



MINUTES OF THE 89TH ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2011

CHAIR: DIANE L. FREEMAN,
P.ENG., FEC

THE 89TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF Professional Engineers Ontario was held at the Westin Hotel, Ottawa, Ontario, on Saturday, May 7, 2011. The meeting was called to order by President Diane L. Freeman, P.Eng., FEC.

Before declaring the business meeting open, the president thanked the participants and attendees of Friday's Engineering and Public Policy Conference, noting that the session was both informative and worthwhile.

In addition to the conference, she said the 2011 Order of Honour awards gala, held Friday evening, recognized nine exceptional individuals for their significant lifetime contributions to the engineering profession in Ontario. President Freeman congratulated the award recipients for their outstanding and dedicated commitment to the profession. She also acknowledged Dr. Roberta Bondar, who was awarded the President's Award for outstanding achievement.

The president then acknowledged the AGM sponsor, The Personal, and thanked them for their continued support of the engineering profession.

She also thanked the Ottawa Chapter for its assistance in arranging the events for the AGM. As part of the AGM Organizing Committee, the Ottawa team put together the successful partners program.

CALL TO ORDER

The president advised that since proper notice for the meeting had been published in *Engineering Dimensions* as provided for under section 20(i) of By-Law No. 1 and a quorum was present, the meeting was officially called to order.

INTRODUCTION OF COUNCIL

As the first order of business, the president introduced the members of the 2010-2011 council.

The Executive Committee members: Diane Freeman, P.Eng., FEC, president; Catherine Karakatsanis, MEng, P.Eng., FEC, past president; David Adams, P.Eng., MBA, FEC, president-elect; Corneliu Chisu, P.Eng., FEC, vice president (elected); David Euler, P.Eng., FEC, vice president (appointed); Bruce Clarida, P.Eng., FEC, and Phil Maka, P.Eng., FEC, councillors; and Rebecca Huang, LLB, MBA, lieutenant governor appointee.

The remaining members of council: councillors-at-large Bruce Clarida, Allen Jones, P.Eng., and Roger Jones, P.Eng.; regional councillors David Spacek, P.Eng., and David Euler (Northern Region); Paul Ballantyne, P.Eng., FEC, and Chris Taylor, MEng, P.Eng., MBA (Eastern Region); Thomas Chong, MSc, P.Eng., PMP, and Denis Carlos, P.Eng., FEC (East Central Region); Roydon Fraser, PhD, P.Eng., FEC, and Len King, P.Eng. (Western Region); Phil Maka and Colin Moore, P.Eng., FEC (West Central Region); and lieutenant governor appointees Ishwar Bhatia, P.Eng., MEng; Santosh Gupta, PhD, MEng, P.Eng., FEC; Richard Hilton, P.Eng.; Rebecca Huang; Bill Koska; James Lee, PhD, P.Eng., FEC; Mary Long-Irwin; Sharon Reed, CET; Chris Roney, P.Eng., BDS, FEC; Tarsam Lal Sharma, PhD, P.Eng.; Rakesh Shreevastav, P.Eng., AVS; and Martha Stauch, MEd.

PEO's directors to Engineers Canada for 2010-2011 are Walter Bilanski, PhD, P.Eng., FEC; David Euler; Catherine Karakatsanis; and Chris Roney.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

President Freeman then reviewed the order of business for the meeting as outlined in section 22 of By-Law No. 1 and in the agenda distributed at the meeting.

The president welcomed the special guests attending the meeting and introduced representatives from provincial and national engineering associations from across the country:

- Zaki Ghavitian, ing., president, and Chantal Guay, ing., P.Eng., chief executive officer, Engineers Canada;
- Frank Denton, P.Eng., Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of British Columbia;
- Jim Smith, P.Eng., and Kim Farwell, P.Eng., past president, Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta;
- Maud Cohen, ing., president, Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec;
- Len White, P.Eng., CEO/registrar, and Kris Dove, P.Eng., director, professional development, Engineers Nova Scotia; and
- Deborah McCombe, P.Geo., president, Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario.

