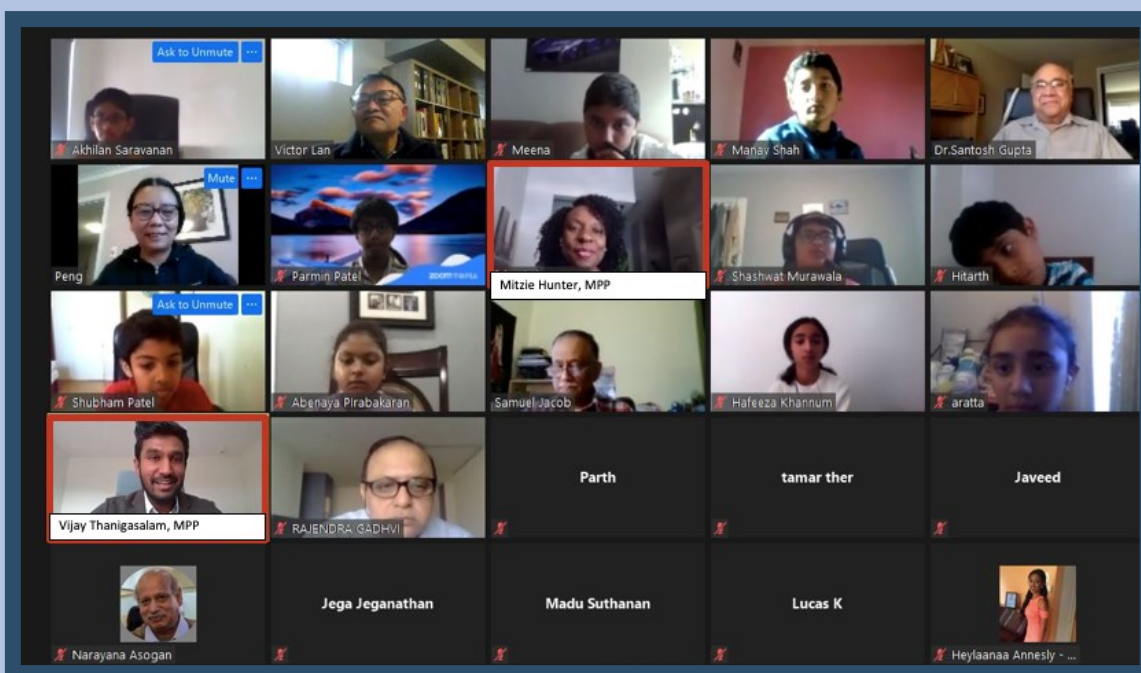




November 27
2020

PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM GLP WEEKLY

Volume 14,
Issue 40



MINISTER AND MPPS PARTICIPATE IN PEO SCARBOROUGH CHAPTER MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

PEO Scarborough Chapter hosted its first-ever virtual Mathematics Competition on October 24. Hon. **Raymond Cho**, MPP (Scarborough North), Minister for Seniors and Accessibility (not pictured), **Vijay Thanigasalam**, MPP (Scarborough-Rouge Park), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Transportation (fourth row, left) and Liberal Finance Critic **Mitzie Hunter**, MPP (Scarborough-Guildwood) (second row, centre) participated. For more on this story, see page 5.

Through the *Professional Engineers Act*, PEO governs over 90,000 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 December 4, 2020.

TOP STORIES THIS WEEK

1. FORMER PEO GLC MEMBER NOMINATED AS PC CANDIDATE IN WINDSOR
2. PEO COUNCIL APPROVES GOVERNANCE AND ANTI-RACISM INITIATIVES
3. NEW PEO COUNCILLOR SHARES HIS THOUGHTS ON THE VALUE OF THE GLP

PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM WORKS

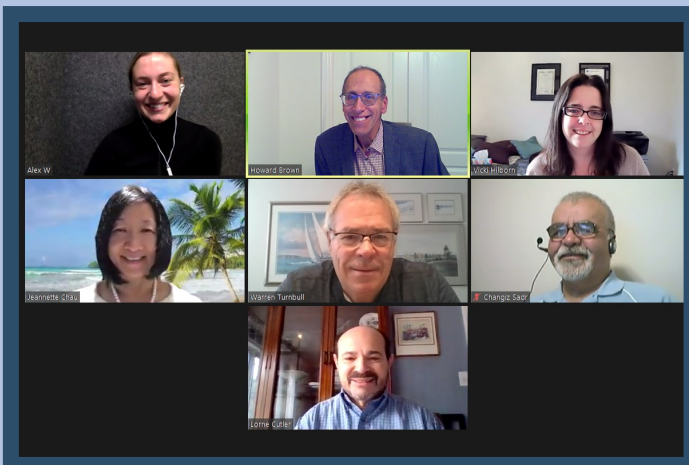
PEO Scarborough Chapter hosted its first-ever virtual Mathletics Competition on October 24. Participating were three MPPs. They were Hon. **Raymond Cho** (Scarborough North), Minister for Seniors and Accessibility, **Vijay Thanigasalam** (Scarborough-Rouge Park) and Liberal Finance Critic **Mitzie Hunter** (Scarborough-Guildwood) (see pages 1 and 5). Having local MPPs stay engaged with PEO Chapters virtually is a great way to maintain the relationship and stay top of mind.

