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President

The topic of renewal and change, both within PEO as an organization and the engineering profession in Ontario, is both topical and informative. As the seasons have changed this year, there has also been a seasonal shift both within PEO and in the province of Ontario.

At the September Council Meeting and Workshop, the groundwork was laid for the direction of PEO over the next three to four years.

The election of a Liberal government signals a time for new direction setting, at the provincial government level. With many changes coming in municipal elections across the province, policy changes and new players will bring new opportunities for PEO and the engineering profession.

At its September meeting, PEO Council approved revised governance principles for the association. The third principle broadens the scope of PEO to include providing trusteeship and leadership of the engineering profession, in addition to regulatory functions. PEO's focus will continue to be on the engineering profession, while the mission of the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers is dedicated to promoting the interests of professional engineers.

PEO Council, in adopting the governance principles, has renewed our commitment to excellence as an organization and as a profession by reaffirming PEO's role in the licensing and development of competent and ethical professional engineers for today's and tomorrow's needs. This reinforces the value and relevance of the association and the profession.

Renewal and growth

As well, the accountability of PEO Council to the public, through the Attorney General, was reaffirmed, particularly in the public interest areas of safety and security, economic welfare, the environment, and quality of life.

In reviewing the association's governance model, PEO Council has continued its commitment to openness and transparency established when its meetings were opened to the public several years ago, as well as to the changes to the *Professional Engineers Act* proclaimed earlier this year. PEO Councillors accept their responsibilities to the membership and the need for openness in the policy decision-making process and in providing information to the membership. In the coming months, we will look at how this can be achieved.

The reduced fees policy for PEO members in special need was approved. Annual fees are set at \$40 plus GST for retired members, postgraduate students, and those on maternity/parental leave or experiencing financial difficulty due to unemployment. Members unable to work for reasons of ill health will not be required to pay fees during the period of their illness. Past presidents will receive a lifetime membership.

In 2004, *Engineering Dimensions* will have a renewed look. The Editor's Note in this issue provides more details. As well, the Editorial Calendar for 2004 sets a new direction, starting with the January/February issue, the theme of which will be "Portrait of a Profession." The issue will look at the results of the CCPE National Survey of the Canadian Engineering Profession, as well as provide an analysis of PEO's Professional Profile Questionnaire.

We look forward to working with Premier Dalton McGuinty, who with his cabinet was sworn in on October 23. We have offered to meet newly appointed Attorney General Michael Bryant, as well as the other ministers whose responsibilities include areas relevant to the engineering profession and engineering governance. In particular, PEO is interested in briefing the Minister of the Environment concern-

ing the Brownfields legislation, and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding the recently proclaimed *Building Code Statute Law Amendment Act*.

PEO will continue to provide information to Premier McGuinty and his cabinet relating to PEO's initiatives and progress in providing all qualified applicants access to practise the profession, including those who are foreign-trained. We have offered to work with the Ontario government to address important issues including ensuring the reliability of the power supply.

The theme of this issue of *Engineering Dimensions* is "Emerging Areas of Practice," and the mailing date coincides with the presentation of the 2003 Ontario Professional Engineers Awards on November 14. The Ontario Professional Engineers Awards, which are presented in partnership by PEO and the Society, recognize excellence in the profession, and the high example set by the award recipients.

This year's award recipients exemplify excellence in engineering and the development of emerging areas of practice. Gold Medal recipient Douglas Barber, P.Eng., has led Gennum Corporation's development as a world leader in microelectronics, in addition to his commitment to the profession and engineering education throughout his professional career. The other award recipients have also been instrumental in emerging areas: Peter Hiscocks P.Eng., in working for equity within the profession; Wayne Doran, P.Eng., in developing paperless transaction systems for the financial industry; William Rowan, P.Eng., in pioneering wind engineering; Levente Diosady, Ph.D., P.Eng., in food engineering; H.N. (Hank) Edamura, P.Eng., in airport engineering management; Larry Seeley, Ph.D., P.Eng., in commercial metallurgical testing, research and development; Hanif M. Ladak, Ph.D., P.Eng., in digital image analysis in healthcare; and Jennifer Moylan, P.Eng., in software engineering, outreach and advocacy.

Congratulations to all the recipients of the 2003 Ontario Professional Engineers Awards. ❖