



MINUTES OF THE 93RD ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2015

CHAIR: J. DAVID ADAMS, P.ENG.,
MBA, FEC

THE 93RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) of Professional Engineers Ontario was held at the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel, Toronto, Ontario, on Saturday, April 25, 2015.

President J. David Adams advised that PEO was webcasting its business meeting to increase the accessibility of PEO information to more members, no matter where they are located.

The President thanked the participants and attendees of Friday's Volunteer Leadership Conference, which brought together both chapter and committee volunteers. He noted that, in addition to this conference, tribute was paid at the 2015 Order of Honour gala to eight exceptional professional engineers, as well as the Sterling Award recipient, each of whom had made significant, lifetime contributions to the engineering profession in Ontario.

He also acknowledged the AGM Gold Sponsor, The Personal, and thanked the company for its continued support of the engineering profession.

The President announced that following the business meeting would be the keynote luncheon with speaker Peter Doody, who served as Senior Commission Counsel at the Elliot Lake Commission of Inquiry.

The President informed the meeting that the 500th meeting of PEO Council would be held following the business meeting and luncheon and that all were welcome to attend.

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.

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 2014.

REMARKS FROM PRESIDENT ADAMS

President Adams advised that he would like to see the membership more involved in decision making, noting that a good start was made in this direction at the April 24, 2015 Volunteer Leadership Conference by bringing the chapters and committees together to discuss various issues. He stated that he hopes incoming President Chong will continue to involve the membership in this manner.

Calling himself very member-oriented, President Adams said he felt this approach should continue in regard to several important issues for which Council will continue to seek solutions. He said the most recent issue involves a new policy of Citizenship and Immigration Canada, which believes that Canada will need a large number of technically trained immigrants over the next few years, due to the pending retirements of many engineers and technologists. He said he knows that this will not be an immediate issue because the labour market study conducted by the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE) shows that there is a surplus. He said he believes there are currently many underemployed and unemployed engineers, because of the 6000 engineering students graduating from 15 universities in Ontario each year.

President Adams indicated that Engineers Canada intends to become part of the fast-track government immigration process by performing a preliminary assessment of the credentials of potential immigrants, which he wrote about in *Engineering Dimensions*. Engineers Canada hopes to do this initial assessment while immigrants are still residing in their native countries.

President Adams said the final academic and experience assessments for licensure, however, would be made by PEO through the Academic Requirements and Experience Requirements committees. He said PEO Council recently voted not to get involved with the federal government immigration issue, partly because of the experience when a similar program was in place a little over 10 years ago and immigrants thought the assessments by Engineers Canada meant they could get a licence without going any further. President Adams said he had been assured by Kim Allen, P.Eng., FEC, CEO, Engineers Canada, that the future assessments would make clear that the assessment was not for licensure purposes and that applicants would be required to pass the requirements set by the provincial regulatory bodies legislated to do this very job.

President Adams then provided an update on the progress on implementing the Aptify database software that is to be used in licensing, financial accounting and other core aspects of PEO's business. He advised

that the implementation of Aptify is behind schedule and that, to date, \$1.3 million had been spent on the purchase and installation of Phase 1 of the project, which represents an overrun of \$135,000 to the initial budget of \$1.16 million approved by Council on February 8, 2013. He said that to provide funds to complete Phase 1, the Registrar had proposed that two approved projects be postponed, one being Aptify Phase II, which obviously cannot proceed until the completion of Phase I, the other being a relaunch of the SharePoint software.

President Adams said another issue that has suffered delay is proclamation of the repeal of the industrial exception, despite intensive lobbying and a costly program on PEO's part. He noted that the exception, which allows companies to design production and process equipment and machinery for their own use without professional engineering input, was introduced in 1984. He also noted that, at present, a pre-start program that requires supervision and approval of implementation of new lines and new machines by an engineer is in place, but that people are still being hurt in factories. He said no other province has a similar exception in its engineering act. He said PEO would continue to collect industrial injury statistics and would petition to government accordingly.

President Adams stated that while he generally supports the Government Liaison Program (GLP), had PEO divested from advocacy to follow the government's directive 12 years ago, PEO could have applied these funds to other projects. The President said the GLP was budgeted for \$245,600 in 2014, of which only \$34,000 was clearly earmarked for regulatory matters. He said he would welcome comments from members about this.