She also welcomed representatives of PEO's partners in the engineering community in Ontario:

- Alourdes Sully, P.Eng., president and chair, and Danny Young, P.Eng., acting chief executive officer, Ontario Society of Professional Engineers;
- Barry Steinberg, P.Eng., chief executive officer, Consulting Engineers of Ontario;

- David Saunders, CET, president, and David Thompson, Executive Director, Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists; and
- George Roter, co-chief executive officer, Engineers Without Borders.

IN MEMORIAM

The president asked all present to stand for a moment of silence in remembrance of those PEO members who had passed away in 2010.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

President Freeman referred the members to the minutes of the 2010 Annual General Meeting, which had been published in the March/April issue of *Engineering Dimensions*. The minutes were also distributed at the meeting.

It was moved by Thomas Chong, seconded by Rakesh Shreewastav, that the minutes of the 2010 Annual General Meeting, as published in the November/December 2010 issue of *Engineering Dimensions* and as distributed at the meeting, be adopted.

Motion carried

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The president advised that while there were no official submissions made at the 2010 Annual General Meeting, a motion had been put forth from the floor during the discussion of the Ontario Centre for Engineering and Public Policy (OCEPP) that PEO council create a short-term task force to review the objectives and business plan for OCEPP in consultation with key stakeholders promoting engineering in public policy. Ultimately, PEO council decided that the operations of the centre would be consolidated into PEO's department structure. In addition, council also directed that in 2011 the focus would be on regulatory matters and that it would review OCEPP's mandate on an annual basis.

She reported that a second motion from the floor carried at last year's meeting was that the concept of having council elect the president from among the member-elected councillors should be sent out as a referendum and voted on by the membership. However, after further discussion at last year's AGM, as well as at council's June workshop, the proposal was considered again at council's June meeting, where council directed that the stakeholders be surveyed on the issue. At its August meeting, the Human Resources and Compensation Committee reviewed the comments from stakeholders and recommended to council at its September meeting that PEO conduct a member referendum on this issue. At the November meeting, council defeated the membership referendum question regarding council annually appointing the president and officers from among the elected councillors, as well as the associated communications plan. Instead, following serious discussion, council approved a motion to begin to elect the president and vice president from the elected councillors following the 2013 Annual General Meeting. This decision was re-examined the following month at a special council meeting convened to provide a sober second thought and to clear up any misunderstandings that might have existed. In the end, a motion to reconsider the November motion did not have the required two-thirds vote to put the matter back on the table. Most recently, in March, council held a town hall meeting in each region to discuss with members the governance changes, among other matters. Council received a preliminary report on the town halls at its April meeting but no further action has been taken.

The president also reported that a third motion from the floor concerning upcoming amendments to the *Professional Engineers Act* requiring that

member ratification of any bylaw change be put into the act was carried. She reported that at the time of last year's annual meeting the requirement for member ratification of bylaw changes was already in the act and the amendment to the act to remove this requirement was part of the Open for Business legislation already in the government's hands. The *Open for Business Act* received first reading on May 17, 2010 and second reading on May 31, before receiving royal assent in October. Consequently, there was little time following PEO's AGM for the government to reverse the change. She also advised that it is the government's desire to remove similar sections from all regulatory acts. She explained that the amendments to the act changed council's bylaw-making authority such that bylaws passed by council are now effective when passed by council, unless the bylaw so specifies. At its November 2010 meeting, council amendments to By-law No. 1 wrote into the bylaw that PEO requires confirmation by members of any bylaws pertaining to annual fees for licence holders. Council's decision was based on results of a member survey in October, which revealed that nearly 2800 respondents overwhelmingly supported the idea that council seek confirmation of bylaw changes only when it deems appropriate. Other aspects of PEO operations on which council may make bylaws under section 8 of the act include prescribing the seal and other insignia of the association, prescribing duties of officers, and the investment and reinvestment of funds of the association.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The president referred to the auditors' report and the financial statements, which appeared in the March/April 2010 issue of *Engineering Dimensions* and were distributed as part of the registration package for the meeting.

