

WHY IS IT VERY IMPORTANT TO VOTE?

Fellow engineers,

Please vote! Your profession's future depends on it. The low voters' participation in recent years has emboldened many councillors to conclude that PEO members aren't watching what Council does. Council quietly—with the support of these councillors—has been eliminating checks and balances to its power. It is jacking up fees, creating new programs, growing the bureaucracy—without a mandate or approval from us. **A higher voter turnout is needed to send a strong message to incumbent councillors who don't understand democratic self-regulation.**

This dysfunction at PEO not only increases alienation of our members, but hurts our “**capture rate**”, currently only about **11 %!** Fewer and fewer new graduates and newcomers are becoming members of the Association.

We must reverse the decline in new graduates' participation and encourage international engineering graduates to become licensed. As your councillor, I would utilize economic incentives to implement the following changes:

1. For a period of one year, **waive the application fee** for all who meet the academic requirements and are applying to become **engineers-in-training (EITs)**.
2. In subsequent years, waive the EIT application fee for all engineering graduates and immigrants who apply within one year of their graduation or immigration to Canada. Waive annual fees for *all* EITs for four years from the date of graduation or immigration to Canada.
3. Provide registered EITs with seminars, mentorship and guidance to facilitate their transition to full licensure.

An engineer who *becomes* licensed is likely to *remain* licensed. **We protect the public and build the profession by facilitating and encouraging licensure.** Your vote for me will tell the Council that you want PEO to grow and be relevant. REMOVING REGISTRATION BARRIERS for EITs is a good first step.

MUKTAR HOMAM FOR WEST-CENTRAL REGIONAL COUNCILLOR

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