President Adams then discussed Elliot Lake, noting that Ontario engineers suffered the greatest loss in reputation in many years over the Algo Centre Mall roof collapse. He noted that the Elliot Lake Commission of Inquiry did not adopt the engineering construction control protocol developed by British Columbia almost 35 years ago when a mall roof collapsed in Burnaby, although it was advised of the protocol. He noted that the partial collapse of the rooftop parking deck of the Algo Centre Mall, a 30-year-old building, was due to corrosion caused by salt.

The President said the Commission of Inquiry did recommend certain improvements, including a new performance standard for structural inspections of existing buildings with a mandate that a P.Eng. produce a structural adequacy report for existing buildings. He said PEO has been asked to release information on practitioners that have been disqualified and to institute a plan for continuing professional development. He noted that some positive strides on the latter had been made at the Volunteer Leadership Conference, where members proposed some excellent ideas. He said that, in his opinion, members should be involved in decision making regarding continuing education.

President Adams discussed employment. He said he would like PEO to concentrate on new technology by having the 15 universities that offer engineering programs and PEO unite in discussion with the Emerging Disciplines Task Force regarding new fields of engineering to develop the qualifications required to participate in them. He also noted that he had explored India's request for Canadian engineers to renew their infrastructure, adding that Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi had recently been in Canada and is very interested in this.

President Adams concluded his remarks by discussing Toronto's decaying infrastructure, saying that, in his opinion, PEO should make it known that

it is willing to help and funnel knowledge into solutions. He stated that he had recently sent a letter to the Right Honourable Stephen Harper, Premier Kathleen Wynne and Mayor John Tory outlining some of the problems in Toronto. He suggested that when members encounter infrastructure problems in their areas, they should report them to the proper authorities.

INTRODUCTION OF COUNCIL

The President introduced the members of the 2014-2015 PEO Council.

The Executive Committee members:

Annette Bergeron, P.Eng., FEC, Past President; Thomas Chong, P.Eng., FEC, President-elect; George Comrie, P.Eng., FEC, Vice President (elected); Michael Wesa, P.Eng., Vice President (appointed); and Councillors Nicholas Colucci, P.Eng., FEC, Rob Willson, P.Eng., Rebecca Huang, LLB, and himself as chair.

The remaining members of Council: Councillors-at-Large Roydon Fraser, PhD, P.Eng., Roger Jones, BSc, P.Eng., and Bob Dony, PhD, P.Eng., FEC; and Regional Councillors Michael Wesa and Serge Robert, P.Eng. (Northern Region), Charles Kidd, P.Eng., and David Brown, P.Eng., BDS, C.E.T. (Eastern Region), Changiz Sadr, P.Eng., FEC, and Nicholas Colucci (East Central Region), Ewald Kuczera, MSc, P.Eng., and Len King, P.Eng., FEC (Western Region), and Rob Willson and Danny Chui, P.Eng., FEC (West Central Region); and Lieutenant Governor-in-Council Appointees Ishwar Bhatia, MEng, P.Eng., Santosh Gupta, PhD, P.Eng., FEC, Richard Hilton, P.Eng., Rebecca Huang, Bill Kossta, Mary Long-Irwin, Sharon Reid, C.Tech., Chris Roney, P.Eng., BDS, FEC, Rakesh Shreewastav, P.Eng., AVS, FEC and Marilyn Spink, P.Eng.

PEO's directors to Engineers Canada for 2014-2015: Diane Freeman, P.Eng., FEC, Annette Bergeron, George Comrie, Chris Roney and Rakesh Shreewastav. President Adams also acknowledged Registrar Gerard McDonald, P.Eng.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

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

- Digvir S. Jayas, FCAE, FEIC, FEC, P.Eng., President-elect, as well as Kim Allen,

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P.Eng., FEC, Chief Executive Officer, Engineers Canada;

- Ann English, P.Eng., Chief Executive Officer and Registrar, Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia;
- Andrew Loken, P.Eng., FEC, President, and Dennis Paddock, P.Eng., FEC, Chief Executive Officer and Registrar, Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan;
- Marcia Friesen, P.Eng., Past President, Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Manitoba; and
- Anne Baril, Eng., Board Member, Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec.