She also referred to the booklet entitled *Questions and Answers on PEO Operations* included in the registration package. This booklet was compiled to address common questions on all aspects of PEO's operations. It was published on the PEO website; chapters may obtain additional copies by contacting their regional councillors.

It was moved by Cliff Knox, P.Eng., seconded by Thomas Chong, that the financial statements as presented be received.

The president then entertained questions from the floor regarding the statements. Several comments were made regarding finances associated with PEO's new building. CEO and Registrar

[AGM MINUTES]

Kim Allen, P.Eng., FEC, referred members to the *40 Sheppard West Building Report* contained in the registration packages, which provided a complete history of all council decisions relating to the building, including council's desire to end up with a legal LEED platinum certification for the building. He advised that the financial statements had been prepared according to recommendations from the Audit Committee and the auditors.

The members then voted on the motion to receive the financial statements.

Motion carried

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

It was moved by Nancy Hill, P.Eng., FEC, seconded by David Robinson, P.Eng., FEC, that the firm of Deloitte and Touche LLP be appointed auditors of the association for the 2011 financial year.

Motion carried

GREETINGS FROM ENGINEERS CANADA

President Zaki Ghavitian thanked PEO for the invitation to attend its annual meeting and briefly updated the participants on some of the significant activities undertaken by Engineers Canada during the past year.

Highlights include:

- The Synergy Task Force, which had explored ways in which Engineers Canada could improve its processes to better serve its constituent associations and the engineering profession as a whole, led to a new governance model and a bylaw review.
- In 2011, Engineers Canada will implement a new strategy, business and financial plan to ensure continued transparency to Engineers Canada's constituent associations, such as continuing to work with its associations toward integrating foreign engineering graduates into the engineering profession by developing tools to help the associations improve their licensure process and assessment of engineering work experience of foreign engineering graduates through the development of a pilot project named Competency Based Assessment System for Engineering Work Experience. This project is a follow-up to the completed alternative methods of licensure project and will ensure the Canadian public can rely on enhanced access to engineering expertise,

abilities and experience and will create a plain language tool to help international engineering graduates start their navigation through the process of becoming licensed in Canada. This will enhance the quality and accessibility of information already in place to help them with employment and integration into the Canadian engineering workforce.

- Engineers Canada's Women in Engineering Advisory Group and Women in Engineering Task Force have been working on initiatives to increase and maintain the number of women in the profession. Gender visibility is the theme of the 2010 edition of Engineers Canada's *Enrolment and Degrees Awarded* report.

President Ghavitian thanked President Freeman, PEO's council and staff for their ongoing support of Engineers Canada and its many initiatives. He also thanked PEO's representatives on the Engineers Canada board of directors for their dedication and effort.

In closing, he extended his best wishes to incoming president David Adams.

GREETINGS FROM ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS

Co-Chief Executive Officer George Roter expressed his pride in marrying the support that Engineers Without Borders has had over the years from the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers with PEO's support to have the entire engineering profession behind the organization.

He reported that, initially, the relationship has been directed on finding synergies and alignment of missions of both PEO and Engineers Without Borders, such as how the public sees engineers, how engineers see licensure, and how future and potential engineers see licensure. This has resulted in a doubling of the number of licence applications from Engineers Without Borders participants, due exclusively to the relationship built with Professional Engineers Ontario.

During the past election, thanks to the relationships and partnerships built through the Government Liaison Program, the organization was able to put engineers' voices on the map.

He concluded by stating that he was looking forward to continuing Engineers Without Border's relationship with the new council.

GREETINGS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS GROUP

Chair of the CEO Group and CEO/Registrar of Engineers Nova Scotia Len White congratulated PEO on its leadership role in several areas: its relationship with Engineers Without Borders, the elimination of the residency requirement for licensure and national mobility. He advised much time is being devoted by the group, led by PEO CEO/Registrar Kim Allen, on developing a Canadian licensure framework.

