



Refocusing our editorial objectives

Welcome to the first of a new column meant to keep you up-to-date on changes to *Engineering Dimensions*, provide more information on editorial content and invite your feedback. Editor's Note will be a regular feature near the Contents pages of the magazine.

It's good practice to review a publication's editorial objectives on an ongoing basis to ensure that they continue to reflect readers' needs and current realities. The 2000 launch of the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE) as the advocacy/member services organization for the profession provided the impetus for reviewing and revising our editorial objectives, and refocusing *Engineering Dimensions'* content.

Because the formation of OSPE means that PEO will in future focus increasingly on regulation of the profession, as defined by the objects set out for PEO in the Professional Engineers Act, the magazine will this year concentrate mainly on the legal, regulatory and ethical aspects of the profession. We'll still cover a broad range of topics, and offer diverse opinions to ensure balance, but the content will need to relate more closely than in the past to PEO's mandate—rather than to PEO members' self interests.

Editorial content will be developed to meet the new editorial objectives for *Engineering Dimensions*, which were developed by the Communications Committee to be closely aligned with the objects of the Professional Engineers Act. They are:

- ◆ To provide information on standards of knowledge, skill, qualification, practice, ethics and conduct relevant to the practice of professional engineering.
- ◆ To showcase the achievements of members in the service of the profession and in illustration of best professional engineering practices.
- ◆ To be a forum for the exchange among

members of ideas and knowledge related to the practice of professional engineering and the activities of the association.

- ◆ To provide information to members on events, issues and public policy developments in Ontario and elsewhere relevant to the practice of professional engineering, such as emerging areas of practice or legislative change.
- ◆ To promote public awareness of the Professional Engineers Act, the role of the association and the responsibilities of professional engineers, including how the public interest is served and protected through the practice of professional engineering.

More information on editorial content planned for this year is available in the 2001 Editorial Calendar on PEO's website (see www.peo.on.ca/Communications/coming.html). If you have editorial ideas for 2001

or general thoughts on how we can meet the new editorial objectives, feel free to contact me at apiper@peo.on.ca. As practitioners dealing daily with issues affecting the engineering profession wherever it's practised, your input is valuable.

We've also revised our publishing schedule for 2001. In the interests of preventing information overload and making effective use of resources, we'll publish three issues of *The Link* this year instead of four. This year, *The Link* will be mailed to you in February, June and October. We'll continue to publish six issues of *Engineering Dimensions* on a bimonthly basis and offer advertising opportunities in both publications. ◆

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Alison Piper
Managing Editor