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Visit Our Website at: www.algoma.on.ca

Call for Volunteers

We are always on the lookout for members (EITs and retired engineers included) to help out with chapter activities or participate as part of the Executive Board. If you have an idea for an event and would like to help organize it or if you are looking for a volunteer opportunity please contact the Chapter Chair at algoma@peo.on.ca.

If you're not sure how you would like to help out, but are interested in how the Chapter operates, you may want to attend one of our monthly Executive planning meetings. Contact the Chair for details.

Call for Nominations

A call for new nominees to serve on the 2017/2018 Algoma Chapter Executive Board is now open. Please email your name to algoma@peo.on.ca if interested.

Upcoming Events

EIT Night

Wednesday, December 7th from 5:30 to 8:00pm at HD Sports Grill (89 Foster Drive). Join us for snacks and drinks while connecting with fellow Engineers in Training and Professional Engineers in the Algoma Chapter. This event is free of charge and open to all Chapter Members.

Women in Engineering

The Algoma Chapter of PEO continues to host the **Women in Engineering Networking Group**. The program is open to all female members as well as any female students who are interested in pursuing engineering or science as a profession. Please contact Chapter Chair at algoma@peo.on.ca.

Professional Practice Exam

The next PEO professional practice exam date is: December 3rd, 2016.

To write the exam applicants must register directly with PEO following the procedure detailed at http://peo.on.ca/index.php/ci_id/2060/la_id/31.htm the exam location details are provided at this site as well as the exam syllabus, preparation resources, general information regarding the exam process, and contacts for questions and/or further information.



Activity Report

PEO/OACETT Golf Classic 2016

The PEO and OACETT Algoma Chapters teamed up for the 14th Annual Golf Classic Tournament. On Friday September 2nd, 16 teams including a total of 64 golfers gathered at Crimson Ridge for an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

Together, we raised \$8,500, which was donated to support the Sault Ste. Marie VEX Robotics program as well as the local PEO and OACETT Scholarship funds.

The VEX Robotics program supports students in developing interest and proficiency in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Students learn to work in a team and collaborate as well as cultivating skills in engineering design, programming, assembly, testing, robot “driving”, and competition in a fun and challenging environment.

Congratulations to the tournament winners - Team Service Master.



Golf Tournament Winners: Gary Potvin, Cale Krezek, Mike Dool, and Ken McDonald

A Great Big THANK-YOU!!! to Alvin Olar P.Eng. for organizing a successful event again this year!



Alvin Olar P.Eng. (shown on the right) presenting a cheque to VEX organizer Jonathan Budau

Scholarship Award Ceremony

In 2016 the PEO Algoma Chapter awarded six \$500 scholarships to students entering their first year of an engineering program accredited by the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (CEAB). The scholarships were awarded to:

- Adam Baggs (St. Mary’s) Carlton – Sustainable Energy
- Andrew Quon (Korah) Waterloo – Mechatronics
- Brandon Finateri (St. Mary’s) Windsor – Mechanical
- Dante Severini (Korah) Western – Medical Engineering
- Franc Marrato (Superior Heights) Queens – Engineering
- Noah Spina (Superior Heights) Guelph – Mechanical



PEO Algoma Chapter Executives with the 2016 Scholarship Award Winners

Award recipients and their parents were invited to attend a dinner with members of the PEO Algoma Executive Board on August 4th.

Scholarships are awarded annually. If you know a student planning to attend a CEAB accredited engineering program next fall, please encourage them to contact the Chapter in May to receive a scholarship application.

Ontario Volunteer Service Awards



On May 25, 2016, two members of our Chapter, David Spacek and Sarah Ackert Ferguson, were recognized by Ontario’s Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport for their years of volunteer service with PEO. Sarah

Ackert Ferguson was recognized for 10 years of with the Algoma Chapter Executive Committee. David Spacek was recognized for 15 years in various positions including as a member of the Algoma Chapter Executive

Committee, as Northern Regional Councilor, and as a member of the PEO Discipline Committee.

Big Bike for Heart and Stroke

The PEO Algoma Chapter participated in the Big Bike for Heart and Stroke on May 24th. A small contingent of four was joined by other volunteers and toured downtown Sault Ste. Marie on the multi seat, red bike. The Chapter provided lunch for the team following the ride. Our team raised \$300 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation with this event. We are hoping for a bigger turn out in 2017!



Algoma Chapter Big Bike Event Participants

Spring Tour 2016

On May 31st, the Federal Bridge Corporation and Ellis Don Construction hosted a tour of the new Canada Border Services building, under construction as part of the Canadian Customs Plaza Redevelopment. Sault Ste. Marie’s strategic position as a major connection point between the US and Canada means this project is of major importance to economic growth and job creation in the area.

The tour started after a safety briefing and proceeded through the site including the customs booths and the new on-site building, which was under construction at the time. Light refreshments followed the tour. Special



thanks to Jeanette Biemann, P.Eng. for organizing this event.