He concluded by congratulating President Freeman on her successful council year and in helping move Engineers Canada forward.

GREETINGS FROM ORDRE DES INGÉNIEURS DU QUÉBEC

President Maud Cohen thanked PEO for the invitation to attend its annual meeting.

She reported that OIQ, in celebrating its 91st anniversary, focused its efforts on the future as it implements a new five-year strategic plan, highlighting two major aspects of the plan and the future of the profession.

She advised that OIQ's investigation office had doubled its staff in response to allegations of malpractice being raised against the construction industry with respect to the renewing and updating of Quebec's infrastructure, in an effort to restore the profession's reputation and strengthen public

trust in a sustainable manner. In addition, OIQ has launched its Ethics and Professional Conduct Action Plan, which is to include a review of its code of ethics and all its activities in the interests of prevention.

With respect to the future of profession, President Cohen stated that OIQ is proactively conducting promotional campaigns to encourage young people to choose a career in engineering. Also, with the support of the Quebec government, it is working to support the integration of international engineering graduates into the workforce. Additionally, it is participating in Quebec's major social debates, positioning itself as a major reference for infrastructure and things that relate to the profession.

She concluded by extending best wishes to the new council.

GREETINGS FROM THE ONTARIO SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

President and Chair Alourdes Sully highlighted some of OSPE's main activities and achievements over the past year.

Highlights include:

- Since its inception in 2000, OSPE advocacy efforts have influenced public policy on many fronts, such as providing a significant voice in discussions with the government and stakeholders on nuclear energy, infrastructure investment, the revision of Ontario's *Waste Diversion Act*, qualification-based selection, the green economy, energy, climate change and safe water.
- Enhancements to OSPE's affinity program were highlighted by the launch of its new secondary liability insurance program, permitting all engineers, professionals and entrance members to be automatically covered for this type of insurance at no additional cost.
- Through its online Career Centre, OSPE continues to provide job posting and career planning sessions while its professional development programs help many prepare themselves for PEO's professional practice exam, enhance their technical skills and build their management capabilities.
- OSPE expanded courses, in conjunction with Ontario's Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, designed to help integrate internationally trained engineering graduates into Ontario's workforce.

President and Chair Sully concluded by stating that by working together—PEO to protect the public and OSPE as the collective voice of Ontario engineers—the engineering profession may be enhanced for engineering peers, the next generation and for the benefit of all Ontarians.

GREETINGS FROM CONSULTING ENGINEERS OF ONTARIO

President Steinberg thanked council for providing the opportunity to provide PEO with some indication of what CEO has been doing for the past year.

He advised that over the past year CEO has focused on implementing its three-year strategic plan and highlighted activities in each area: strategic goals; government relations; shaping of public policy, legislation and regulation of interest to its members; communications and public awareness; effectively communicating CEO's message to all audiences; and member services.

He concluded by expressing CEO's appreciation to PEO for the recognition that council and PEO staff have given to it over the last year and that it looks forward to working with incoming President Adams.

GREETINGS FROM THE ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF CERTIFIED ENGINEERING TECHNICIANS AND TECHNOLOGISTS

President David Saunders opened his remarks by bringing greetings from OACETT's council and its members, indicating that his organization greatly values the positive working relationship it has with PEO and the broader engineering community.

He briefly highlighted some of the important issues OACETT is monitoring, including the implementation of the recent changes to the *Professional Engineers Act* that permit a limited licence specific to OACETT-certified technologists and that permit the ability to obtain a Certificate of Authorization enabling OACETT's members to offer services to the public.

He reported that British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario had withdrawn from the Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists to form a new national organization, Technology Professional Canada, and are completing the formation of a new national accreditation body, Technology Accreditations Canada, modeling some improvements on the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board model and those of other organizations worldwide.

OACETT executive recently hosted a panel discussion to probe the core concerns that OACETT and its membership will be facing in coming years. Topics included association demographic challenges, foreign ownership of Canadian consulting firms, association branding, the emergence of private colleges and accrediting new technology disciplines.