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

- Danny Young, P.Eng., President and Chair, and Sandro Perruzza, BSc, Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE);
- Nadine Miller, P.Eng., Board Secretary, Consulting Engineers of Ontario;
- Toon Dreesen, B.Arch, OAA, MRAIC, AIA, LEED AP, President, Ontario Association of Architects;
- Anna Godo, P.Eng., President, Municipal Engineers Association; and
- Liam Morrow, President, Engineering Student Societies' Council of Ontario.

Also welcomed were Bob van den Berg, C.E.T., President, and David Thomson, Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists (OACETT).

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

President Adams referred members to the minutes of the 2014 Annual General Meeting, which had been published in the November/December 2014 issue of *Engineering Dimensions* and had also been distributed at the meeting.

It was moved by Nicholas Colucci, P.Eng., seconded by Ewald Kuczera, P.Eng., that the minutes of the 2014 Annual General Meeting, as published in the November/December

2014 issue of *Engineering Dimensions* and as distributed at the meeting, be adopted.

Motion carried

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The President advised that normally actions taken by Council on submissions discussed at last year's Annual General Meeting would be reviewed; however, there were no submissions received last year.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The President referred members to the auditor's report and the financial statements, which were published to PEO's website prior to the meeting and distributed as part of the registration package for the meeting. The statements would also be published in the May/June 2015 issue of *Engineering Dimensions*.

He also referred to the booklet entitled *Questions and Answers on PEO Operations* included in the registration package, which he said was compiled to address common questions on all aspects of PEO's operations. He advised that the booklet had been published on the PEO website and that chapters may obtain additional printed copies by contacting their regional councillors.

The President then asked for questions from the floor regarding the financial statements. There were none.

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

Motion carried

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

President Adams stated that members must appoint auditors for the upcoming year. He advised that the Audit Committee was recommending the firm of Deloitte LLP be reappointed.

It was moved by Thomas Chong, P.Eng., seconded by Santosh Gupta, P.Eng., that the firm of Deloitte LLP be appointed auditors of the association for the 2015 financial year.

Motion carried

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Registrar McDonald stated the work that had been done over the past year, as well as plans for the upcoming year beginning with recent organizational changes. He presented the new structure for his direct reports, which now includes Finance, IT and Communications in addition to Corporate Services, Licensing and Registration, Regulatory Compliance, and Tribunals and Regulatory Affairs. He said this was done to flatten out the organization and reduce layers between the working level and the Registrar to break down any communication barriers and silos within the organization. He said the goal is to create a more nimble organization to respond, for example, to some of the issues that were discussed at the previous day's Volunteer Leadership Conference in terms of providing members better service.

Registrar McDonald then briefly reviewed the recent Regulation 941 changes, which were approved by Cabinet. He noted that these changes are a culmination of an extensive body of work by PEO's Legislation Committee and staff to move the changes through. He noted that a

number of the changes stem from the 2010 changes to the *Professional Engineers Act* and bring these changes into effect, allowing PEO to proceed on a number of critical issues.

Some of the more significant changes relate to creating the licensed engineering technologist (LET) class of limited licence. This is an issue that PEO has been working on with colleagues at OACETT for some time with a lot of co-operation between the two organizations. He said other significant changes will allow limited licence holders to be responsible for engineering services to the public under a Certificate of Authorization. The Registrar noted that amendments that became effective on their filing include:

- requiring the Academic Requirements and Experience Requirements committees to specify the academic or experience requirements to be met, where either committee determines an applicant does not meet the requirements for licensure;
- changing the temporary licence requirements for when a collaborator is not necessary;
- requiring a P.Eng. PEO staff member to take a leave of absence if seeking election to PEO Council, and to resign from staff if elected;
- prohibiting a retiring Past President from running for the position of President-elect for one year after leaving the Past President position;
- updating regional boundaries to reflect road name changes;
- authorizing PEO's Registrar to send notices electronically to practitioners, and applicants to submit applications and supporting documents electronically; and
- making minor housekeeping changes to correct or clarify some previous wording.

He said amendments that would be effective on July 1, 2015 are:

- changing the requirements to obtain a limited licence;
- creating the LET class of limited licence;
- permitting limited licence holders to be responsible for the engineering services provided to the public under a PEO Certificate of Authorization; and
- setting out the academic requirements to be an engineering intern, as well as engineering interns' rights and privileges.

