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PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM GLP WEEKLY

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ATTORNEY GENERAL TO SHARE THOUGHTS AT THE 2020 PEO GOVERNMENT RELATIONS CONFERENCE

Attorney General **Doug Downey**, MPP (Barrie-Springwater-Oro Medonte) (centre) will be sharing his thoughts at the 2020 PEO Government Relations Conference. His office has also confirmed that they will schedule a meeting with PEO President **Marisa Sterling**, P.Eng. Here is Minister Downey with PEO Past President **Nancy Hill**, P.Eng., (left) and CEO/Registrar **Johnny Zuccon**, P.Eng. (right) at a meeting in his office on October 29, 2019.

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 October 9, 2020.

TOP STORIES THIS WEEK

1. OIQ WELCOMES PASSAGE OF BILL 29 BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUEBEC
2. ENGINEERS CANADA PUBLISHES ARTICLE ON SPEECH FROM THE THRONE
3. PEO COUNCIL HOLDS ITS 536TH MEETING VIRTUALLY
4. OTTAWA CHAPTER GLP REPS PARTICIPATE IN TOWNHALL WITH LOCAL MPP

PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM WORKS

PEO's Government Relations Conference Committee is continuing to invite elected officials to participate in its November 6 event (see pages 1 and 4). By including Party Leaders, Ministers and MPPs in the Conference, PEO is raising its profile and the government is becoming more aware of the work of PEO in the public interest.

Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec celebrated the passage of Bill 29 on September 24, which modernized their existing legislation for the first time since 1964 (see page 3). This symbolizes an important moment for the entire profession, as it acknowledges another example of professional engineers strengthening their relationship with government.

GLP Weekly encourages Chapters to participate in local town halls, as the Ottawa Chapter did last week (see page 6). Even if it's virtual, participating in events with MPPs is a great opportunity to stay connected with them so that the Chapter remains top of mind.

SECTOR NEWS

OACETT NAMES NEW CEO

The Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists (OACETT) have announced the appointment of **Cheryl Farrow** as their new CEO on September 22.

She previously served as the CEO of the Canadian Bar Association, President and CEO of the Supply Chain Management Association, Executive Director of the Canadian Grocery Human Resource Council and President of the Ontario Tourism Education Corporation.

"OACETT has just completed an inspiring new strategic plan, so my focus will be turning that plan into annual and operational milestones to demonstrate progress in careers, chapters and communities," said Ms. Farrow.

PEO has worked closely with OACETT in developing the Certified Engineering Technologists (CET) designation .

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



Cheryl Farrow, CEO of the Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists .

OIQ WELCOMES THE PASSAGE OF BILL 29 BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUEBEC



National Assembly of Quebec.

(MONTREAL) - An Act to amend the Professional Code (Bill 29) was passed on September 24 in the National Assembly of Quebec.

The legislation, which oversees engineering, oral health and applied science sectors has not been revised since 1964.

“The bill’s passage is the culmination of over 25 years of work with different governments, the Office des professions du Quebec and other stakeholders,” said President of the Ordre des ingénieurs (OIQ) du Quebec **Kathy Baig**, ing., FEC, MBA. “This reform advances both public protection and the profession.”

Some features of the new Act include:

- Descriptions of engineering activities and works are more encompassing
- Definition of an engineer’s field of practice has been updated to reference new fields of engineering that have emerged in the last few decades
- Public protection will be further strengthened with the additional powers given to OIQ inspectors
- Penalties associated with violations of the Act are more severe

To read the official announcement of the passage of Bill 29, click [here](#).

ATTORNEY GENERAL TO SHARE THOUGHTS AT THE 2020 PEO GOVERNMENT RELATIONS CONFERENCE



Attorney General **Doug Downey**, MPP (Barrie-Springwater-Oro Medonte) will be sharing his thoughts at the 2020 PEO Government Relations Conference.

The PEO Government Relations Conference Committee continues to plan for the upcoming 2020 PEO Government Relations Conference. It will be held virtually on Friday, November 6 from 10 AM to 3 PM.

Attorney General **Doug Downey**, MPP (Barrie-Springwater-Oro Medonte) has confirmed he will share his thoughts at the Conference. The Ministry of the Attorney General is responsible for the PEO file.