President Saunders advised that OACETT has been very successful in streamlining its certification process as a regulator to meet or exceed the requirements of the Office of the Fairness Commissioner. It introduced prior learning assessment and review to assist in the evaluation of applicants, by developing and implementing the use of outcomes-based national technology benchmarks for the accreditation of college programs and the certification of its members.

OACETT continues to work as a dedicated member of the engineering team, collaborating with all members of the engineering community to best serve the interests of public safety, enhance the value added by creative partnering, and advance the recognition of the engineering community.

He concluded his remarks by thanking PEO for the invitation to join the meeting.

[AGM MINUTES]

GREETINGS FROM THE ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, GEOLOGISTS AND GEOPHYSICISTS OF ALBERTA

President Jim Smith informed members that APEGGA is focusing on sustainability of the profession, through understanding what is needed to influence policies and programs of the workforce to lessen the gap between those entering the profession and those retiring.

He commented that APEGGA has worked to have its governing act changed so it will include technologists, acknowledging there is still work to be done to provide more opportunity for them to practise within defined scopes.

He reiterated the importance of mobility, an area in which APEGGA has been very active in the past, and will continue to be so.

He concluded by thanking PEO for its hospitality and issued an invitation to members to visit Alberta.

GREETINGS FROM THE ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND GEOSCIENTISTS OF BC

President Frank Denton began his remarks by stating that the profession shares the challenge of continually finding ways to be innovative regulators.

One matter that has been particularly important to APEGBC is that it has been embarking on a program called Professional Renewal, which takes a holistic look at the way in which the profession is regulated in BC. Thirty-eight recommendations were developed and the association established a five-year implementation plan, of which approximately 72 per cent is complete. As many of the recommendations require legislative changes, concerted efforts are being made to find space on the legislative agenda for this to occur.

He reported that the association has been working with the Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC to look at ways to improve the systems of licensure and registration that affect both organizations. Task forces have made recommendations on how to improve the limited licence program and on the proposed implementation of the designation of professional technologist.

Additionally, the Continuing Professional Development Program guidelines have been revised to harmonize with a like program in Alberta.

President Denton stated that APEGBC is the only province without a corporate licensure requirement. In its stead, the association is in the process of implementing a voluntary organizational professional risk management and quality assurance program. A manual is being prepared to train, guide and periodically audit participants in the program. The program will be open to companies and organizations. One of the benefits of an organization participating in the program is that its employees would then be exempt from professional practice review.

He concluded his remarks by thanking council, staff of PEO and its members for the learning opportunities he gained over the past few days.

MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

President Freeman stated that, as noted in section 17 of By-Law No. 1, one of the purposes of the Annual General Meeting is to ascertain the views of the members present at the meeting on the matters related to the affairs of the association. Submissions presented at the AGM are a way for members in attendance to express their views on matters relating to the affairs of the association. She advised that submissions discussed at the AGM would be published in the July/August issue of *Engineering Dimensions* and were available on the PEO website within two days of receipt at PEO offices. They were also included in the agenda packages for the meeting.

She encouraged members not to wait until the AGM to bring issues forth to council, but to do so whenever an issue of concern arises throughout the year. She informed the meeting that items to be placed on a council agenda should be submitted to the corporate secretary three weeks prior to the meeting at which it is to be discussed.

President Freeman reviewed the process by which member submissions would be handled. She reminded members that member submissions are not binding on council but are intended to give a sense of general direction from the licence holders at the AGM. She assured members that council would address each submission, whether it carried the day or not, so each item will come back to council.

She then read the first of seven member submissions.

Moved by Denis Dixon, P.Eng., seconded by Gregory P. Wowchuk, P.Eng.:
WHEREAS:

1. The federal and provincial governments have mandated mobility for professionals in Canada;
2. This could set the bar at the lowest provincial level for licensure;
3. It is in the profession's and public's interests to preserve high standards;
4. It is essential that engineering regulators negotiate a national licensure model; and
5. PEO, as the largest engineering regulatory body in Canada, should be at the forefront of these negotiations:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT PEO shall:

1. Take a leading role with the provincial licensing bodies and Engineers Canada in the development of a national licensure model;
2. Make its resources and leadership available to a national effort to negotiate its adoption Canada-wide; and
3. Work toward the adoption of a national licensure model.

