



Professional Engineers  
Ontario

Government Liaison Program



# GLP WEEKLY TIMES

JUNE 28, 2024 | VOLUME 18, ISSUE 22



Ontario Fairness Commissioner **Irwin Glasberg** (centre-left) speaks with PEO Councillors **Chantal Chiddle**, P.Eng. (centre-right) and **George Nikolov**, P.Eng. (right), after his meeting with PEO Council on June 21. Also in the photo is PEO Vice-President, Regulatory Operations and Deputy Registrar **Americo Viola**, P.Eng. (left).

## ONTARIO FAIRNESS COMMISSIONER BRIEFS PEO COUNCIL ON FARPACTA LEGISLATION

Ontario's Fairness Commissioner, **Irwin Glasberg** made a presentation to PEO Council at their 564th meeting at the Omni King Edward Hotel in Toronto on June 21.

Commissioner Glasberg did a formal presentation followed by discussion about the *Fair Access to Regulated Professions and Compulsory Trades Act* (FARPACTA). He walked Council through his office's background, history, progress made, and the government's goals to speed up the licensing process.

*Continued on page 2*

### WHAT'S INSIDE

- PEO CEO/Registrar highlights progress at Council dinner.....pg.3
- PEO Mississauga GLP Rep participates in community celebration with MPP.....pg.4

*Continued from page 1*

Commissioner Glasberg has been the Fairness Commissioner since January 10, 2020. His office oversees the registration processes of 14 non-health care professions, including PEO, and 27 health care professions.

He explained how his office analyzes the progress of each licensing body to help each improve their licensing processes.

Ontario was the first to introduce this type of legislation in 2006 with the passing of the original *Fair Access to Regulated Professions Act*. Similar offices have been set up in provinces across Canada, building on the Ontario model.

Over the past 25 years, Commissioner Glasberg has worked with a number of ministries. He previously served as Deputy Attorney General twice, first in 2017 and most recently in 2020.

Also on the Council agenda:

- Updates from President **Gregory P. Wowchuk**, P.Eng., on his recent activities including his participation in the Engineers Canada annual meeting in Winnipeg.
- An update by PEO CEO/Registrar **Jennifer Quaglietta**, P.Eng. [See link to her June report.](#)
- Reports from the Audit and Finance Committee, Governing and Nominating Committee, Human Resources and Compensation Committee, and Regulatory Policy and Legislation Committee as well as from Engineers Canada.
- Council received recommendations outlined in the report entitled *Recommendations for addressing the TRC Calls to Action and Increasing Indigenous Representation in Engineering in Ontario*.
- Council set the date for the PEO 2025 Annual Meeting to be held on April 26.



Photo from PEO's 2024 Annual General Meeting with (left to right) President **Gregory P. Wowchuk**, P.Eng., **Jennifer Quaglietta**, P.Eng., Attorney General **Doug Downey**, and Past President **Roydon Fraser**, P.Eng., on April 20 in Barrie.

## PEO CEO/REGISTRAR HIGHLIGHTS PROGRESS AT COUNCIL DINNER

Over 40 PEO management, staff, and guests joined PEO Council at the Omni King Edward Hotel for their dinner on June 20.

The event was hosted by PEO President **Gregory P. Wowchuk**, P.Eng.

Presentations were made by both past President **Roydon Fraser**, P.Eng., and PEO CEO/Registrar **Jennifer Quaglietta**, P.Eng.

Mr. Fraser spoke about the 2050 vision for the organization and explained that almost 100 volunteers have participated over the last year in ten different task force groups to build on the *Visioning for Relevance* initiative.

Ms. Quaglietta spoke about PEO's 2023-2025 Strategic Plan.

She emphasized that PEO is on track to deliver all 21 initiatives in the upcoming year. The plan focuses on four main goals; "modernizing processes, improving governance, optimizing organizational performance, and collaborating with stakeholders."

She highlighted the success of recent initiatives including PEO's new licensing process, the Mandatory Continuing Professional Development Program (PEAK), the Strategic Stakeholder Advisory Group, and the implementation of PEO's customer service team.

Also attending the event were several PEO stakeholders, including **Cheryl Farrow**, CEO of the Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists, **Sandro Perruzza**, CEO of the Ontario Society Professional of Engineers, and **Andrew Hurd**, Executive Director of the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies in Ontario.

Ms. Quaglietta stated, "Together we regulate and advocate on behalf of Ontario's engineers, and I have every confidence that under our leadership, engineers will continue to be recognized as the ethical professionals we are."



Participants of the dinner includes PEO CEO/Registrar **Jennifer Quaglietta**, P.Eng. (left), PEO Vice-President, Regulatory Operations and Deputy Registrar **Americo Viola**, P.Eng. (right), and PEO Manager of Council Operations **Meg Feres** (centre).



Participants of the dinner included PEO Director of Investigation and Prosecution **Michael Rusek**, PEO Chief People Officer **Deborah Sikkema**, and PEO Director of External Relations **David Smith**.

