



Government Liaison Program (GLP) Weekly

May 16, 2011

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Through the *Professional Engineers Act*, PEO governs over 80,000 licence and certificate holders and regulates professional engineering in Ontario to serve and protect the public. Professional engineering safeguards life, health, property, economic interests, the public welfare and the environment.

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1. Government/MPP Briefing

PEO PETERBOROUGH CHAPTER MEETS WITH PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANT TO THE MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE

As part of the PEO Government Liaison Program (GLP), Peterborough Chapter representatives **Graham Wall**, P.Eng., **Marcelo König Sarkis**, P. Eng., and PEO Government Relations Coordinator **Kaitlynn Dodge** met with **Rick Johnson** MPP (Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock) and his Legislative Assistant **Christine Williamson** on May 11 at the Ontario Legislature.



From left to right: Graham Wall, P.Eng., Marcelo König Sarkis, P. Eng., Rick Johnson MPP and Kaitlynn Dodge on May 11 at Queen's Park.

The group discussed local constituency issues as well as the work that PEO is doing through the Government Liaison Program. The newly passed Ontario Open for Business Act and the long sought repeal of the industrial exemption was discussed at length. Mr. Wall is a representative on the Repeal of the Industrial Exemption Taskforce working to educate industry on the benefits of the legislation. The PEO representatives left behind an information package outlining recent projects and provided further documentation on the industrial exemption following the meeting.

CONSULTING ENGINEERS OF ONTARIO PRESIDENT MEETS WITH TORONTO CITY COUNCILLOR

Consulting Engineers of Ontario have been meeting with municipal politicians across the province as part of its 2110: Think Long-Term Ontario campaign to promote long-term infrastructure planning in the province. On May 10, **Barry Steinberg**, P.Eng., President of the Consulting Engineers of Ontario and **Kaitlynn Dodge**, Account Executive at Brown & Cohen Communications & Public Affairs met with Toronto City Councillor **Sarah Doucette**.

The group discussed the role of consulting engineers in the city and the importance of tools like asset management systems in properly maintaining infrastructure. Water and electricity

distribution infrastructure were the focus of the discussion as these are two areas that are more prone to neglect because they are 'out of sight, out of mind'.

Mr. Steinberg asked Councillor Doucette to support PEO's campaign to have a street behind PEO headquarters renamed, 'Engineers Way' and encouraged her to bring engineers in early in the decision-making process when dealing with infrastructure and related issues.



Mr. Steinberg also attended a meeting with Paul West and Stephen Young of Infrastructure Minister **Bob Chiarelli's** office along with the Ontario General Contractors Association (OGCA) as the Vice Chair of the Construction and Design Alliance, to discuss the 10 year Capital Infrastructure Plan on May 12. On May 13, Mr. Steinberg attended the Construction Industry Coffee & Conversation Session with Labour Minister **Charles Sousa**.

2. Events Attended/Held

CLIMATE CHANGE AND INFRASTRUCTURE WORKSHOPS WELCOME ANOTHER 60 PARTICIPANTS

PEO hosted the jointly sponsored Public Infrastructure Engineering Vulnerability Committee (PIEVC) event on the Impact of Climate Change on Civil Infrastructure on May 16. The PIEVC's Engineering Protocol was developed by Engineers Canada, in partnership with Natural Resources Canada and Consulting Engineers of Ontario, Engineers Canada, the Ontario Centre for Engineering and Public Policy, the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers and Professional Engineers Ontario co-sponsored the workshops. **Barry Steinberg**, P.Eng., president of Consulting Engineers of Ontario made opening remarks.

The May 16 and 17 one-day workshops focused on how to assess and prepare for the impacts of climate change on infrastructure and attracted over 60 participants from a range of organizations including engineering firms, Ontario government ministries, municipalities, universities and conservation authorities. For information on PIEVC visit http://www.pievc.ca/e/index_cfm.