Registrar McDonald then discussed the Strategic Plan, advising that the launching of PEO's strategic planning process had been announced at the 2014 Annual General Meeting. He noted that one of his first priorities as Registrar was to facilitate a Strategic Plan and the 2014 Penta Forum had been used as the launching board for that initiative. Over the course of the next six to eight months, he said, there were numerous discussions with Council, chapters and committee chairs to formulate a plan. Registrar McDonald said he was happy to announce that in November 2014 Council had approved the Strategic Plan for the next three years, and noted a copy of the plan was included in the AGM delegate package. He called the plan the roadmap for the organization that outlines 24 strategic objectives and 98 specific strategies.

Over the next three years, he said, the outcomes of the strategies will be measured and adjusted as needed, in consultation with Council. He said Council has directed that the Registrar provide progress reports every four months, advising how the various initiatives are being achieved, with

the first progress report included in the AGM delegate package. Future progress reports will be placed on PEO's website so any member can, whenever they wish, go to the Strategic Planning area of the website to check on progress.

The Registrar also noted that PEO will continue to consult its membership, even though the Strategic Plan is now complete, and that he has attended many chapter AGMs to discuss the plan and how chapters can become involved. He said he would be happy to present the Strategic Plan to any chapter making such a request, and that PEO welcomes feedback on any strategy. He said members may contact him to give feedback, any of the people identified as leads for the various projects, or their regional councillors.

In closing, Registrar McDonald noted that it had been a productive year and thanked Council for its co-operation and support, as well as PEO staff, which he called a very dedicated group of individuals whose role is to serve the members.

GREETINGS FROM ENGINEERS CANADA

The President invited Engineers Canada to provide an update.

Digvir Jayas, President-elect, thanked PEO for the invitation to attend the annual meeting. He expressed regrets on behalf of President Paul Amyotte, P.Eng., FEC, for not being able to attend. He said Engineers Canada exists to support the Canadian engineering regulatory bodies, including PEO, to advance the competence, integrity and public accountability of the engineering profession.

In working with, and for, its constituent association owners, he said, Engineers Canada recognizes the diligent work that each provincial and territorial regulator does to promote excellence within the profession, and to highlight issues of importance to engineers, and Engineers Canada has focused on better aligning the execution of its work with the goals of the regulatory bodies.

Jayas then highlighted a few of the things Engineers Canada has been working on in the interest of the constituent associations:

- On November 4, 2014, members of Engineers Canada's Bridging Government and Engineers Committee (BGE) met in Ottawa with parliamentarians from across the country to talk about Engineers

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Canada's priorities. In total, they held meetings with 28 MPs, including meetings with parliamentary secretaries, chairs and vice-chairs of many House of Commons standing committees.

The team discussed themes in Engineers Canada's Pre-Budget Submissions, as well as the importance of having engineers involved in public policy and their role in protecting the public. BGE Committee members have meetings throughout the year with members of parliament across the country. Engineers Canada will continue to look for opportunities to work with the government on very important issues that affect the engineering profession or that the profession can play a role in;

- Through the efforts of Engineers Canada's Women in Engineering Committee, steady progress is being made toward Engineers Canada's 30 by 30 goal of having "30 per cent of newly licensed engineers be women by the year 2030." The Women in Engineering Committee has been tasked with a series of strategies and related goals to address barriers to the full participation of women in the profession; and
- The Framework for Regulation has undergone an internal review and is in the process of being streamlined. A component of the Framework is the Online Competency Assessment Project, which received federal funding of \$779,000 on April 13. This project will be a fair, transparent, consistent and timely online solution for the assessment of engineering work experience, which will facilitate the use of the competencies for the engineering regulators and accelerate the licensing process for qualified foreign-trained engineers.

Engineers Canada will take the next few months to plan and set the project up for success, and will engage the constituent associations in the fall.

In addition, Engineers Canada is engaged in discussions with Citizenship and Immigration Canada about becoming the sole assessor of engineering credentials for immigration purposes, known as the Educational Credential Assessment. Engineers Canada would act as the

clearing house, but engineering regulators would remain the sole assessors of applications for licensure.

The project would provide international engineering graduates with personalized information to help them with their decision to immigrate. It will provide regulators with authenticated, translated credentials for use during the licensure process.

The Educational Credential Assessment project would ensure that applicants are better informed about engineering in Canada and more likely to be ready to apply for a licence. Engineers Canada will continually update stakeholders on this process as it moves forward.

Jayas advised that he, or any of PEO's Engineers Canada Directors—Annette Bergeron, Chris Roney, Diane Freeman, Rakesh Shreewastav and George Comrie—would be available to answer any questions.

