



Professional Engineers  
Ontario

Government Liaison Program



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PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM

# GLP WEEKLY

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## PEO OAKVILLE CHAPTER ATTENDS EVENT WITH FINANCE MINISTER AND LOCAL MPPS



The PEO Oakville Chapter had a chance to speak with Finance Minister **Rod Phillips**, MPP (Ajax) (centre left) at an Oakville Chamber of Commerce event on February 21. Also attending were **Effie Triantafilopoulos**, MPP (Oakville North—Burlington), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Long-Term Care (left), and **Stephen Crawford**, MPP (Oakville), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Infrastructure (centre right). Representing PEO's Oakville Chapter were GLP Co-ordinator **Mazen AbuOmar**, P.Eng., (second from the right), GLP Chair, **Sohail Naseer**, P.Eng., (right), and Secretary **Fred Dattoo**, P.Eng., (second from the left). For more on this story, see page 4.

Through the *Professional Engineers Act*, PEO governs over 89,000 licence and certificate holders, and regulates and advances engineering practice in Ontario to protect the public interest. Professional engineering safeguards life, health, property, economic interests, the public welfare and the environment.

Past issues are available on the PEO Government Liaison Program (GLP) website at <https://www.peo.on.ca/index.php/about-peo/glp-weekly-newsletter>

\*Deadline for submissions is the Thursday of the week prior to publication. The next issue will be published on March 6, 2020.

## TOP STORIES THIS WEEK

1. PEO COUNCILLOR ATTENDS PC EVENT WITH PREMIER
2. PEO PARTICIPATES IN MISSISSAUGA EVENT WITH TWO PC MPPS
3. GUELPH ENGINEERING DEAN CALLS FOR ACCREDITATION REGULATION FLEXIBILITY
4. PEO COUNCILLOR EXAMINES THE VALUE OF THE GLP

## PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM

The PEO Government Liaison Program works to establish local connections with MPPs. For example, the PEO Oakville Chapter regularly attends events with MPPs at the local Oakville Chamber of Commerce (see pages 1 and 4).

This has provided them with an opportunity to speak with MPPs on a regular basis.

Chapters are an important way of ensuring all parts of the province are covered and relationships are maintained with MPPs of all parties.

## PEO NEWS

### PEO CEO/REGISTRAR REPORT PROVIDES UPDATE ON REGULATORY ACTIVITY FILTER

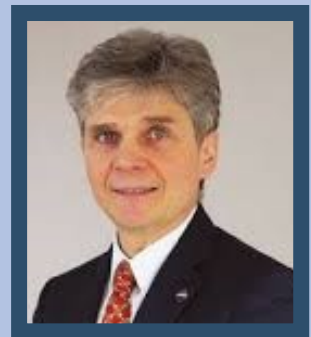
In an *Engineering Dimensions* article entitled “The Paths to Change”, PEO CEO/Registrar **Johnny Zuccon**, P.Eng., offered up a summary of the three major paths to the transformational change that PEO is undergoing currently: operational review, organizational review, and enhanced governance.

The operational review addressed the findings of the Cayton report, which outlined 15 recommendations on how to improve regulatory performance. Following the report, PEO decided to develop an activity filter.

The activity filter is meant to “provide a consistent and objective mechanism to determine and categorize the functions of activities and outputs from committees, chapters, subcommittees and working groups, and assess if these activities and outputs relate to professional regulation, board governance or neither.”

Furthermore, the article emphasized that “this undertaking will be used to ensure that all change initiatives are collectively and appropriately aligned, and will help to define our clarity of purpose.”

To read the full article, see page seven of the [Engineering Dimension Jan/Feb 2020 issue](#).



PEO CEO/Registrar  
**Johnny Zuccon**, P.Eng.

### PEO COUNCILLOR ATTENDS PC EVENT WITH PREMIER

(NIAGARA FALLS) - Premier **Doug Ford**, MPP (Etobicoke North) participated in an Ontario Progressive Conservative event in Niagara Falls on Feb 21 and 22.

