR



Vicki Hilborn, P.Eng.

WEST CENTRAL REGIONAL COUNCILLOR



Pappur Shankar, P.Eng.

PEO PRESIDENT-ELECT MEETS PREMIER AT COMMUNITY EVENT HOSTED BY MPP



PEO President-Elect **Gregory Wowchuk**, P.Eng., spoke with Ontario Premier **Doug Ford**, MPP (Etobicoke North), and **Christine Hogarth**, MPP (Etobicoke - Lakeshore), Parliamentary Assistant to the Solicitor General, at an event in Etobicoke on February 13.

PEO President-Elect **Gregory Wowchuk**, P.Eng., had the opportunity to meet Ontario Premier **Doug Ford**, MPP (Etobicoke North) at a community event on February 13.

Mr. Wowchuk told the PEO *GLP Weekly Times* that he had the opportunity to speak with the Premier and reminded him that “the engineering labour market has a large regulatory component as high-level engineering jobs and good salaries are necessary to promote quality engineering work.”

He also had the opportunity to speak with his MPP **Christine Hogarth**, MPP (Etobicoke - Lakeshore), Parliamentary Assistant to the Solicitor General, who hosted the event.

The PEO Government Liaison Program aims to engage MPPs in various ways to inform them of the initiatives being undertaken in support of PEO’s regulatory mandate, which should align with the government’s expectations of a regulatory body acting in the public interest.

Mr. Wowchuk will assume office as PEO President at the PEO Annual General Meeting in Barrie on April 20.

KINGSTON MPP SPEAKS ABOUT IMPORTANCE OF LICENSURE AT PEO CHAPTER AGM



Ted Hsu, MPP (Kingston and the Islands), spoke at the PEO Kingston Chapter AGM on February 15.

KINGSTON - **Ted Hsu**, MPP (Kingston and the Islands) was the guest speaker at the PEO Kingston Chapter AGM on February 15 at the Donald Gordon Hotel and Conference Centre in Kingston. He spoke on the importance of licensure and PEO's role as the regulator of the profession in the public interest.

MPP Hsu is a physicist by training and is a regular participant in PEO Kingston Chapter events. He is also the Liberal Critic for Energy and Natural Resources, Agricultural and Rural Issues, and caucus liaison to rural riding associations.



Ted Hsu, MPP (centre) with Kingston Chapter AGM attendees including guest speaker **Mustafa Mirza**, P. Eng, Vice-President of WSP Canada (centre left) and left to right: **Kevin Clavet**, **Steve Davidson**, P.Eng., **Muhammad Asim**, EIT, Chapter GLP Chair **Hafiz Bashir**, P.Eng., **Ali Khan**, P.Eng., **Sara Manifar**, P.Eng., **Zubia Liaqat**, **Sanda Nasseh**, Chapter GLP Rep **Reza Kashi**, EIT, and **Sid Sharma**, P.Eng.

PEO HOLDS 561ST COUNCIL MEETING



PEO Councillors pose for a photo at the 561st Council Meeting on February 23.

PEO held its 561st council meeting on February 23 at PEO Headquarters in Toronto. It was chaired by PEO President **Roydon Fraser**, P.Eng.

Council had a busy agenda, including reports from President Fraser and PEO CEO/Registrar **Jennifer Quaglietta**, P.Eng. For a full copy of her report, see [here](#).

Additionally, Council nominated former PEO President **Marisa Sterling**, P.Eng., and longtime PEO Councillor **Arjan Arenja**, P.Eng., to serve as PEO Directors to the Engineers Canada Board of Directors, each for a three-year term effective as of the 2024 Engineers Canada Annual General Meeting.

Council also made the decision to appoint a Northern Regional Councillor at its April 2024 meeting to fill the current vacancy.

Additionally, Council also approved:

- The three-step plan proposed by staff regarding governance controls for director conduct
- The proposed risk management policy as presented to the meeting
- The 2024 Annual General Meeting: Guide for Member Submissions
- The CEO/Registrar 2024 Goals Review Form

PEO Council also directed the Regulatory Policy and Legislation Committee (RPLC) to add “Emerging Disciplines” to their 2024-2025 Work Plan. They also referred the Safe Disclosure (Whistle-blower) Policy to the Governance and Nominating Committee to consider possible improvements to the policy and report back with recommendations, if any, by the end of 2024.

For a full list of the dispositions from the Council meeting, please see [here](#).

PEO CEO/Registrar **Jennifer Quaglietta**, P.Eng. (left), with PEO Councillor **Michelle Liu**, P.Eng. (right), at the February 23 Council Meeting.



MARCH IS NATIONAL ENGINEERING MONTH



National Engineering Month is celebrated every March across Canada. The theme this year is, “There’s a place for you in engineering,” celebrating the diversity that makes up the engineering profession that improves our world.

In 2018, the Ontario Legislature declared March 1 as Ontario Engineering Day.

Engineering was the first profession to be recognized with their own day in Canada.

For information on National Engineering Month events in Ontario, please see [here](#).

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 will be March 8.

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