President Freeman then asked the mover to comment on his submission.

He informed the meeting that the purpose of the submission and its intent was to indicate support for the global and national mobility program. President Freeman confirmed that PEO is committed to taking a leadership role in the project by expending its resources to further national licensure.

President Freeman advised that council has appointed a National Licensure Task Force, composed of representatives from the Academic Requirements Committee, the Experience Requirements Committee, the Registration Committee, the CEO/registrar, Councillor Roydon Fraser, and herself. At the national level, she explained that Engineers Canada had tasked this initiative to the Chief Executive Officers Group.

The members then voted on the submission.

Motion carried

President Freeman then read the next submission.

Moved by Gregory Wowchuk, seconded by Thomas Chong:

WHEREAS:

1. The president-elect has stated his wish to work co-operatively with the Council while providing the leadership PEO stakeholders demand;
2. The president-elect has secured a mandate from the membership to develop a program to address the profession's needs; and
3. Our stakeholders expect council to make progress on the critical problems of the profession:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Both the president and council shall exercise special efforts to liaise and work co-operatively and productively together during the coming council year.

President Freeman invited the mover to address his submission. He explained that the purpose of the submission was to make council and the president more aware of the responsibility to work more co-operatively.

Members then voted on the submission.

Motion carried

President Freeman then introduced the next member submission.

Moved by Denis Dixon, seconded by Michael Hogan, P.Eng.:

WHEREAS:

1. PEO has elected the president directly since 1922;
2. At its November 2010 meeting with the support of nine of 10 unelected lieutenant governor appointees, council passed a motion to take away that right and to elect the president and vice president from amongst members of council, starting in 2013;
3. OSPE's survey and PEO's own survey showed clearly that members are opposed to changing the mechanism of electing the president;
4. The recent election results show that candidates opposing this change have overwhelming support from the membership; and
5. *Wainberg's Society Meetings*, the authority for organization and rules of order set out in PEO's bylaws, defined PEO's traditional structure as the direct model of organization where the president is elected by the members, sets the agenda, exercises more initiative, has a primary responsibility to members, and is expected to follow the instructions of the board of directors except where such instructions conflict with the wishes of the members:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The membership affirms that Professional Engineers Ontario is a member-centred association conforming to the Direct Model defined in para.105(i) of *Wainberg's*, accordingly, the president and vice president shall be elected directly by the members; and
2. The November council resolution, having not been confirmed by a majority vote of the membership in a referendum, shall be rescinded.

She invited the mover to address his submission.

He advised that the intent of his submission was to allow members to confirm that they wished to continue to be a part of the regulation of the profession.

Comments from members included:

- All councillors, whether they are elected, acclaimed, or appointed, are all equals.
- All councillors are there to serve the profession and to protect the public, which is the primary goal of council; excluding lieutenant governor appointees from the vote is unacceptable.
- Electing the president from among councillors rather than members is considered a best practice around the province and the country with other self-regulators.
- The president should be elected by people who know him or her personally and who have done so for a period of time. It is the Canadian model of democracy where representatives are elected and they, in turn, elect the leader.
- A large body can act as harmoniously, and as co-operatively, as a smaller body and it is the leadership that is important in maintaining the close coherence and co-operation between a body.
- PEO is a direct model under *Wainberg's Society Meetings*.
- Electing the president directly makes more sense and if PEO's model is to be changed, the members need to be consulted.
- The provincial government has allowed engineers to be self-regulating and given that power and that authority to council, not to the president.

The members then voted on the submission.

Motion defeated

[AGM MINUTES]

President Freeman then introduced the next member submission.

