



June 19,
2020

PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM GLP WEEKLY

Volume 14,
Issue 21



Ontario Finance Minister
Rod Phillips, MPP (Ajax).



PEO Lake Ontario Chapter GLP Chair
Pankaj Panchal, P.Eng.

GLP CHAIR PARTICIPATES IN ONLINE EVENT WITH FINANCE MINISTER

Finance Minister **Rod Phillips**, MPP (Ajax) participated in a virtual Canadian Club of Toronto event on June 10. PEO Lake Ontario Chapter GLP Chair **Pankaj Panchal**, P.Eng. attended. For more on this story, see page 3.

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/glpl-weekly-newsletter>

Deadline for submissions is the Thursday of the week prior to publication. The next issue will be published on June 26, 2020.

TOP STORIES THIS WEEK

1. NEW EIT REP APPOINTED TO PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON COMMITTEE
2. PEO GLC HOLDS MONTHLY MEETING AND DISCUSSES ACTIVITY FILTER
3. ENGINEERING DIMENSIONS CELEBRATES FOUR DECADES OF PUBLISHING

PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM WORKS

The PEO Government Liaison Program works to establish local connections with MPPs. For example, the PEO Lake Ontario Chapter regularly participates in events with their six MPPs (see pages 1 and 3). Participating in MPP virtual town halls during COVID-19 gives PEO GLP representatives an opportunity to stay connected with their local elected officials. PEO Chapters are an important way of ensuring all parts of the province are covered and relationships are maintained with MPPs of all parties.

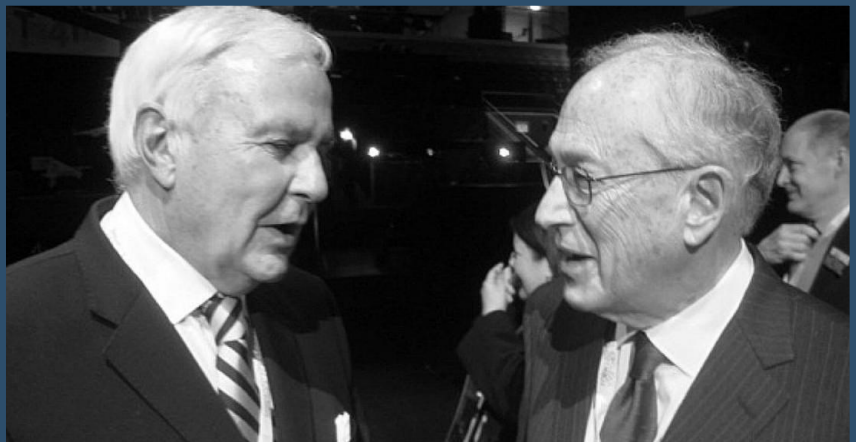
QUEEN'S PARK NEWS

REMEMBERING POLITICAL ICON— DR. STUART SMITH, MPP

Former Ontario Liberal Party leader and MPP **Dr. Stuart Smith**, passed away on June 10. He was Ontario's Opposition Leader from 1977-1981, and served the riding of Hamilton West.

Dr. Smith was known as an MPP who often reached out to professional associations and took an interest in regulatory bodies, like PEO.

As well, he was a medical doctor who had a long-time interest in STEM (Science, Technology Math and Engineering) subjects during his tenure at Queen's Park and afterwards.



Dr. Stuart Smith, former MPP and leader of the Ontario Liberal Party passed away on June 10. Here he is (right) with former Ontario Premier **David Peterson** (left) at the 2013 Liberal leadership convention.

PHOTO CREDIT: Steve Paikin

After retiring from politics, Dr. Smith served as the President of the Science Council of Canada and Chair of the National Round Table on the Environment and Economy.

Steve Paikin, host of TVO's 'The Agenda' wrote an excellent tribute to Dr. Smith on June 14. To read it click [here](#).

Mr. Paikin is the 2014 recipient of the PEO President's Award, which is given to a prominent non-engineer annually.

ONLINE EVENTS WITH MPPs

PEO GLP REPS PARTICIPATE IN ONLINE EVENTS WITH FINANCE MINISTER AND DEPUTY OPPOSITION LEADER

Ontario's Finance Minister and NDP Deputy Opposition Leader participated in online events, which were attended by PEO GLP representatives last week.

(AJAX) - Finance Minister **Rod Phillips**, MPP (Ajax) participated in an online event hosted by the Canadian Club of Toronto on June 10 called 'Reopening Ontario'.