Jayas extended his best wishes to Thomas Chong on his incoming PEO presidency.

To wrap up, Jayas stated that Engineers Canada is proud to recognize members for noteworthy service to the engineering profession with fellowships. He congratulated all members who received their Engineers Canada fellowships earlier in the year. He also thanked the PEO executive and staff for their ongoing support of Engineers Canada and that he looked forward to continued collaboration between the associations.

UPDATE FROM THE ONTARIO SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

The President invited OSPE to provide an update.

Danny Young, P.Eng., President and Chair, expressed his appreciation for the invitation to attend the meeting, noting that his current term as OSPE's President and Chair, his third, would be ending soon. He stated that being involved with the organization from the start, approximately 14 years, he felt honoured to once again take on the leadership role and that he has enjoyed the opportunities to influence change on behalf of the profession, but that there is still a lot of work that's needed to be done.

He stated that PEO and OSPE are two organizations that share many common goals and, while their mandates are separate, both want to contribute to the profile and influence of the engineering profession. Both organizations must continue articulating the differences and inter-dependencies clearly, while working side by side. He indicated that he would like to take the opportunity to personally thank Registrar McDonald for working with OSPE and that together with OSPE's new CEO, Sandro Perruzza, great progress has been made. President Young said he looks forward to seeing the new leadership at both OSPE and PEO carry on the spirit of collaboration and mutual respect, going forward.

He noted that since the inception of OSPE in 2000, it has struggled to differentiate itself and has been challenged by the lack of a clear value proposition, but that he is pleased to announce that OSPE would be releasing a bold, five-year strategic plan at its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, May 5, 2015. He said OSPE's strategic plan explains where the organization wants to go and how it will get there with specific short- and long-term goals. He said he believes this will be a big turnaround for the society, and that OSPE must engage the entire profession, including all disciplines of engineers and engineering professionals.

He said OSPE's inclusive plan will get more engineers talking to amplify the voice of the engineering profession, and that OSPE will work

to ensure that engineers are involved in government policy and planning discussions and are featured subject matter experts frequently in the media. He said OSPE will also aggressively promote the employment of engineers in the province, while preparing members for the future expectations and demands of industry by offering relevant and competitive professional development. He concluded by noting that OSPE now has an opportunity to move forward in a measured way thanks to the new strategic plan, and invited members to attend OSPE's Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 to get a better idea of where the organization is headed.

MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

President Adams stated that, as noted in section 17 of By-Law No. 1, PEO's Annual General Meeting is held:

- to lay before members reports of the association's Council and committees;
- to inform members of matters relating to the affairs of the association; and
- to ascertain the views of the members present on matters relating to the affairs of the association.

He noted that submissions presented to the AGM are a way for members in attendance to express their views on matters relating to the affairs of the association, and that a guidance document to assist members in making submissions to the AGM is available from the PEO website. Although member submissions are not binding on Council, he said, Council considers the issues raised at Annual General Meetings to be important and will address submissions expeditiously.

President Adams asked the proponent of the first submission to introduce the submission.

Moved by Denis Dixon, P.Eng., FEC, seconded by Andy Bowers, P.Eng., FEC:

WHEREAS PEO made a formal commitment to the Bélanger Commission at the Algo Mall Inquiry to update or replace the present form in which member information is maintained so as to provide an online searchable database of specific membership and other information for persons to whom licences have been issued;

AND WHEREAS almost two years from that commitment there is no such functionality evident on PEO's website;

AND WHEREAS almost two years from that commitment the existing website general purpose search function continues to return typically vast amounts of non-relevant information in response to most queries;

THEREFORE BE IT SUBMITTED THAT:

Council direct the Registrar to take all necessary actions to fully implement—either by using in-house IT capability or by out-sourcing—the searchable database functionality required to meet the commitment made to the Bélanger inquiry;

AND FURTHER THAT:

Council appoint one councillor to be responsible for working with the Registrar to monitor progress on database implementation and search functionality by demonstration, and report to Council and to the public on a monthly basis by posting update reports available to the public on the

PEO website, identifying what specific progress has been made to realizing the overall promised functionality.

Motion defeated

President Adams asked the proponent of the second submission to introduce their motion.

