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2020

PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM GLP WEEKLY

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PEO OTTAWA CHAPTER GLP CHAIR SPEAKS WITH NDP LEADER

PEO Ottawa Chapter GLP Chair and former Councillor **Ishwar Bhatia**, P.Eng., (right) had the chance to speak with NDP Leader **Andrea Horwath**, MPP (Hamilton Centre) (left) at an MPP event in Ottawa on February 27. This event happened prior to the government shutdown, but we recently received this story for the GLP Weekly. For more on this story, see page 6.

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 April 24, 2020.

TOP STORIES THIS WEEK

1. PEO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE RELEASES STRUCTURE GUIDELINES
2. PEO OAKVILLE CHAPTER HELD DISCUSSION WITH MINISTER
3. MINISTER, MPP AND PARTY LEADER HOST ONLINE TOWN HALLS
4. PEO ISSUES PRACTICE ADVISORY NOTICE FOR ESSENTIAL WORKERS

PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM (GLP)

Although we cannot attend in-person events, there are other opportunities to connect with MPPs virtually. MPPs are still receiving and sending emails, taking calls, conducting meetings remotely, and happy to connect. GLP subscribers are encouraged to keep a look out for upcoming townhalls, participate, and share what you learned with the GLP. This issue also identifies the many ways PEO and the engineering community are continuing to function and contribute during these trying times.

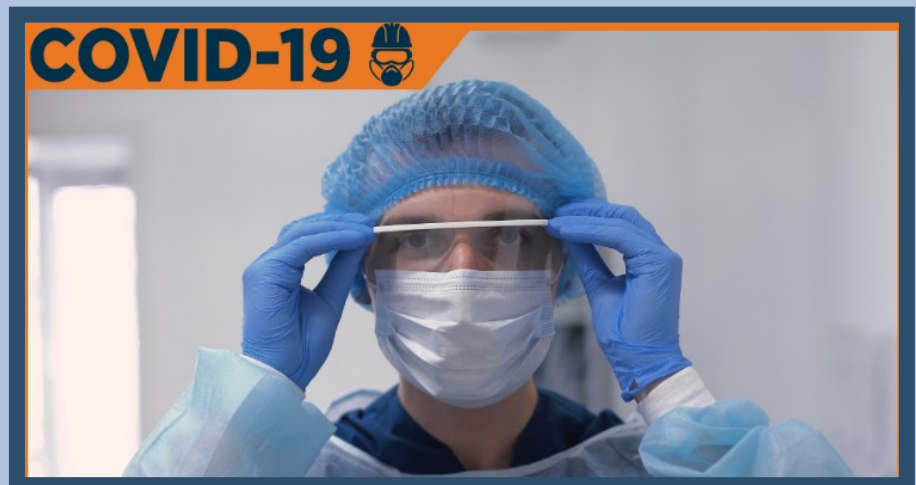
ENGINEERING NEWS

ENGINEERS TAKE ON A LEADING ROLE IN DELIVERING SURGICAL MASKS TO FRONT—LINE WORKERS

The Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE) and the Ontario General Contractors Association (OGCA) have teamed up with Alliance Creative to deliver 10,000 surgical masks to front—line health care workers across the province.

In this time of crisis, we believe the leadership that the voice of engineers can provide is more important than ever,” said OSPE CEO **Sandro Perruzza**, P.Eng.

“In this turbulent atmosphere, OSPE has been actively working with industry and government partners towards finding solutions that will mitigate the health and economic impact of COVID—19 for engineers, and the entire construction and design community,” he said.



OSPE is assisting Alliance Creative with the delivery of surgical masks to protect front—line workers in hospitals across Ontario.

PHOTO CREDIT: Construct Connect

OGCA President, **Clive Thurston**, expressed his gratitude to OSPE, and other organizations such as REMO General Contracting, Dineen Construction, Gen—Pro and the League of Champions who “stepped up when it mattered most.”

To read the entire story, as reported in Construct Connect, click [here](#).

PEO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE RELEASES STRUCTURE GUIDELINES



PEO's Professional Standards Committee (PSC) released a guideline on demountable event structures..