Participating on the call was PEO Lake Ontario Chapter GLP Chair **Pankaj Panchal**, P.Eng.

Following the event, Mr. Panchal sent a note to Minister Phillips informing him that he was on the call, and providing the Minister with background information about PEO and the Lake Ontario Chapter.

Moderating the discussion with Minister Phillips was **Sevaun Palvetzian**, Chief Communications Officer of Rogers Communications. She was a long-time Ontario public servant at Queen's Park.

(BRAMPTON) - NDP Deputy Leader **Sara Singh**, MPP (Brampton Centre) participated in an online panel event hosted by The Samara Centre for Democracy on June 9th called 'Democracy Dialogue: *Broken Telephone Townhall: Elected Representation During a Crisis.*'

Joining MPP Singh on the panel was The Samara Centre's Director of Democratic Engagement **John Beebe**.

Moderating the panel was Centre's Research Director **Dr. Mike Morden**.



Sara Singh, MPP (Brampton Centre), Deputy Opposition Leader and Housing Critic participated in an online event on June 9th.

Also attending was PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown**.

The discussion looked at the effectiveness of the Legislature in its current working environment during COVID-19. MPP Singh shed some light on her assessment of how the current system creates difficulty with holding the government accountable.

MPP Singh has attended multiple PEO Brampton Chapter events.

PEO licence holders are encouraged to register, listen in, and send a follow up note to the MPP letting them know you participated and information about the work of PEO.

NEW EIT REP APPOINTED TO PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON COMMITTEE

Alex Weryha, EIT, an Engineering Intern, has been appointed as the new EIT representative on the PEO Government Liaison Committee (GLC).

Ms. Weryha is a graduate of the Masters of Engineering Program from the Schulich of Engineering at the University of Calgary.

She holds a Bachelor of Engineering with Distinction and was the Valedictorian at Concordia University in Montreal.

She also holds a Bachelor of Arts with an English Major and Economics Minor from McGill University.

Ms. Weryha attended her first meeting of the GLC on June 17.

The Committee is chaired by West Central Region Councillor **Warren Turnbull**, P.Eng.

- PEO Councillor **Arjan Arenja**, P.Eng, Vice Chair
- PEO Councillor **Lorne Cutler**, P.Eng.
- Chair, Consulting Engineers of Ontario **Christine Hill**, P.Eng.
- Oakville Chapter Co-ordinator **Jeffrey Lee**, P.Eng.
- Grand River Chapter GLP Chair **Gabe Tse**, P.Eng.
- Advisory Committee on Volunteers representative **Vicki Hilborn**, P.Eng.
- Engineers Canada representative **Changiz Sadr**, P.Eng.
- Student representative **Shawn Yanni**
- PEO Manager, Government Liaison Programs **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng., Staff Adviser
- PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown**, Ex-officio

The GLC was set up in 2011 as an oversight body for the GLP.



Alex Weryha, EIT, an Engineering Intern, has been appointed by PEO to serve on the Government Liaison Committee.

PEO GLC HOLDS MONTHLY MEETING AND DISCUSSES ACTIVITY FILTER



PEO West Central Region Councillor **Warren Turnbull**, P.Eng (centre left), Chair of the PEO Government Liaison Committee (GLC) and (left to right) PEO Grand River Chapter GLP Chair **Gabe Tse**, P.Eng., PEO Manager, Government Liaison Programs **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng., GLC Vice-Chair **Arjan Arenja**, P.Eng., PEO Councillor **Lorne Cutler**, P.Eng., and PEO Oakville Chapter GLP Co-ordinator **Jeffrey Lee**, P.Eng., at an in person GLC meeting on January 16, 2020.

The PEO Government Liaison Committee (GLC) hosted their monthly meeting virtually on June 17, which was chaired by PEO Councillor **Warren Turnbull**, P.Eng.

Topics covered included:

- Reports from partners and subcommittees
- Discussion of the Activity Filter
- Holding the PEO Government Relations Conference virtually

The GLC discussed how to best engage with MPPs during the COVID-19 pandemic and how to plan for ongoing interactions with MPPs.

Attending the meeting were GLC Vice Chair and PEO Councillor **Arjan Arenja**, P.Eng, PEO Councillor **Lorne Cutler**, P.Eng., Oakville Chapter Co-ordinator **Jeffrey Lee**, P.Eng, Advisory Committee on Volunteers representative **Vicki Hilborn**, P.Eng., Engineers Canada representative **Changiz Sadr**, P.Eng., Student representative **Shawn Yanni**, EIT representative **Alex Weryha**, EIT, PEO Manager, Government Liaison Programs **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng., and PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown**.