ONTARIO FAIRNESS COMMISSIONER HOLDS EVENT TO SUPPORT YOUTH CENTRE IN SOUTH AFRICA

Following a recent trip to South Africa, Ontario Fairness Commissioner **Jean Augustine** held an event on May 11 at Ryerson University to support and raise funds to repair the roof at the Christ the Reconcilers Youth Centre in South Africa. In attendance were the Consul General of South Africa, **Tselane Mokuena**, who was the guest speaker, the Consul General of Grenada, **Jenny Gumbs** and the Consul General of Haiti, Dr. Eric Pierre.



At the invitation of Ms. Augustine, PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown** also attended the event. Ms. Augustine has been a strong supporter of PEO's for many years.

CANADIAN CENTRE FOR POLICY ALTERNATIVES PARTICIPATES IN DEBATE ON TORONTO GARBAGE PRIVITIZATION

Toronto City Councillor **Josh Matlow** hosted a debate on the privatization of Toronto's garbage services, in partnership with the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives on May 10 at the North Toronto Collegiate Institute. The goal of the debate was to ensure that residents had an opportunity to become informed on both sides of this important issue.



Toronto City Councillor Josh Matlow addresses the crowd as Steve Paikin, Hugh MacKenzie and Toronto City Councillor Denzil Minnan-Wong listen in the background.

Participating in the panel was Research Associate **Hugh MacKenzie** from the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives and Toronto City Councillor **Denzil Minnan-Wong**, Chair of the City of Toronto Works Committee. The event was moderated by **Steve Paikin** of TVO's The Agenda.

Over 100 people attended including **Georg Kralik**, P. Eng., past chair of West Toronto PEO chapter and PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown**. Both also recently attended the Eglinton cross-town subway town hall meeting.

PEO PARTICIPATES IN EVENT FOR ONTARIO FINANCE CRITIC



Norm Miller MPP
(Parry Sound-Muskoka)

A reception was held for Ontario PC Finance Critic **Norm Miller** MPP (Parry Sound-Muskoka) at the Hart House on May 11.

PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown** was in attendance and spoke with many PC caucus members about the PEO Government Liaison Program including Deputy Leader **Christine Elliott** MPP (Whitby-Oshawa), **Steve Clark** MPP (Leeds-

Grenville), **Jim Wilson** MPP (Simcoe Grey), **Sylvia Jones** MPP (Dufferin-Caledon). Also attended were **Ted Arnott** MPP (Wellington-Halton Hills), **Lisa MacLeod** MPP (Nepean-Carleton), **Toby Barrett** MPP (Haldimand-Norfolk) and former Minister and MPP **Chris Hodgson**.

FORMER CHAIR OF ONTARIO TRILLIUM FOUNDATION TAKES LIBERAL NOMINATION



Helen Burstyn, the former chair of the Ontario Trillium Foundation has been appointed as the Liberal candidate in the riding of Beaches East-York. The nomination was held May 14 at Harmony Hall in Crescent Town. Ms. Burstyn is former president of the Canadian Club of Toronto and director of stakeholder relations for the Premier’s Office.

Beaches East York Liberal candidate Helen Burstyn and PEO Enforcement Officer Marisa Sterling, P. Eng.

Guest speaker Transportation Minister Kathleen Wynne MPP.

Speaking at the nomination were Transportation Minister **Kathleen Wynne** MPP (Don Valley West) and Minister of Citizenship and Immigration **Eric Hoskins** MPP (St. Paul’s). Also attending were Natural Resources Minister **Linda Jeffrey** MPP (Brampton-Springdale), former Finance Minister **Greg Sorbara** MPP (Vaughan), Toronto District School Board trustee Michael Couteau, PEO Enforcement Officer **Marisa Sterling**, P. Eng., and Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown**. The riding is currently held by **Michael Prue** MPP.

PUBLIC POLICY ADVOCATE RECOMMENDS RETHINKING OF TORONTO STREETS

Ontario Transportation Minister **Kathleen Wynne** MPP (Don Valley West) and TTC Commissioner Karen Stintz recently spoke at a “Decision Makers” breakfast on transportation issues. The keynote speaker was the Executive Director of 8-80cities, Gil Penalosa, who spoke on promoting public spaces being more pedestrian friendly and the need for more pedestrian friendly planning for our cities. It was held at May 16 at North Toronto Collegiate



Transportation Minister Kathleen Wynne MPP (Don Valley West) speaks at “decision makers”

organized by the Eglinton Park Residents Association. PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown** attended and invited Gil (Guillermo) Penalosa to speak at a future policy engagement seminar for the Ontario Centre for Engineering and Public Policy.