As reported in last week's GLP Weekly, the following elected officials will be sharing thoughts as well:

- Premier **Doug Ford**, MPP (Etobicoke North)
- Green Party Leader **Mike Schreiner**, MPP (Guelph)
- NDP Attorney General Critic **Gurratan Singh** (Brampton East)
- Liberal Attorney General Critic **Lucille Collard**, MPP (Ottawa-Vanier)

Also speaking at the Conference will be:

- **Marilyn Gladu**, P.Eng., MP (Sarnia-Lambton), who was recently appointed as Critic for the President of the Queen's Privy Council and Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario. MP Gladu is the only female P.Eng., who has ever been elected to the House of Commons.
- **Ann English**, P.Eng., CEO/Registrar, Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC

The Conference Committee Co-Chairs are Brantford Chapter Chair **Vicki Hilborn**, P.Eng and Government Liaison Committee (GLC) EIT representative **Alex Weryha**, EIT.

Other members of the Committee include Regional Councillor and GLC Chair, **Warren Turnbull**, P.Eng., PEO Councillor **Lorne Cutler**, P.Eng., Former PEO Councillor and Engineers Canada representative **Changiz Sadr**, P.Eng., Manager, Government Liaison Programs **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng. and PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown**.

ENGINEERS CANADA PUBLISHES ARTICLE ON SPEECH FROM THE THRONE



Governor-General **Julie Payette**, ing. (right) delivered the Federal government's Speech from the Throne on September 23. With her in the photo is Prime Minister **Justin Trudeau** (left).

(OTTAWA) - Governor-General **Julie Payette**, ing., delivered the Government of Canada's Speech from the Throne on September 23.

Her Excellency is a licenced engineer and member of the Ordre de ingénieurs (OIQ).

Following the address, Engineers Canada published an [article](#) highlighting the many positive impacts that the promises made in the speech can have for the engineering profession.

"There are a number of promises in this Speech from the Throne that will impact engineers and the work that they do to support Canadians," said **Gerard McDonald**, CEO of Engineers Canada. "In particular, Engineers Canada is happy to see the government's commitment to improving high-speed broadband connectivity, and the government's continued support for women in the economy. We look forward to seeing these important commitments addressed in the fall economic update or Budget 2021."

The article addresses several recommendations that Engineers Canada put forward to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance and Standing Committee on Industry Science and Technology in August 2020.

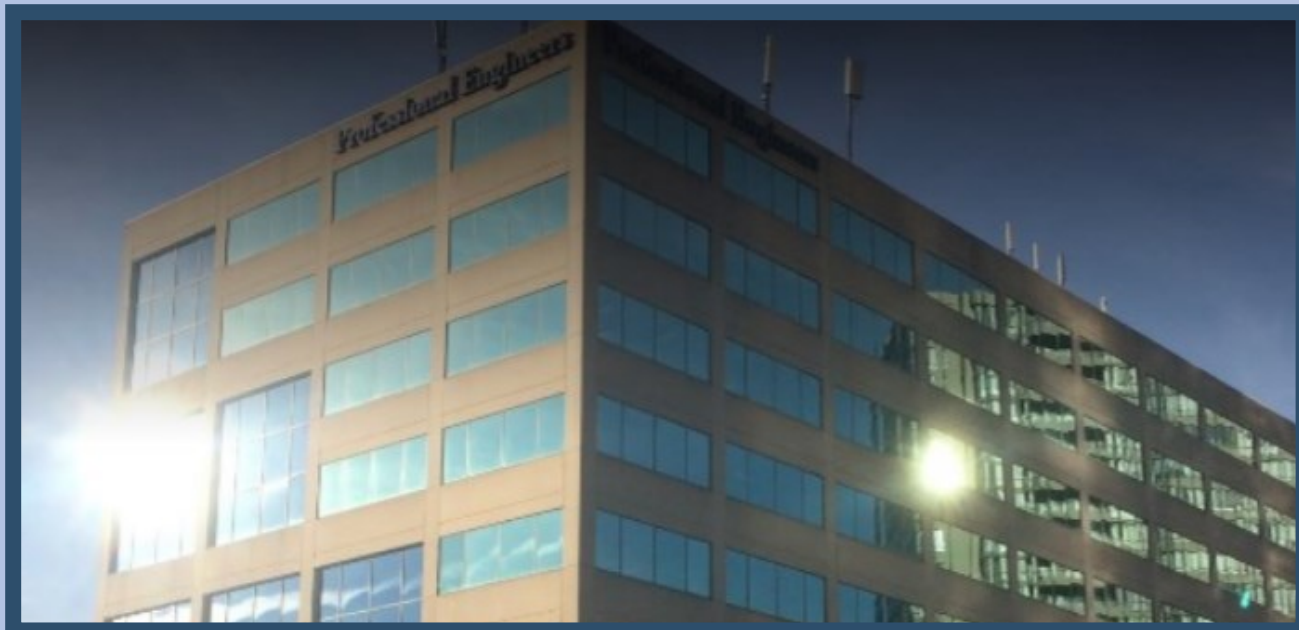
Recommendations included: investment in broadband connectivity, support for diversity and inclusion in activities and commitment to green infrastructure, were all referenced during Her Excellency's speech.

