

GETTING THINGS DONE

By Nicole Axworthy

ENGINEERING DIMENSIONS

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It's clear new PEO President Nancy Hill, P.Eng., LLB, FEC, is not afraid of hard work. A PEO volunteer for more than 25 years, Hill is now putting all her energy and experience to work by leading the organization to which she has already shown tremendous commitment. As you'll read in "Nancy Hill's modernization mission" (p. 38), she's wasting no time in tackling the many projects slated for 2019–2020 while, remarkably, still managing to hold down her business as a patent and trademark agent at her award-winning firm, Hill & Schumacher, in Toronto, Ontario. As Hill mentioned in her first President's Message column ("Facing our biggest challenges," *Engineering Dimensions*, May/June 2019, p. 6), the areas she plans to focus on during her term include licensure—she wants to re-incentivize the benefits of licensure to engineering grads and employers and work to reduce potential barriers applicants may face during the licensing process—and the need for a governance review in light of external pressures and increasing government involvement in other provincial engineering regulators. Hill also stepped into the presidential shoes just as Council received the final report of an external review of PEO's regulatory functions by Harry Cayton, international consultant to United Kingdom-based Professional Standards Authority (see "PEO undergoes external review," *Engineering Dimensions*, January/

February 2019, p. 8). In the coming months, it will be up to Hill and the other 24 members of Council to decide how PEO acts on the report's recommendations (p. 60).

Our second feature article in this issue focuses on the theme of illegal practice. Starting on page 43, you will learn how PEO's enforcement team actively investigates and prosecutes the illegal use of terms such as "engineer," "engineering" and "P.Eng.," and how the organization deals with infractions like these. PEO takes seriously the misuse of such terms, along with engineering work performed by unqualified members of the public. After all, part of PEO's job as a regulator of professional engineering is to ensure the people and businesses providing engineering services are accountable to the public. "I hesitate to call it turf protection," PEO Manager of Enforcement Cliff Knox, P.Eng., says (p. 44), but the reality is that if PEO hears of an individual practising without a licence, for example, the enforcement team members are the ones who step in to set things straight.

As we look ahead to PEO's 2020 Council elections in January 2020, everything you need to know to nominate members for next year's Council can be found starting on page 52. Be sure to make note of the important deadlines if you want to get involved.

Finally, I'd like to thank everyone who took the time to respond to our 2020 call for ideas, which was recently sent out via email. Your suggestions and feedback will help us shape *Engineering Dimensions* content in the coming year. **e**

THIS ISSUE We introduce PEO's new president, Nancy Hill, P.Eng., LLB, FEC, who is an engineer, lawyer and registered patent and trademark agent. She is a member of two (and soon to be three) self-regulating professions, and, given her extensive background, it is appropriate that she is PEO's 100th president. In this issue, we also focus on the efforts of PEO's enforcement team, who, with herculean strength, weed out people who attempt to practise engineering or call themselves an "engineer" without a licence.