In March 2020, PEO's Professional Standards Committee (PSC) released a guideline which defines best practices for engineers who work on structural designs, design evaluations or any review of demountable event structures.

The PSC has a policy of reviewing professional engineering guidelines every five years.

In 2015, a subcommittee was created to develop best practices for engineers undertaking this work and prepare guidelines describing these practices.

One of the first tasks of the subcommittee was to review investigation and engineering reports related to the Downsview Stage collapse in 2012, which resulted in the death of Radiohead drum tech **Scott Johnson**.

The March 2020 guideline includes:

- design evaluations , verification, validation and criteria
- professional requirements
- professional competence
- general definitions related to relevant event structure and legislation terms

To read the full guideline, click [here](#).

PAST EVENTS WITH MPPs

PEO OAKVILLE CHAPTER HELD DISCUSSION WITH MINISTER



PEO Oakville Chapter's Innovation Chair (left) **Pavan Mehta**, EIT, and Chapter Vice Chair **Sohail Naseer**, P.Eng., (second from the left) were invited to participate, on March 6, in a 'Women in Skilled Trades' discussion with **Jill Dunlop**, MPP (Simcoe North), Associate Minister of Children and Women's Issues (centre). Also in the photo are **Parm Gill**, MPP (Milton), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (right) and Milton Mayor **Gord Krantz** (second from the right).

(OAKVILLE) - The PEO Oakville Chapter was invited to participate in a 'Women in Skilled Trades' discussion for International Women's Day on March 6.

This event was held prior to the government shutdown, but the story was shared with GLP Weekly last week.

Chapter representatives who attended were Vice Chair **Sohail Naseer**, P.Eng., and Innovation Chair **Pavan Mehta**, EIT.

The invitation was extended by **Parm Gill**, MPP (Milton), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

Associate Minister of Women and Children's Issues, **Jill Dunlop**, MPP (Simcoe North), was part of a panel discussion.

Oakville Chapter GLP Chair **Jeffrey Lee**, P.Eng., told GLP Weekly "Minister Dunlop spoke about underrepresentation in many sectors, which are critical to our province's economic growth, such as technology, engineering, construction and resource management."

PEO Oakville Chapter representatives shared information with Minister Dunlop and MPP Gill about the 30 by 30 initiative, which seeks to have 30% of licenced engineers be women by 2030.

ONLINE TOWNHALLS WITH MPPs

MINISTER, MPP AND PARTY LEADER HOST ONLINE TOWN HALLS



Ian Arthur, MPP (Kingston and the Islands), NDP Environment Critic.



Steve Clark, MPP (Leeds—Grenville—Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes), Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.



Steven Del Duca, Ontario Liberal Party Leader.

Elected officials have been hosting online townhalls as a way to stay connected with their constituents during a time of ‘physical distancing’, due to COVID - 19.

Over the last two weeks, the following have hosted online townhalls:

- **Ian Arthur**, MPP (Kingston and the Islands), NDP Environment Critic on April 2
- **Steve Clark**, MPP (Leeds—Grenville—Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes), Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on April 4
- **Steven Del Duca**, Ontario Liberal Party Leader on April 14

MPP Arthur hosted his townhall along with his federal counterpart, **Mark Gerretsen**, MP (Liberal—Kingston and the Islands).

Both MPP Arthur and Minister Clark participated in the PEO Eastern Region GLP Academy and Congress in November of 2019, which was held in Kingston.

Mr. Del Duca was elected as leader of the Liberal Party on March 7.

He was previously an MPP from 2012—2018, and served as both Minister of Transportation and Minister of Economic Development and Trade.

PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown** participated in Mr. Del Duca’s online townhall.

PEO members are encouraged to look out for upcoming online townhalls with their local MPPs, call in, and participate.

PAST EVENTS WITH MPPs

PEO OTTAWA CHAPTER GLP CHAIR SPEAKS WITH NDP MPPS



PEO Ottawa Chapter GLP Chair and former Councillor **Ishwar Bhatia**, P.Eng., (right) had the chance to speak with **Joel Harden**, MPP (Ottawa Centre) (left), at an MPP event in Ottawa on February 27.