More information on the initiative can be found at <http://www.8-80cities.org/>.

PEO PARTICIPATES IN EVENT FOR THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND FINANCE



Leona Dombrowski MPP (Prince Edward-Hastings) held a fundraising reception at Labatt House.

Minister of Education **Leona Dombrowski** MPP (Prince Edward-Hastings) held a fundraising reception at Labatt House on May 16. The guest speaker was Finance Minister **Dwight Duncan** MPP (Windsor-Tecumseh), who spoke on the economic and energy challenges facing the province.

PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown** attended and spoke with Minister Duncan, Minister Dombrowski and members of their staff. In particular, Mr. Brown spoke of the successes of the Essex-Windsor Chapter's efforts, pointing out that they were one of last year's winners of the

Government Liaison Program's Chapter Award. Their representative **Andrew Dowie**, P.Eng., a City of Windsor engineer, was recently appointed as one of the Chapter representatives in the new PEO Government Liaison Committee.

3. Work in Progress

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS' SUCCESS PUTTING THEIR PROFESSION ON THE MAP TO BE SHARED AT GOVERNMENT RELATIONS CONFERENCE

Many organizations are interested in learning about how Professional Engineers Ontario has managed to put their profession on the map.

PEO is recognized as one of the leading regulators in Canada. This success has largely been attributed to the GLP connecting their 36 chapters with their local Members of Provincial Parliament on specific legislative action.

PEO CEO/Registrar **Kim Allen**, P.Eng., and PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown** will address the Canadian Institute June 7-8. The focus of the presentation will be a Case Study talking about the success of Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO) and the Government Liaison Program (GLP) set up in 2005.

They will discuss the new Ontario Open for Business Act, which saw changes to the Professional Engineers Act that resulted in 66 amendments that improved the ability for internationally

trained engineers to get licensed. The changes also increased mobility across Canada and removed an important industrial exemption that they believed potentially jeopardized public safety.

For the full program go to: www.canadianinstitute.com/govrelations.

4. Newly Added Events

**MP and MPP receptions/donations are entitled to up to 75% tax credit on the first \$400. For more information see Elections Ontario or Elections Canada websites.*

- An evening with the Honourable Charles Sousa MPP (Mississauga South) on **May 25** from 6:30 – 8:30 pm at the home of Ward & Sylvia Houghton, 20 Margaret Street, St. Thomas. Tickets are \$100 (advanced purchase only). To purchase tickets or for more information contact Lori Baldwin-Sands at (519) 631-1857 or loribaldwinsands@gmail.com.
- Canada-China Green Investment Forum on **May 27 - 28** at the Sheraton Centre Toronto hosted by World Greenism Investment and Trade Promotion Association (WGITPA) and the China Hi-Tech Industrialization Association (CHIA), the Canada International Economic and Cultural Exchange Association (CIECEA). Tickets are \$200. Please contact the CIECEA office directly at ciecea2010@yahoo.ca for any inquiry.
- An Ontario Society of Professional Engineers Policy Series Event, ‘Public Private Partnerships: Economic Prosperity in Ontario’, with Minister of Infrastructure **Bob Chiarelli** MPP (Ottawa West-Nepean) on **June 1** from 7:30 am - 12:00 pm at the Toronto Board of Trade, First Canadian Place, 77 Adelaide Street West, Toronto, ON. Tickets are \$105. Go to: <http://pc2-1jun11.eventbrite.com/> to register.
- Fundraising dinner supporting the re-election of Michael Chan MPP (Markham-Unionville) on **June 7** at the Markham Event Centre, 95 Duffield Drive. Reception at 6 pm with dinner at 7 pm. Tickets are \$150 each or \$1,500 for a table. For more information contact 416-260-1608 ext. 505.
- A fundraising evening of cocktails & culture with Minister of Children and Youth Services **Laurel Broten** MPP (Etobicoke-Lakeshore) and special guest Minister of Tourism and Culture **Michael Chan** MPP (Markham-Unionville) on **June 13** from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. The event will be held at the home of Rex Harrington, O.C., 5 Indian Valley Crescent, Toronto, ON. Please RSVP to 416-260-1608 ext. 515 or brotten2011@ontarioliberalfund.com.