## PEO MISSISSAUGA GLP REP PARTICIPATES IN COMMUNITY CELEBRATION WITH MPP

MISSISSAUGA - In celebration of Italian Heritage Month, **Rudy Cuzzetto**, MPP (Mississauga— Lakeshore) organised a community event for local constituents on June 13 at the Small Arms Inspection Building in Mississauga.

In attendance was PEO Mississauga Chapter GLP Rep **Erdem Bilaloglu**, P.Eng., who is a constituent of the Mississauga–Lakeshore riding.

Mr. Bilaloglu told GLP Weekly Times that MPP Cuzzetto spoke with him, and apologized for not being able to attend the chapter's Licence Certificate Ceremony later that day. MPP Cuzzetto, who was first elected in 2018, was pleased to have a rep from PEO join his event.

MPP Cuzzetto currently serves as one of two Parliamentary Assistants to the Minister of Energy and Electrification.



**Rudy Cuzzetto**, MPP (Mississauga— Lakeshore) poses for a photo with PEO Mississauga Chapter GLP Rep **Erdem Bilaloglu**, P.Eng.



Group photo of Italian Heritage Month attendees, including **Rudy Cuzzetto**, MPP (Mississauga— Lakeshore) (centre)

## MINISTER AND COUNCILLOR PARTICIPATE IN PEO SCARBOROUGH CHAPTER EVENT



**Vijay Thanigasalam**, MPP (Scarborough--Rouge Park), Associate Minister of Housing, was a guest speaker at the Scarborough Chapter event on June 8. Also in the photo are PEO VP **Nanda Lwin**, P.Eng., (centre-right) and from the Scarborough Chapter (left to right), **Shawn Lin**, P.Eng., **Rene Siguenza**, P. Eng., **Santosh Gupta**, P.Eng., **Jega Jaganathan**, P.Eng., **Peng Zhang**, P.Eng., and **Mohammad Naqvi**, EIT.

**Vijay Thanigasalam**, MPP (Scarborough--Rouge Park), Associate Minister of Housing, was a guest speaker at the PEO Scarborough Chapter event on June 8 at a local park.

Over 100 licensees and their families attended including PEO appointed Vice President and East Central Region Senior Councillor **Nanda Lwin**, P. Eng.

The Chair of the event was the Chapter's past Chair **Peng Zhang**, P. Eng.

Their conversation with the Minister included discussion on the *Fair Access to Regulated Professions and Compulsory Trades Act* (FARPACKTA).

Associate Minister Thanigasalam was also the keynote speaker at the PEO West Central Regional Conference Symposium in February in Mississauga. At that time, he was the Associate Minister of Transportation.

PEO Scarborough Chapter Chair **Samuel Jacob**, P.Eng. told GLP Weekly Times that he spoke with the Minister afterwards, “and thanked him for his support to the PEO and to the Scarborough chapter and for attending the BBQ.”

## PEO CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL WOMEN IN ENGINEERING DAY

PEO celebrated International Women in Engineering Day on June 23 by spotlighting CEO/Registrar **Jennifer Quaglietta**, P.Eng., as "the first woman to hold this dual role at PEO."

Under Quaglietta's leadership, PEO has made significant changes over the past year. These include a new licensing model that aligns with the provincial *Fair Access to Regulated Professions and Compulsory Trades Act* (FARPACTA), and the introduction of the mandatory continuing professional development (PEAK) program, which requires licence holders to complete annual program to maintain their licences.

PEO applauded Ms. Quaglietta on LinkedIn for her "leadership, dedication, and kindness."

She responded, "It's an honour and privilege to serve the profession and I invite all women and underrepresented communities who have studied engineering to be encouraged to apply for licensure. We are here to support you through the process."

PEO is participating in the 30x30 initiative, aiming to increase the proportion of newly licensed female-identifying engineers to 30% by 2030.

PEO York Chapter hosted a Women in Engineering Event on June 25 at the Richmond Hill Public Library.



PEO's CEO/Registrar **Jennifer Quaglietta**, P.Eng.

## NEW MPP APPOINTED PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANT TO MINISTER OF RURAL AFFAIRS

**Steve Pinsonneault**, MPP (Lambton-Kent-Middlesex), has been appointed as Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Rural Affairs, **Lisa Thompson**, MPP (Huron—Bruce).

Before his election, MPP Pinsonneault served as a municipal councillor for Chatham-Kent from 2006 to 2024.

Elected to the Legislature on May 2, MPP Pinsonneault replaces **Monte McNaughton**, who resigned last year.

As reported last week, the Legislature has adjourned until October 21.



**Steve Pinsonneault**, MPP (Lambton-Kent-Middlesex) appointed as new Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Rural Affairs.

**CORRECTION:** Last week's PEO GLP Weekly Times misstated one of the Ontario Directors of Engineers Canada. This position is currently held by **Tim Kirkby**, P.Eng. not **Annette Bergeron**, P.Eng., who is a former Engineers Canada Director.

## 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 91,500 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/about-peo/glp-weekly-newsletter>

**Deadline for submissions is Thursday the week prior to publication. There is no issue next week due to the statutory holiday. Our next issue is July 12.**

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