Premier Ford spoke on Saturday night during an 18-minute keynote address. PEO Councillor **Robert Brunet**, P.Eng., also attended the event. Mr. Brunet said he “raised awareness of the regulatory role of PEO in protecting public safety with a number of Ministers and MPPs within government.” He had a chance to speak with **Ernie Hardeman**, MPP (Oxford), Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, who was instrumental in supporting PEO's proposals concerning amendments to the *Building Code Act* and reiterated his support for engineering regulation in Ontario. Mr. Brunet also spoke with:



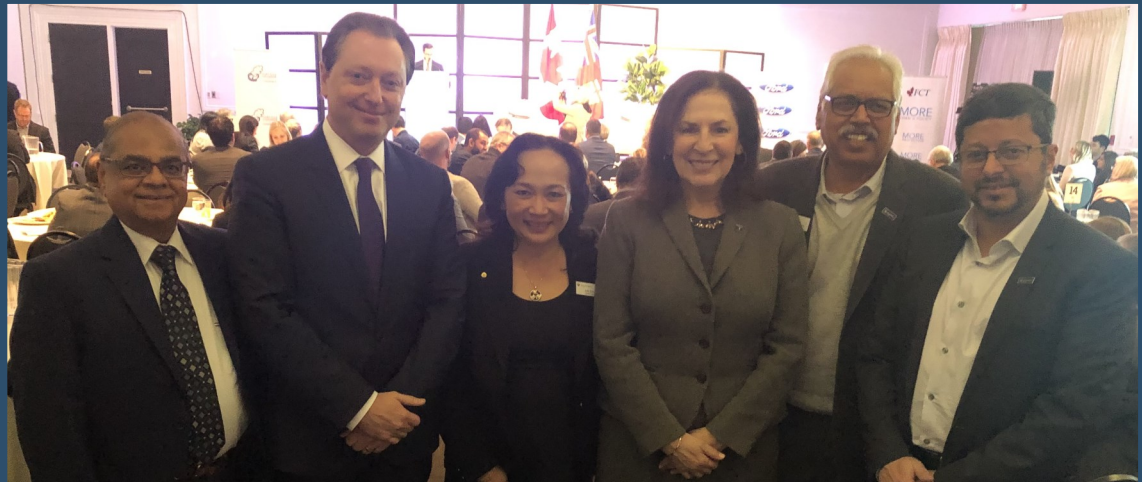
PEO Councillor **Robert Brunet**, P.Eng., (left), and **Ernie Hardeman**, MPP (Oxford), Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, who both attended an Ontario Progressive Conservative event in Niagara Falls on Feb 21 and 22.

- Attorney General **Doug Downey**, MPP (Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte)
- **Monte McNaughton**, MPP (Lambton-Kent-Middlesex), Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development
- **Laurie Scott**, MPP (Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock), Minister of Infrastructure
- **Caroline Mulroney**, MPP (York-Simcoe), Minister of Transportation and Minister of Francophone Affairs
- **Steve Clark**, MPP (Leeds-Grenville-Thousand Island & Rideau Lakes), Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- **Todd Smith**, MPP (Bay of Quinte) Minister of Children, Community and Social Services;
- **Bill Walker**, MPP (Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound), Associate Minister of Energy
- **Bob Bailey**, MPP (Sarnia-Lambton), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Government and Consumer Services
- **Will Bouma**, MPP (Brantford-Brant), Parliamentary Assistant to the Premier
- **Daryl Kramp**, MPP (Hastings-Lennox and Addington)
- **Rick Nicholls**, MPP (Chatham-Kent-Leamington), Deputy Speaker
- **Natalia Kusendova**, MPP (Mississauga Centre)



## EVENTS WITH MPPs

### PEO OAKVILLE CHAPTER ATTENDS EVENT WITH FINANCE MINISTER AND LOCAL MPPs



PEO Oakville Chapter's GLP Co-ordinator **Mazen AbuOmar**, P.Eng., (right), GLP Chair, **Sohail Naseer**, P.Eng., (second from the right), Secretary **Fred Datoo**, P.Eng., (left) and Committee Chair **Julie Dixon**, P.Eng., (centre left) attended an event in Oakville on February 21. Also attending were **Effie Triantafilopoulos**, MPP (Oakville North—Burlington), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Long-Term Care (centre right), and **Stephen Crawford**, MPP (Oakville) Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Infrastructure (second from the left).