5. Previously Listed Events

**MP and MPP receptions/donations are entitled to up to 75% tax credit on the first \$400. For more information see Elections Ontario or Elections Canada websites.*

- Ontario's Attorney General **Chris Bentley** MPP (London West) will address the Canadian Club about 'Ontario's Human Rights System: 50 years of progress worth defending' at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel, Upper Canada Room on **May 24** at 11:45 am. Tickets are \$75. For more information visit <http://www.canadianclub.org/Events/EventDetails.aspx?id=3156>.
- Ontario Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities **John Milloy** MPP (Kitchener Centre) will speak to the Canadian Club about, 'Students First: Postsecondary education in the years ahead' on **May 30** at 11:45 am at the Sheraton Centre Hotel's Dominion Ballroom, Toronto. Tickets are \$75. Visit <http://www.canadianclub.org/Events/EventDetails.aspx?id=3155> for more details.
- An evening with **Steve Clark** MPP (Leeds-Grenville) on **May 30** from 6 - 8 pm at the Albany Club, 91 King St. E., Sir John A. Macdonald Rm., Toronto. Tickets are \$250. All inquiries should be directed to Caroline Pinto by phone at (416) 920-0716 ext. 223, by email at cpinto@counselpa.com or by fax at (416) 352-6069.
- Ontario PC Party Leader **Tim Hudak** MPP (Niagara West-Glanbrook) to address the Canadian Club on, 'Change Ahead: the change Ontario families will be looking for in the upcoming election' on **June 1** at 11:45 am at the Hyatt on King (370 King Street), King Ballroom. Tickets are \$75. Go to <http://www.canadianclub.org/Events/EventDetails.aspx?id=3157> for more details.
- A cocktail reception fundraiser in support of **Reza Moridi** MPP (Richmond Hill) with special guest Minister of Finance **Dwight Duncan** MPP (Windsor-Tecumseh) MPP and Professor John Polanyi, Nobel Laureate, University of Toronto, as the Special Guest on **June 14** from 6:30 - 8:30pm at the Sheraton Hotel, 600 Highway 7 East, Richmond Hill. Tickets are \$300. For more information call 416-430-0987 or email reelectreza2011@gmail.com.
- A fundraising reception with Minister of Infrastructure **Bob Chiarelli** MPP (Ottawa West-Nepean) and special guest Minister of Transportation **Kathleen Wynne** MPP (Don Valley West) on **June 22** from 6 – 8 pm at Sopra Upper Lounge, 265 Davenport Road, Toronto. Tickets are \$600. RSVP to 647-289-0839 or ianconnerty@yahoo.ca.
- The annual "**Bas Balkissoon** Golf Classic" will be held on Tuesday, **July 12** at the Sleepy Hollow Golf and Country Club in Stouffville, Ontario. Mr. Balkissoon is the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Community and Social Services. Tickets are \$200. For more

information on the event, email friendsofbas@rogers.com or call Chandra Gocool at 905-837-5011.

- True Patriot Love Tribute Dinner in support of Canadian Military Families on **November 10** at the All Stream Centre, Exhibition Place, Toronto. Tickets are \$750. RSVP to Karen Miller at 416-224-9990 or email kim.inc@rogers.com.

If you have any comments, additions, or questions, please do not hesitate to call or email:

Howard Brown, President
Brown & Cohen Communications & Public Affairs Inc.
321 Brooke Avenue | Toronto, ON M5M 2L4
Direct line: 416-783-1140 | Cell: 416-844-1180
howard@brown-cohen.com | www.brown-cohen.com