Enforcement online

PEO defines enforcement as legal action taken against individuals or entities who practise engineering without being licensed, or against those offering engineering services without holding a Certificate of Authorization. PEO and other professional organizations actively pursue complaints against individuals or organizations for practising without a licence. Other professions such as pharmacy, dentistry and accounting, to name a few, face similar problems and respond in a variety of ways.

Professional Engineers Ontario
http://www.peo.on.ca

Click on "Enforcement" from the left menu on the home page, then use the term "Engineer" and "What is Enforcement?" You'll find details on what constitutes an offense and what maximum fines are set at. Information about listing in the Yellow Pages, as well as classified advertising and misleading certifications is also presented here. Also on the menu–"Use of the term Engineer," and "Information on the proper use of titles." Who to contact at PEO is also available for those seeking professional information on any PEO member.

The Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta
http://www.apegga.com

APEGGA uses the term "compliance" instead of enforcement. Once a compliance violation is identified, voluntary compliance is sought or else the case is prosecuted. Click on "Compliance" on the right side of the home page. Look for "PEGG articles on compliance," many of which are very informative. Scroll down the page for more recent articles, for example "APEGGA seeks more compliance in advance technology" or "Cancelled permits investigated."

Ontario College of Pharmacists
http://www.ocpinfo.com

From the sidebar, click on "Investigations and Resolutions" then select "Complaints and Discipline." The Complaints section is further divided into information for pharmacists and information for members of the public seeking to file a complaint. More information can be found through the college's journal *Pharmacy Connection*.

The Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario
http://www.rcdso.org

The Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario pursues an enforcement policy against unlicensed individuals, which it describes as "aggressive." Click on "Protecting the Public" on the left side to begin. Then look for further links at the top of the page to the complaints process, disciplinary process, Registrar's investigation or public registry for information on who to contact at the college to confirm if a dentist is registered to practise in Ontario. The Registrar's investigation is another means of following up a complaint if there are reasonable grounds to believe a dentist has committed an act of professional misconduct, or is incompetent. Enforcement information can best be found in the college's quarterly publication *Dispatch*, which can also be accessed from the left side of the home page.

The Public Accountants Council for the Province of Ontario
http://webhome.idirect.com/~publicaccnl/

The Public Accountants Council (PAC) is the licensing body for public accountants in Ontario. Its website describes the Council's functions, which include prosecution of offences under the *Public Accountancy Act*. A summary of enforcement activity is published in the PAC's annual report. The site also provides a link to The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario, the profession's qualifying body. (See pp. 30-31, this issue, for more details.)

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