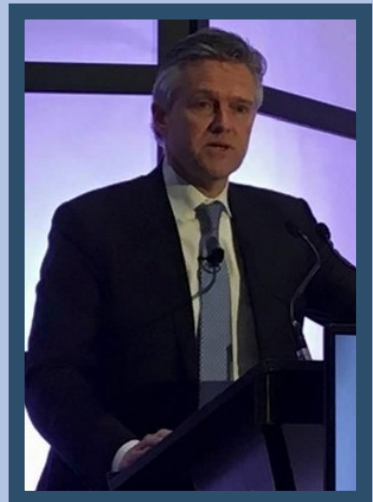
(OAKVILLE)—Finance Minister **Rod Phillips**, MPP (Ajax) spoke at an Oakville Chamber of Commerce event called “Let’s Talk,” on February 21.

In attendance were PEO Oakville Chapter's GLP Co-ordinator **Mazen AbuOmar**, P.Eng., GLP Chair, **Sohail Naseer**, P.Eng., and Secretary **Fred Datoo**, P.Eng.

Also attending were **Effie Triantafilopoulos**, MPP (Oakville North—Burlington), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Long-Term Care, and **Stephen Crawford**, MPP (Oakville), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Infrastructure.

Minister Phillips is familiar with the work of PEO and has previously spoken with Mississauga Chapter engineers at an event, and PEO President **Nancy Hill**, P.Eng. at a TVO Gala.

PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown**, who also attended the event, thanked MPP Crawford for his help in setting up PEO's meeting last fall with the Attorney General. Mr. Brown also thanked MPP Triantafilopoulos for her participation in PEO Oakville Chapter events.



Finance Minister **Rod Phillips**, MPP (Ajax) spoke at an event in Oakville on February 21  
PHOTO CREDIT:  
InsideHalton.com

## EVENTS WITH MPPs

### PEO PARTICIPATES IN MISSISSAUGA EVENT WITH TWO PC MPPs



PEO Manager, Government Liaison Programs **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng., (third from right) attended an event in Mississauga with **Nina Tangri**, MPP (Mississauga—Streetsville) Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, (centre right), and **Iqra Khalid**, MP (Mississauga—Erin Mills) (second from the right). Also in the photo are Chair, Riverwood Conservancy **Kevin Sherwin**, (left), **Mike Rogan**, (second from left), LCol (retired) **Bryan Sherman**, (third from left), **Julia Walkley-Sherman**, (centre left), and **Ashwani Tangri** (right).

(MISSISSAUGA)— The Mississauga Board of Chinese Professionals and Businesses hosted a Chinese New Year Banquet and celebration of former Mississauga Mayor **Hazel McCallion**'s 99th Birthday, on Feb 23 in Mississauga.

Also in attendance were **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng., PEO Manager, Government Liaison Programs, **Sheref Sabawy**, MPP (Mississauga—Erin Mills), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, **Nina Tangri**, MPP (Mississauga—Streetsville) Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, as well as Mississauga Mayor **Bonnie Crombie**.

MPP Sabawy is a long-time supporter of PEO and was the guest speaker at PEO's East and West Central GLP Academy and Congress in October last year.

## NEWS

### GUELPH ENGINEERING DEAN CALLS FOR ACCREDITATION REGULATION FLEXIBILITY

(GUELPH) - An opinion column by **Mary Wells**, P.Eng., Dean of the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences at the University of Guelph appeared in the *Toronto Star* on December 31, 2019.

It was also republished in the February 2020 issue of *Canadian Business Journal*. Wells cites the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals as "the world's most pressing challenges and opportunities facing humanity and our natural world." She acknowledges that engineers will play a critical role in solving these problems, and there needs to be an engineering curriculum that integrates social issues, and emphasizes the link between engineering solutions and the impact they have on humanity.