Moved by Nancy Hill, P.Eng., seconded by Matthew Xie, P.Eng., FEC:

WHEREAS PEO has experienced a low level of member engagement as evidenced by poor voter turnout in elections for Council;

WHEREAS PEO is perceived to not be relevant to its membership, particularly the younger members as evidenced by poor participation in elections and at association events;

WHEREAS term limits help to foster an environment for recruitment to Council and for general activities of the association;

WHEREAS term limits force an organization to develop new leaders and provide a pool of committed people to renew the membership of committees; and

WHEREAS term limits create a sense of urgency, as well as opportunity for new people to join into the governance and leadership of the organization;

THEREFORE BE IT SUBMITTED THAT:

PEO institute term limits for all positions on Council for which an individual has already served and going forward will serve. Suggested term limits are:

President: one term,

Vice President: two terms,

Councillor-at-Large: three terms,

Regional Councillor: three terms,

Lieutenant Governor Appointees: two terms (to be proposed to the government).

Moved by Peter DeVita, P.Eng., FEC, seconded by Patrick Quinn, P.Eng., FEC:

That the main motion be amended to remove the suggested terms.

Amendment defeated

Members then voted on the main motion:

That PEO institute term limits for all positions on Council for which an individual has

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already served and going forward will serve.

Suggested term limits are:

President: one term,

Vice President: two terms,

Councillor-at-Large: three terms,

Regional Councillor: three terms,

Lieutenant Governor Appointees: two terms
(to be proposed to the government).

Motion carried

President Adams asked the proponent of the third submission to introduce their motion.

Moved by Rob Willson, P.Eng., seconded by Sherry Draisey, P.Eng:

WHEREAS PEO employs an ad hoc system of encouraging members to run for Council positions, the Central Election and Search Committee's original mandate as a search committee having been downplayed in recent years and the Regional Election and Search Committees having had difficulty recruiting candidates;

WHEREAS in the recent election, four of five regional councillor positions were filled by acclamation (three by incumbents), both councillor-at-large positions were filled by incumbents, and former presidents of the association were elected to both officer positions (VP and President-elect);

WHEREAS PEO needs systems in place to ensure that the PEO electorate has a choice of new and effective candidates running for Council;

THEREFORE BE IT SUBMITTED THAT:

PEO institutes a system of identifying potential candidates for all Council positions well in advance of elections, operating in concert with term limits for all Council positions.

Motion carried

President Adams asked the proponent of the fourth submission to introduce their motion.

Moved by Patrick Quinn, P.Eng., seconded by Gregory Wowchuk, P.Eng:

WHEREAS PEO's spending has been growing at a rate far exceeding its membership growth rate;

WHEREAS there is concern that spending too often is not justified or prudent; and

WHEREAS there is continuing concern about the proper role and influence of government appointees (who comprise up to 41 per cent of our Council) on our Council;

THEREFORE BE IT SUBMITTED:

That future budgets be based on PEO's needs as a regulator, rather than on raising spending to match projected income.

Motion carried

That future budgets show distinct line items for government liaison, building capital improvement, and any expense exceeding \$100,000 and that these particular items shall require a two-thirds majority at Council for their approval.

Motion defeated

That all major policy changes, such as a compulsory professional development program or practice specializations, shall require a two-thirds majority at Council and be subject to member consultation and ratification by referendum.

Motion defeated

President Adams asked the proponent of the fifth submission to introduce their motion.

Moved by Ray Linseman, P.Eng., seconded by Graham Walper, P.Eng.:

WHEREAS PEO Council has the authority to set PEO Policy;

WHEREAS under the *Privacy Act*, PEO is obligated to protect staff, volunteer and member personal information;

WHEREAS a member's home telephone number, home address and personal email address are generally accepted as personal information;

WHEREAS the chapter system was created over 50 years ago to improve communications between the members and Council;

WHEREAS a chapter member should have a right to be able to contact their chapter executive;

WHEREAS it is often beneficial to provide an email contact address for a chapter event;

WHEREAS one must remember to use the BCC option when copying other executive members on any replies of emails sent to the Chapter Webmail account to protect their privacy; and

WHEREAS the ability to reply to the sender is often lost when emails to the chapter email address are forwarded to other positions on the chapter executive such as the treasurer;

THEREFORE BE IT SUBMITTED THAT:

PEO Council establish a policy whereby any active member providing volunteer hours and service on a PEO Council-approved committee, a chapter executive or a chapter directorate would be allowed to request and be granted a PEO webmail account using the individual name or position with an @peo.on.ca identifier.