The article said:

"The federal government's engagement with the engineering profession is crucial in delivering on these priorities."

Engineers are essential in the design, implementation, and maintenance of all types of infrastructure, making the engineering profession critical in connecting communities, driving our economy, and keeping Canadians safe."

PEO COUNCIL HOLDS ITS 536TH MEETING VIRTUALLY



PEO Headquarters in Toronto.

PEO Council met virtually on September 25 and approved a number of initiatives.

The meeting was chaired by PEO President **Marisa Sterling**, P.Eng.

Some of the motions that Council approved were:

- The PEO Skills & Attributes Matrix that will be presented to Attorney General **Doug Downey**, MPP (Barrie-Springwater-Oro Medonte) and the Public Appointments Secretariat.

It is PEO's hope that this would be used by the Government in selecting new Lieutenant Governor appointments.

- A motion looking at a Licensure Model for Self-Employed Applicants, requires PEO staff to investigate and report back to Council by January 2021, on the extent of engineering graduates who become entrepreneurs or self-employed in Ontario.

The report must present alternative pathways to the experience requirements that do not require a minimum of one year supervision by a P.Eng.

- A recommendation that PEO join the Notarius program in order to provide PEO licensure holders with the opportunity to subscribe to the digital certification service on a voluntary basis.

A discussion was held on a motion to create a PEO Racial Equity Monitoring Committee. It was agreed to defer the discussion to the November Council meeting.



PEO President **Marisa Sterling**, P.Eng.

EVENTS WITH MPPS

OTTAWA CHAPTER GLP REPS PARTICIPATE IN TOWNHALL WITH LOCAL MPP



PEO Ottawa Chapter GLP Chair and former Councillor **Ishwar Bhatia**, P.Eng., (right) participated in an online townhall hosted by **Joel Harden**, MPP (Ottawa Centre) (left) on September 26. Here they are at an MPP event in Ottawa on February 27, before the lockdown.

(OTTAWA) - PEO Ottawa Chapter's GLP Chair **Ishwar Bhatia**, P.Eng. and representative **Pierre Legault**, P.Eng., participated in a local town hall hosted by **Joel Harden**, MPP (Ottawa Centre), NDP Accessibility and Seniors Critic on September 26.

Mr. Bhatia is a long-time former PEO Councillor.

MPP Harden is familiar with the work of PEO and was the guest speaker at the 2019 PEO Student Conference in Ottawa on September 14.

He has met with several Ottawa Chapter representatives, including Mr. Bhatia, at local events in his riding.

All PEO licence holders are encouraged to participate in their MPPs online events and stay connected virtually, in order to establish and maintain relationships with their Chapters MPPs.

GLP TRIVIA CONTEST

CONGRATULATIONS to former PEO Councillor **Roger Jones**, P.Eng., for being the first to submit the correct answer to:

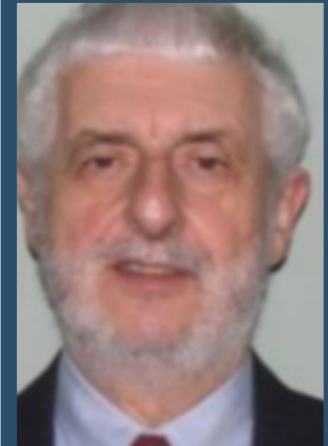
What is the name of the hospital that was featured in Engineering Dimensions, but also the host of the September 2019 'Take your MPP to Work Day' with MPP Jane McKenna?

Answer: Joseph Brant Hospital

This week's question: What did Consulting Engineers of Ontario change their name to?

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, October 5.

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



Rogers Jones P.Eng., is the winner of last week's GLP Trivia contest.

STAYING IN TOUCH WITH MPPs DURING COVID-19



At this time, GLP Weekly will not be sharing any upcoming in-person 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. MPPs are still receiving and sending emails, taking calls, conducting meetings remotely, and happy to connect.

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