Ms. Wells makes the case that these new demands to integrate these solutions require accreditation regulators to allow educators to have "more flexibility in how we teach our students, what counts as 'real engineering' and allow us to expose our students to this type of thinking in an already jam packed engineering curriculum."

To read the full article, see [The Toronto Star](#) or [The Canadian Business Journal](#).



An opinion column by **Mary Wells**, P.Eng., Dean of the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences at the University of Guelph appeared in the *Toronto Star* on December 31, 2019.

### PEO COUNCILLOR EXAMINES THE VALUE OF THE GLP



PEO Councillor **Lorne Cutler**, P.Eng., (second from right), is a new member of the PEO Government Liaison Committee (GLC), which provides oversight for the Government Liaison Program. This photo was taken at the January meeting of the committee. Also in the photo are: GLC Chair **Warren Turnbull**, P.Eng. (centre left) Grand River Chapter GLP Chair **Gabe Tse**, P.Eng., (left), Manager, Government Liaison Programs, **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng., (second from left), GLC Vice-Chair **Arjan Arenja**, P.Eng., (centre right), and Oakville Chapter Co-ordinator **Jeffrey Lee**, P.Eng. (right).

In the past, GLP Weekly has interviewed PEO Councillors and Chapter chairs on the value of the Government Liaison Program. Here is an excerpt from an interview with PEO Councillor **Lorne Cutler**, P.Eng.:

#### **1) What is your experience in dealing with the political process?**

While my previous involvement with the political process at the provincial level has been minimal, I have been very active for the past twenty years at the municipal level as the head of my local community association in Ottawa and treasurer of the Federation of Citizen Associations of Ottawa, Ottawa's umbrella group of my community association. While party politics are not prevalent at the municipal level, decision making is still very similar to what happens at Queen's Park. Decisions are made by a majority of people around the council table. Neither city staff nor the mayor can decide policy without the support of council. Merely lobbying one or two councillors and the mayor will not necessarily give you the results you want. You need to lobby as many councillors as possible from all over the city. Similarly, the premier and attorney general cannot decide policy without the support of their caucus and possibly the opposition parties, particularly on votes that aren't whipped. The role of the provincial bureaucracy is to provide advice to the government and to develop legislation as requested by the government. While PEO staff may talk to provincial government staff, this is typically around preparation of legislation and implementation of legislation. If we want to influence the legislation that is ultimately written, voted on and implemented or make sure that Queen's Park is sensitive to PEO's role as regulator we need to have a presence with as many MPPs as possible. The GLC and GLP are the key in doing this work.

\*Continued on next page.



# PEO COUNCILLOR EXAMINES THE VALUE OF THE GLP

### 2) Why did you decide to join the GLC?

Given my community and political experience I have always understood the importance of working effectively with our politicians. As well, while I have not practised engineering for many years, I have taught an OPSE-sponsored PPE preparation course in Ottawa for many years. Having the opportunity to review our code of ethics and professional misconduct on a regular basis and having recently joined the Discipline Committee, I am very focused on PEO's regulatory role particularly when it comes to protecting the public.

By being involved with the GLP, I can bring together my experience in the political process with my passion for self-regulation and hopefully provide value to PEO in its dealing with our legislators.

The heart of the GLP program is the work done by the chapters. By playing a leading role in working with MPPs on PEO regulatory and licensing issues the chapters can help ensure the future of self-regulation and the ongoing viability of the chapters.



PEO Councillor and  
Government Liaison  
Committee member,  
**Lorne Cutler, P.Eng.**

### 3) What do you think are the biggest challenges of the GLP Program?

I see two main challenges in the work of the GLC. Firstly, as a regulator we need to make sure that our messages to the government are on point and that the focus of our discussions is with respect to regulatory issues. It is too easy to talk about the interests of our members but that is the role of OSPE.

We must be able to couch all of our discussions, meetings and plant tours on how we are protecting the public. We need to make sure that we have the correct tools to regulate the profession, make sure that licensing is fair and transparent while protecting the public. We also need to listen to the Government and make sure that we follow their requirements. For example, some of our ongoing discussions with the Fairness Commissioner show the need to listen carefully to what the Government is saying.

