

# Celebrating engineering achievement

by Stephen Jack, P.Eng.

*Fifty-three years have passed since PEO Council awarded its first Gold Medal to C.D. Howe, P. Eng., to recognize his outstanding leadership and contributions to the Canadian war effort during the Second World War. More recently, Gold Medals were awarded in 1997 to engineer, medical doctor and astronaut Robert Thirsk, P.Eng., and in 1999 to Donald Walker, P.Eng., president and CEO of Magna International, a global leader in auto parts manufacturing.*



In 1964, the awards program was expanded with Engineering Medals to celebrate engineering excellence. In 1970, Citizenship Medals were added to recognize voluntary contributions to society. Over the years, the Engineering Medals have been further subdivided into the following categories:

- ◆ **Engineering Excellence**—recognizing overall excellence in the practice of engineering, where the innovative application of engineering principles has solved a unique problem or produced above-average results.
- ◆ **Research and Development**—for developing new and useful applications, or improving engineering knowledge or applied science, or discovering or extending any of the engineering or natural sciences.
- ◆ **Management**—for the management and direction of above-average engineering projects or highly successful enterprises. Recipients are PEO members who have contributed significantly to achieving excellence in engineering, primarily through their management skills.
- ◆ **Entrepreneurship**—for applying new technologies that have enabled new companies to get started, and/or assisted established companies to grow in new directions. Those who earn this award have demonstrated the initiative, energy and spirit it takes to seek out, promote and foster new ideas.
- ◆ **Young Engineer Award**—for outstanding engineers under the age of 35, who have made exceptional achievements in their chosen fields. This award is given to those who have demonstrated excellence not only in their engineering careers, but also in community and professional participation.

## Citizenship Award

Similar diversity has also been shown in the range of voluntary activities recognized by Citizenship Medals.

Two categories of Citizenship Medals are now open to PEO members for:

- ◆ activities for society outside of an engineering context;
- ◆ activities for social betterment within an engineering context (e.g. extensive voluntary involvement with standards setting groups).

## Call for nominations

The Awards Committee's job is to encourage nominations, select those engineers who meet the high standards of excellence

in the profession and, finally, organize a presentation ceremony to celebrate their achievements. For the awards program to be successful, input from PEO members is essential. The nomination deadline for PEO's 2001 Professional Engineers Awards is October 31, 2000. See the call for nominations below for information on how to nominate an outstanding colleague. ◆

**Stephen Jack, P.Eng., is PEO's director, programs and events, and secretary to the Awards Committee.**

## Know any engineers who deserve a medal?

### Nominate them for a 2001 Professional Engineers Award.



The Professional Engineers Awards program recognizes excellence across a broad range of engineering endeavours, including innovation, professional leadership and entrepreneurship, as well as significant contributions to society in general.



Ensure that engineers who have done outstanding work get the recognition they deserve. Everything needed can be found on PEO's website—including descriptions of categories, nomination criteria, a description of the points system, terms of reference and a nomination form.



[http://www.peo.on.ca/communications/awards/awards\\_nomination.htm](http://www.peo.on.ca/communications/awards/awards_nomination.htm)

If you have any questions or need an awards information kit, please call Andrea Vecera at 224-1100, ext. 445.

**The deadline for nomination is October 31, 2000.**