



A few weeks ago I got a call from a member asking to have all of his mailings, except his licence renewal notice, stopped because he was relocating to the US. He went on to rant briefly to me about how irrelevant he finds *Engineering Dimensions*, and PEO in general, and how he wouldn't be licensed at all were it not that he had to earn a living. I listened patiently. After all, it's nothing I haven't heard before.

But thank goodness that isn't the general viewpoint of members. It's certainly not the attitude of the 700 or so who give up their personal time to earn their wings working on PEO Council, committees and task forces, or the 400 more who are active in the chapters.

But, realistically, we recognize that there are many of you who feel as this member does, and this attitude was, in

PEO wants you

part, what sparked the theme of governance for the January/February issue.

To members who have never taken an active role in PEO, its governance may seem like a shadowy process that's no business of theirs.

Actually, nothing could be further from the truth, as our features starting on page 56 will illustrate. PEO governance is designed to be transparent, and to be relevant to the government, the general public and, yes, the membership, too. To make any of this happen requires the ongoing efforts of hundreds of members—both experienced volunteers and younger P.Engs.

One of the key points we want to get across in this issue is that volunteering with PEO isn't just an altruistic act. Members often fail to recognize the

personal value they'll extract from becoming involved with their profession in some capacity.

Now, if this issue hasn't prompted you to consider how you might serve, you still have the opportunity to contribute greatly to the future of the profession, simply by picking up a pen.

In December, after two years of considering various properties in and out of the city, Council has decided the only real solution to PEO's future accommodation is to buy or construct a building in downtown Toronto to gain the visibility PEO lacks in its current location, among other reasons.

Although Council has come to this conclusion, the real decision on the matter still rests squarely with the membership. This is because the price tag Council attached to the venture requires a fee increase of \$20 a member, which in turn requires a bylaw amendment that members must confirm.

We've prepared a special feature (p. 12) to explain how and why Council came to the decision it did, and the President and President-elect also weigh in with opposing voices. Now, it's up to you to decide. Is it worth \$20 to you to get a building that garners the respect the profession deserves?

You will receive the bylaw confirmation ballot with your PEO election package in early February. Please carefully consider the issues surrounding PEO's building (p. 3, 29, 48) and vote on the bylaw question. I also encourage you to study the 2008 Council election candidate statements (p. 29) and to exercise your right of choice.

All of you have a chance to make a difference to your profession, so make your voice heard.

Jennifer Coombes
Managing Editor