Algoma Chapter Spring Tour Participants

Northern Region Congress

Each year PEO holds a Northern Region Congress (NRC) in February, June, and September to foster connection and information flow between PEO membership and PEO Council and Staff.

The Algoma Chapter hosted the June 2016 NRC at the Delta Waterfront Hotel in Sault Ste. Marie. Delegates from throughout northern Ontario attended including chapter representatives from Algoma, Lakehead, North Bay, Porcupine/Kapuskasing, and Sudbury as well as the Northern Regional Councilors. The Regional Councilor Committee (RCC) Chair, PEO Chapter Manager, and Chapter Coordinator also attended. During the NRC chapter activities were presented; regional concerns and chapter finances were discussed; and upcoming events, activities, and programs were reviewed.

To kick off the NRC, a social event was held at the Canadian Bushplane Heritage Centre including refreshments, music, and a tour of Northern Superior Brewery, located at the site. A general invitation was forwarded to all PEO Algoma Chapter members to attend the event. A coach tour of Lake Superior's North Shore was organized for the delegates following the NRC.

PEO Updates

Repeal of the Industrial Exception

On November 26, 2016, the Ontario government announced its intention to permanently abandon its commitment to repeal subsection 12(3)(a) of the Professional Engineers Act, the so-called industrial exception. Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO) expresses in the strongest possible terms its objection to the government's decision and urges reconsideration. Subsection 12(3)(a) currently allows non-engineers to carry out acts of professional engineering on equipment or machinery used to produce products for their employers in their employer's facility.

PEO has been working with the Ministry of Labour, undertaking research into recent prosecutions under the Occupational Health and Safety Act involving injuries to employees in manufacturing environments. A report on this research is expected to be finalized by early 2016. Through its outreach to industry, PEO believes only seven per cent of manufacturing employers are likely to be affected by the repeal, which would have been implemented without any expense to taxpayers and little cost to employers. Since 2010, PEO has invested close to \$500,000 to assist companies voluntarily complying with the repeal with their licensing costs, and had committed to offsetting almost half of the licensing fee of anyone required to be newly licensed as a result of the repeal. In addition, PEO had put in place a regulation to enable employers to transition over a one-year period.

Engineers are committed to public safety and are professionally accountable by law for all acts of professional engineering. The government's failure to repeal subsection 12(3)(a) leaves a gap in PEO's ability to regulate acts of engineering and continues to put workers at risk. This decision is a significant missed opportunity to protect the public and PEO demands the government reconsider it immediately.



Continuing Professional Development

PEO Council approves basics of continuing professional development program, directs further work before member referendum.

On November 20th, 2015, PEO Council was presented with a concept for a PEO continuing professional development (CPD) program in the Final Report of the Task Force on Continuing Professional Development, Competence and Quality Assurance (CPDCQA). After considerable discussion and in a recorded vote of 17 in favour, three against, with two abstentions, Council approved the program's guiding principles and basic elements, as outlined in the Proposed Implementation section of the task force's report.

Council also directed Registrar Gerard McDonald, P.Eng., to create terms of reference for a Continuing Professional Development Program (CPDP) Task Force, comprising eight PEO members, the majority of whom would be sitting PEO Councilors. The new task force would be responsible for finalizing the program's risk review form, continuing professional development requirement algorithm and criteria for acceptable technical activities. The task force terms of reference are to be presented to Council for approval at its February 2016 meeting.

In addition, Council directed the Registrar to develop a communications plan to notify PEO license holders and other stakeholders about the proposed continuing professional development and quality assurance program. This plan is also to be presented to Council for approval at its February 2016 meeting.

The CPDCQA Task Force was created in March 2014 and tasked with presenting a report describing a recommended CPD program to Council no later than December 2016. The task force met 12 times, conducted extensive research on issues related CPD, and provided two updates to Council. It also conducted an online survey of members (6,786 responses), and presented its proposed program at six regional town

hall meetings (514 attending), Regional Councillors Committee meetings, chapter meetings and other events. Member opinions were also solicited and received through a dedicated email address. This feedback from members was used to develop the proposed CPD program.

At its' September 25th, 2015 meeting, Council committed to asking members "to ratify in a referendum any mandatory requirement to participate in a continuing professional development, competency and quality assurance program". It is anticipated that such a referendum might occur late in 2016 or in 2017.

Visit PEO's Continuing Professional Development web page for the latest information on the proposed CPD program. Information on the page at present includes the CPDCQA Task Force Backgrounder, a PowerPoint presentation describing the Task Force's work and proposed program, synopses of the regional town hall meetings, and the Final Report presented to Council on November 20th, 2015. Further information will be added to the page as the program concepts are developed.

Please send questions or comments on the proposed PEO Continuing Professional Development program to cpdcda@PEO.on.ca.