Secondly, as a body, not all of PEO's membership sees the need for the GLP and GLC. Some people think that our registrar and president can handle the relationship with Queen's Park and our minister. For a variety of reasons which are outlined above, we need to be able to better engage our membership in understanding the importance of the work done by the GLC and the local chapters and the need to engage with all MPPs. I am pleased to see the PEO GLP Weekly start to focus on why we do what we do in addition to its regular reporting on our engagements with MPPs.

### 4) What do you think are the biggest opportunities for the GLP Program?

The Cayton report made several recommendations. Perhaps the most contentious one dealt with the future of PEO chapters. By playing a leading role in working with MPPs on PEO regulatory and licensing issues the Chapters can help ensure the future of self-regulation and the ongoing viability of the Chapters.

## GLP TRIVIA CONTEST

CONGRATULATIONS to **Jeffrey Lee**, P.Eng., from the PEO Oakville Chapter for being the first to submit the correct answer to:

**Question:** Guess the total cumulative voter turnout to date for the 2020 Council Election, as of Friday February 14, as published on the PEO Website.

**Answer:** 8974

**This week's question:** Which two PEO Councillors were recently recognized for years of volunteer service at a recent PEO Council meeting on February 7?

**Join the Contest:** Test your knowledge of the *GLP Weekly* with our weekly trivia question! Send your answers to **Jeannette Chau** at [ichau@peo.on.ca](mailto:ichau@peo.on.ca) by Monday, March 2. **You may only win once in a four-week span.**



**Jeffrey Lee** P.Eng., is the winner of the last GLP Trivia contest.

## UPCOMING MPP EVENTS

**Saturday, February 29—Family Pancake Breakfast with Deputy Premier Christine Elliott**, MPP (Newmarket—Aurora), Minister of Health, from 9:30 to 11:45 AM at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 484 Water St, Newmarket, ON, L3Y 1M5. Attendance is free. To register visit: [https://www.christineelliottmpp.ca/pancake\\_breakfast](https://www.christineelliottmpp.ca/pancake_breakfast)

**Tuesday, March 10—Luncheon with Lisa MacLeod**, MPP (Nepean) Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM, at The Rec Room Square One, 100 City Centre Drive, Mississauga, ON, L5B 2C9. Tickets are \$57.52 for members and \$70.80 for non-members. To purchase, visit: <https://mississaugaoncoc.wliinc14.com/events/Luncheon-with-Minister-Lisa-MacLeod-Minister-of-Heritage-Sport-Tourism-and-Culture-Industries-773/details>

**Wednesday, March 11—A Taste of Algoma-Manitoulin with Michael Mantha**, MPP (Algoma—Manitoulin) Northern Development and Mines Critic, and Special Guest **Andrea Horwath**, MPP (Hamilton Centre), Official Opposition Leader and Intergovernmental Affairs Critic, from 6 to 8 PM at The University Club 380 University Avenue, Toronto, ON, M5G 1R6. Ticket prices range from \$250 to \$1625. To purchase, visit: [https://gallery.mailchimp.com/9a9295d47ebbb4828631768d4/files/c42bb07b-94bb-46c0-9efb-8787af1f1c3d/Wild\\_Game\\_Order\\_Form\\_2020\\_.pdf](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/9a9295d47ebbb4828631768d4/files/c42bb07b-94bb-46c0-9efb-8787af1f1c3d/Wild_Game_Order_Form_2020_.pdf)

**Friday, March 13—Breakfast with Lindsey Park**, MPP (Durham), Parliamentary Assistant to the Attorney General, from 7:30 to 9:30 AM, at Bowmanville Creek Retirement Community, 105 Queen St, Bowmanville, ON, L1C 1M7. Tickets are \$25 for members \$35 for non-members. To purchase, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/2652179154830689/>

If you have any comments, additions or questions about *The GLP Weekly* please do not hesitate to call or email:

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