Engineering Dimensions has published a special issue to celebrate their 40th anniversary, which includes two feature stories that would be of interest to GLP Weekly readers. One is on proposed changes to the *Ontario Building Code*, as well a profile on **Marilyn Gladu**, P.Eng., MP (Sarnia-Lambton) who earlier this year entered the race for the Federal Conservative Party Leadership.

ENGINEERING DIMENSIONS CELEBRATES FOUR DECADES OF PUBLISHING

Engineering Dimensions published a special issue to celebrate four decades worth of publications. The magazine has a circulation of over 100,000, and features a Government Liaison Program Journal column.

This month's issue featured an article authored by Adam Sidsworth on the Ontario Building Code. To read the article, click [here](#).

One of the three judges who heard the PEO case on the 2006-2007 Ontario Building Code, Justice **Denis Lane**, passed away on June 6. He had ruled in favour of PEO at the time.

Mr. Sidsworth also wrote a feature story on Ontario professional engineer **Marilyn Gladu**, P.Eng., MP (Sarnia-Lambton), who sought the leadership of the Conservative Party. To the article click [here](#).

Congratulations to *Engineering Dimensions* for four decades of exceptional journalism!



Justice **Denis Lane**, who was one of the three judges in the 2006-2007 Ontario Building Code PEO case, passed away on June 6.

GLP TRIVIA CONTEST

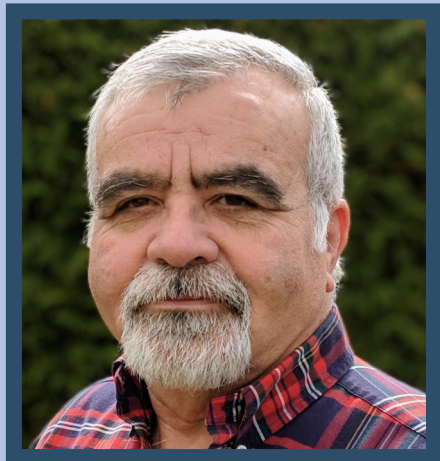
CONGRATULATIONS to Former PEO Councillor and Engineers Canada Director, **Changiz Sadr** P.Eng., for being the first to submit the correct answer to:

Question: What is the name of the former PEO Councillor and Engineers Canada Director who was elected as Engineers Canada's 2020-2021 President?

Answer: Danny Chui, P.Eng.

It should be noted that Mr. Sadr correctly identified that former PEO Councillor Danny Chui, P.Eng., is the incoming President of Engineers Canada. GLP Weekly incorrectly said that Mr. Chui would be assuming office for 2020-2021 when in fact his term will be from 2021-2022.

This week's question: Who is the newly appointed Liberal Attorney General Critic?



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

Join the Contest: Test your knowledge of the *GLP Weekly* with our weekly trivia question! Send your answers to **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng., at jchau@peo.on.ca by Monday, June 22.

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

UPCOMING VIRTUAL EVENTS

Saturday, June 20 - Remembering George Floyd and All Lost to Anti-Black Racism' hosted by **Mitzie Hunter**, MPP (Liberal-Scarborough-Guildwood) from 1 to 2 PM. To watch the livestream, click [here](#).

Tuesday, June 23– Facing Racial Injustice during a pandemic and beyond hosted by **Laura Mae Lindo**, MPP (Kitchener Centre), NDP Critic for Anti-Racism and Citizenship and Immigration Services at 7PM. To watch the livestream, click [here](#).

Thursday June 25– Virtual Pride Cabaret hosted by NDP Leader **Andrea Horwath**, MPP (Hamilton Centre), **Jill Andrew**, MPP (Toronto-St. Paul's), NDP Critic for Women's Issues and Culture, **Terence Kernaghan**, MPP (London North Centre), NDP Critic for LGBTQ Issues at 6 PM. To watch the livestream, click [here](#).

Thursday June 25-Centre Francophone du Grant Toronto presents 'Roundtable on Racism' (in French) with guest speakers **Natalia Kusendova**, MPP (PC-Mississauga Centre) and **Gila Martow**, MPP (PC-Thornhill), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Francophone Affairs from 6 to 7:30 PM. To watch the livestream, click [here](#).

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