(OTTAWA) - PEO Ottawa Chapter GLP Chair and former PEO Councillor **Ishwar Bhatia**, P.Eng., attended an MPP event in Ottawa on February 27.

The event took place prior to the government shutdown, however was recently received by the GLP Weekly.

In attendance was NDP Leader **Andrea Horwath**, MPP (Hamilton Centre) and **Joel Harden**, MPP (Ottawa Centre), NDP Seniors, Accessibility and Person with Disabilities Critic.

Both MPP Horwath and MPP Harden are long time supporters of PEO and its role as a regulator.

MPP Horwath was a guest speaker at the PEO Government Relations Conference in 2016 and at several PEO Queen's Park MPP receptions.

MPP Harden was a guest speaker at the PEO Student Conference in September 2019.

PEO ISSUES PRACTICE ADVISORY NOTICE FOR ESSENTIAL WORKERS



Premier **Doug Ford**, MPP (Etobicoke North) (centre) announced the closure of all non—essential businesses across the province on March 23. With him in the photo are Deputy Premier and Minister of Health **Christine Elliott**, MPP (Aurora—Newmarket) (left) and Finance Minister **Rod Phillips**, MPP (Ajax) (right).

Premier **Doug Ford**, MPP (Etobicoke North) issued new guidelines to limit the spread of COVID—19 on March 23.

He ordered all non-essential businesses to remain closed until further notice. In response to the Ontario government's announcement, PEO issued a Practice Advisory Notice for essential workers on March 25. The PEO notice provides an overview of the contractual requirements and obligations for those who continue to work in these essential services. As well as specific work practices for professional engineers that are:

- on construction sites
- in environmental services
- working remotely



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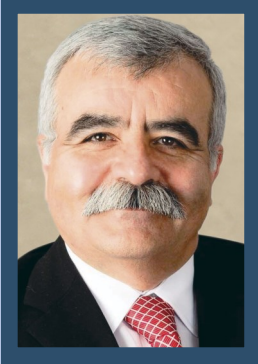
Advisory Notice—March 25, 2020

Obligations and responsibilities of professional engineers
and holders of limited licences during the COVID-19 pandemic

As of 11:59 p.m. on March 24, 2020, all non-essential workplaces in the Province of Ontario were required to close. The provincial government has released a list of workplaces it currently deems to be essential (available at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/list-essential-workplaces>). Work may continue in these workplaces, until further notified by the government, provided it is done safely and with due regard to social distancing and other measures to avoid transmission of the virus.

A copy of the PEO Practice Advisory Notice can be found [here](#).

GLP TRIVIA CONTEST



Changiz Sadr, P.Eng., is the winner of the last GLP Trivia contest.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Changiz Sadr** P.Eng., former PEO Councillor and Engineers Canada Director for being the first to submit the correct answer to:

Question: What are the names of the two PEO representatives that were nominated as Engineers Canada Directors at a PEO Council meeting on March 20?

Answer: **Nancy Hill**, P.Eng. and **Danny Chui**, P.Eng.

This week's question: What are the names of the two new Lieutenant Governor Appointed (LGA) Councillors to PEO Council from Northern Ontario?

Join the Contest: Test your knowledge of the *GLP Weekly* with our weekly trivia question! Send your answers to **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng., at ichau@peo.on.ca by Monday, April 20.

You may only win once in a four-week span.

STAYING IN TOUCH WITH MPPs DURING COVID—19

At this time, the PEO GLP Weekly will not be sharing any upcoming events, in order to encourage PEO licence holders to practice social distancing and to prevent the spread of COVID—19.

This does not mean they will no longer have opportunities to engage with MPPs that they have built relationships with.

They can use this time to follow what MPPs are doing via Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and other regular and social media.



Some MPPs are hosting online town halls to hear from their constituents (see page 5).

If your MPP is hosting one, this would be a good way to stay current on ongoing issues in the riding and the province.

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

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