Motion carried

PRESENTATION TO OUTGOING COUNCILLORS

President Adams congratulated members of the 2014-2015 Council who had worked diligently to move the profession forward.

In recognition of their service, he presented certificates, name badges and desk plaques to retiring members of Council: Past President Annette Bergeron; Vice President (appointed) and Northern Region Councillor Michael Wesa; West Central Region Councillor Rob Willson and Lieutenant Governor-in-Council Appointee Chris Roney. He also recognized Lieutenant Governor-in-Council Appointee Martha Stauch, MEd, who had recently retired from Council.

INSTALLATION OF NEW PRESIDENT

Past President Adams administered the oath of office to Thomas Chong as President for the 2015-2016 term and presented him with the gavel of office. President Chong then thanked Adams on PEO's behalf for his service to the association.

INTRODUCTION OF INCOMING MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

President Chong then introduced the newly elected members of the 2015-2016 Council: Past President J. David Adams; President-elect George Comrie; Vice President Patrick J. Quinn, PhD (HC), P.Eng.; Councillors-at-Large Roydon Fraser and Roger Jones; Eastern Region Councillor Dave Brown; East Central Region Councillor Changiz Sadr; Northern Region Councillor Dan Preley, P.Eng.; West Central Region Councillor Warren Turnbull, P.Eng.; and Western Region Councillor Ewald Kuczera.

CLOSING REMARKS BY PRESIDENT CHONG

President Chong thanked everyone for making history with him, stating that when he ran for President he presented a platform to the membership for a President for the profession and for the members, which was supported by 60 per cent of those who voted. He thanked members for such an inspiring endorsement and called his election their victory. He indicated that he was aware the members did not do this just for him, but because they understand the enormity of the task that lies ahead. He said he is humbled by this opportunity and grateful for the overwhelming support and that he pledges to provide the leadership, vision and hard work expected of a President.

President Chong then shared his vision for the year ahead, of which there are three facets—Innovation, Recognition and Collaboration. He said that for some time the biggest issue facing

PEO had been to find ways to increase the relevance and value of the P.Eng. licence and to provide value for members' hard-earned dollars. He said that as a chapter person for many years, he had heard of this need from chapter members, as well as rank-and-file members. He said he has always felt that licence holders should view the annual membership fee as an investment in engineering, not merely as paying a tax. For this investment to bear fruit, however, President Chong said he needs the help and participation of members. He said fresh, new voices are needed to bring a diversity of experiences and innovative ideas to Council, committees and chapters.

President Chong stated that as a practising engineer, he cares deeply about the profession and its obligation to protect the public interest. He said PEO's self-regulating model is made possible by the many individuals who possess a strong desire to improve the engineering profession, in particular the volunteers who serve on the task forces, committees and chapters, as well as the wonderful staff who work diligently to execute PEO's regulatory duties and help Council make informed decisions. President Chong also acknowledged the PEO Councillors sitting at the decision-making table, who sacrifice much to advance the profession.

President Chong stated that his father, now passed, had provided him with some very good advice, including a favourite saying, which was: "Son, you are either part of the problem or part of the solution." He noted that while strong leadership at PEO is needed, members also need to be part of the solution. To this end, he said, PEO had recently begun implementing an ambitious 2015-2017 strategic plan, which would determine the priorities for PEO operations and provide guidance for Council, committees, task forces and staff for the next three years. Through the Strategic Plan and to enhance the fiscal accountability of PEO, the annual budget would be aligned to meet the priorities of the organization and the organization would champion strategic collaborations with valued partners.

President Chong stated that PEO needs to do three things, one of which is to challenge PEO management to reduce costs and improve efficiency and operational effectiveness. The second is to enhance the self-regulatory function of the profession, which would cover a number of issues, such as precluding non-engineers from practising engineering, as well as developing more professional guidelines and standards and more effective enforcement activities. The third thing needed is to expand PEO's voluntary leadership base with a new communications strategy and engaging members with a shared vision of success.

In closing, President Chong thanked his wife of more than 30 years and his family for their support in giving him the time to achieve his dream and goal to serve the more than 80,000 licence and certificate holders as PEO President.

CONCLUSION

President Chong then declared the 93rd Annual General Meeting of the Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario concluded. Σ

Gerard McDonald, P.Eng.
Registrar