Moved by Denis Dixon, seconded by Michael Hogan:

WHEREAS:

PEO is a contemporary major corporate entity with over 74,000 members and a budget in excess of \$20 million:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

A licensed chartered accountant or a certified general accountant be recruited to serve as PEO's treasurer in accordance with the act, section 3(8), and that the president shall present to council, at its next meeting, a list of qualified candidates for consideration.

President Freeman then called on the mover to review his submission. He explained that given the size of PEO's budget, it would be prudent to have a chartered accountant or other equally qualified individual overseeing PEO's accounts.

The members then voted on the submission.

Motion carried

In the interests of time, President Freeman sought a motion that would direct council to consider the remaining member submissions.

Moved by Clifford Knox, seconded by Michael Ball, P.Eng.:

THAT member submissions regarding the weekend of annual general meetings and bylaws be forwarded to council for its consideration.

Motion carried

REMARKS FROM PRESIDENT FREEMAN

President Freeman stated that it had been a privilege to represent professional engineers in Ontario and the association this past year as president and an honour to lead such an intelligent, dedicated, and supportive council.

Council had worked to embrace the vision that they wanted to be the global leader in self-regulation and to share all of those best practices with their colleagues across Canada so that PEO could increase the relevance of the licence and make being a professional engineer not just a goal of students entering engineering, but a desire for students as they leave with their licences in hand. Council had done that with a willing heart and with honesty and integrity. It

had entered into challenging, always lively, but caring conversations. She then invited members to attend a council meeting whenever convenient for them.

President Freeman then acknowledged PEO staff, who work hard to deliver on council's objectives and make the association the most envied self-regulatory body in Ontario. It is the staff at PEO, under the leadership of Kim Allen, CEO and registrar, who execute council's direction.

She also thanked the over 600 volunteers who support PEO's mandate and help make licensure more relevant. It is the heart of volunteerism that drives this profession to be a global leader and it is with all this support that council has accomplished so much. It has made well-informed, sound and sometimes challenging decisions. Council had advanced the mandate of PEO in the public interest in many meaningful ways.

She then highlighted some of council's accomplishments over the year:

- supporting mentorship through a pilot mentorship program;
- emphasizing the importance of licensure through PEO's relationship with Engineers Without Borders and the Ontario Centre for Engineering and Public Policy;
- inspiring many undergraduate and graduate engineering students who are inspired by the progressive leadership shown by this council, including the willingness to seek a new governance structure and to repeal the industrial exception.

President Freeman expressed her confidence that PEO can be the global leader in self-regulation and can be relevant to today's inspired engineers. She expressed her sincere hope that, under the continued leadership of President Adams, this important work of council that has been recognized by so many individuals, will continue and progress so PEO can become an even more inclusive and far-reaching organization.

Other accomplishments include:

- securing a change to the *Professional Engineers Act*, with over 66 amendments, including:
 - a new definition of professional engineering that is consistent with the national definition;
 - the harmonization of PEO's requirements with the national requirements;
 - making the act and processes clearer and more transparent;
 - the repealing of the industrial exception;
 - the ability to permit engineering technicians and technologists to hold certificates of authorization to offer to the public services within their limited licences and be able to have a class of licence known as LET, which will make all professionals publicly accountable through licences and certificates of authorization.

In closing, President Freeman said the past year had been a rewarding one and thanked, among others, the members of PEO for the privilege of representing them. In leaving the position, she was confident that the momentum gained would continue under the leadership of President-elect Adams and council.

PRESENTATION TO OUTGOING COUNCILLORS

President Freeman said the members of the 2010-2011 council had been tremendous and had worked hard in serving the profession.

In recognition of their service, she presented certificates, name badges, and desk plaques to retiring members of council: Past President Catherine Karakatsanis, Vice President Corneliu Chisu, Councillor-at-Large Bruce Clarida, Councillor-at-Large Allen Jones, Northern Regional Councillor David Spacek, West Central Regional Councillor Phil Maka, and Lieutenant Governor Appointee Chris Roney. She also acknowledged former President Walter Bilanski, whose term as PEO director on the board of Engineers Canada would conclude at the end of May this year.

INSTALLATION OF NEW PRESIDENT

President Freeman then swore in David Adams as president for the 2011-2012 term and presented the gavel of office to him.

The new president presented Past President Freeman with a ceremonial gavel of office and a certificate of lifetime membership. He also thanked her on PEO's behalf for her service to the association.

INTRODUCTION OF INCOMING MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

President Adams asked all members of council continuing in their current positions to stand. He then introduced the newly elected members of the 2011-2012 council: President-elect Denis Dixon; Vice President Pat Quinn, P.Eng., FEC; Councillor-at-Large Roydon Fraser; Councillor-at-Large Michael Hogan; Northern Regional Councillor Michael Wesa, P.Eng.; Western Regional Councillor Wayne Kershaw, P.Eng.; and West Central Regional Councillor Rob Willson, P.Eng.

CLOSING REMARKS BY DAVID ADAMS

President Adams began by saying now is the time to begin afresh with a spirit of co-operation. He stated he had invited councillors to send him their ideas, which would be discussed at the upcoming workshop. As well, council would review all the platforms of those who ran in the election and then, by a process of review of the fresh ideas contained in those platforms, develop a program for the coming year.

He said there was no better time for all members to unite behind a massive effort to tackle the very real problems confronting the country, the province and the profession. As engineering practitioners, members must work to offset those conditions in the economy that hinder the output of goods and services for domestic consumption and export. Now is the time for members to exercise their technical prowess to re-establish the profession as a prominent contributor to society, noting the historical contributions engineers have made. He said it was the job of engineers to fill the voids that have been created in the industrial fabric, where low product costs prevail in the global economy as the most important factor in the marketplace.

Under the present circumstances, if engineers are to be of comparable value to society as their ancestors, they must continue to develop and provide innovative jobs created using Canada's extensive mineral deposits, forests, wheat fields, and vast resources of oil and gas.

He said that now is the time to bring forth the vision, expertise, and sound technical advice that Canada's governments require. In this pursuit, he envisioned a more aggressive stance being taken by the profession, including greater participation by PEO in its quest for renewal.

He stated there is a gap in Canada's industrial policies and immediate steps should be taken by engineers, industry, and government financing to close that gap and make coming to fruition the ability to employ engineers.

He also questioned whether students are able to gain the necessary foundations in four years of high school that are necessary for engineering studies at

university. As well, he indicated consideration should be given to requiring a master's degree to obtain an engineering licence.

He advised that Canada is the fourth largest exporter of engineering services in the world and engineers should continue to expand such services that provide jobs at home.

He said council would be looking to the chapters for ideas on ways to improve such matters as qualifications, experience, and bringing forth the vision and the advice to government so that the profession's programs may be advanced.

As the largest engineering jurisdiction in Canada with one of the highest standards for entry, PEO plays a leading role in the new national licence. He offered the services of PEO's Academic Requirements and Experience Requirements committees to help in the validation of credentials with foreign-trained applicants.

With the removal of the industrial exception, PEO's currency as a complete regulator will enhance the profession and the role of engineers in society will increase.

He concluded by saying he was looking forward to working with the members and council to build a complete, modern, progressive organization for all engineering with the highest standards.

COMMENTS BY PENULTIMATE PAST PRESIDENT KARAKATSANIS

Catherine Karakatsanis requested the opportunity to address the meeting. She began by thanking President Adams for his progressive speech and wished him all the best for a successful term.

She then congratulated Past President Freeman for continuing toward PEO's audacious goal to be the global leader in professional self-regulation. She advised that PEO has heard from its colleagues across the country that they are appreciative of what PEO has been doing in this regard. She commented on Past President Freeman's hard work on overseeing the act changes, working on the national licensure model, building on the partnership with Engineers Without Borders, and meeting with members from across the province, and with government. On behalf of council, she thanked Past President Freeman for all her hard work and the leadership given.

CONCLUSION

Past President Freeman then declared the 89th Annual General Meeting of the Association of Professional Engineers concluded. Σ

Kim Allen, P.Eng., FEC
CEO/registrar