Town of Tecumseh Councillor **Andrew Dowie**, P.Eng. has been nominated as a PC candidate for the 2022 Election (see page 3). He is a former GLP Chair for the Windsor-Essex Chapter and a founding member of the PEO Government Liaison Committee.

PEO Councillor **Scott Schelske**, P.Eng., was interviewed by the GLP Weekly and shared his thoughts on the value of the program (see page 6).

PEO NEWS

PEO GOVERNMENT RELATIONS CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE HOST POST-MORTEM TO DISCUSS FEEDBACK



PEO Government Relations Conference Planning Committee members (top row to bottom row, left to right) **Alex Weryha**, EIT, **Howard Brown**, **Vicki Hilborn**, P.Eng., **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng., **Warren Turnbull**, P.Eng., **Changiz Sadr**, P.Eng. and **Lorne Cutler**, P.Eng. held a post-mortem discussion on November 19.

The PEO 2020 Government Relations Conference Planning Committee held a post-mortem on November 19 to discuss feedback and overall thoughts related to the Conference.

They discussed successes and what could be improved.

Over 60 people sent feedback, including many PEO Councillors. “Overall very good feedback was received for our first virtual Conference,” said PEO Councillor **Warren Turnbull**, P.Eng., who is the Chair of the PEO Government Liaison Committee.

Congratulations to Conference Co-Chairs **Vicki Hilborn**, P.Eng. and **Alexandra Weryha**, EIT and the rest of the Conference planning committee **Warren Turnbull**, P.Eng., **Lorne Cutler**, P.Eng., **Changiz Sadr**, P.Eng., **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng. and **Howard Brown**.

FORMER PEO GLC MEMBER NOMINATED AS PC CANDIDATE IN WINDSOR



Former PEO Government Liaison Committee member **Andrew Dowie**, P.Eng. (right) has been nominated as a PC candidate for the 2022 election. Here he is with Attorney General **Doug Downey**, MPP (Barrie-Springwater-Oro Medonte) at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario Annual Conference on August 20, 2019 in Ottawa.

(WINDSOR) - Former PEO Government Liaison Committee member **Andrew Dowie**, P.Eng. has been acclaimed as the PC candidate for the riding of Windsor-Tecumseh in the 2022 provincial election.

The nomination meeting was held virtually on November 25.

Mr. Dowie has served as a Councillor for the Town of Tecumseh (Ward 1) since 2014.

He is a former GLP Chair of the PEO Windsor-Essex Chapter and was a founding member of the PEO Government Liaison Committee.

He was also the first recipient of the G.Gordon M. Sterling Engineering Intern Award in 2010.

“From the time I began my engineering career in 2001, my work has included finding workable, practical solutions within defines constraints,” said Mr. Dowie. “While politics has little in common with the applied sciences, using problem solving skills is universal.”

He will be running against the current incumbent **Percy Hatfield** (NDP).

PEO COUNCIL APPROVES NEW GOVERNANCE AND ANTI-RACISM INITIATIVES



PEO Council at an in person meeting at PEO Headquarters in February.

As reported in last week's GLP Weekly, PEO held their 537 Council meeting on November 20.

The meeting was held online and was chaired by PEO President **Marisa Sterling**, P.Eng. In her opening remarks, President Sterling told Council of her participation in the successful Government Relations Conference, held last month, and hosted by the PEO Government Liaison Committee.

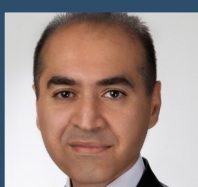
The following items were discussed:

- An Anti-Racism and Anti-Discrimination working group, which will be chaired by PEO Councillors **Peter Cushman**, P.Eng. and **Lisa MacCumber**, P.Eng. Other appointees to the group are Councillors **Wayne Kershaw**, P.Eng. and **Qadira Jackson Kouakou**.
- Application of the regulatory Activity Filter, of which 18/93 items were labelled as 'Governance'. A breakdown was provided on which items were considered core regulatory.
- Council approved the adoption of 11 governance directions, including one that PEO Council members will only serve on board (governance) committees.
- An analysis of open P.Eng. Licence applications and digitization project to convert paper files to electronic versions.
- Professional Standards Committee to form a Professional Engineers Providing Acoustical Engineering Services in Land-Use Planning subcommittee

The entire Disposition of Motions can be found on the [PEO website](#).



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



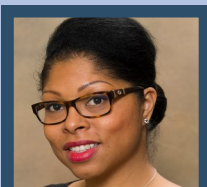
PEO Councillor
Peter Cushman,
P.Eng.



PEO Councillor
Lisa MacCumber
P.Eng.



PEO Councillor
**Wayne
Kershaw** P.Eng.



PEO Councillor
**Qadira Jackson
Kouakou** P.Eng.

EVENTS WITH MPPS

MINISTER AND MPPS PARTICIPATE IN PEO SCARBOROUGH CHAPTER MATHLETICS COMPETITION



Hon. **Raymond Cho**, MPP (Scarborough North), Minister for Seniors and Accessibility delivered remarks at the PEO Scarborough Chapter online Mathletics Competition on October 24.

PEO Scarborough Chapter hosted the first ever online Mathletics Competition on October 24.

The Hon. **Raymond Cho**, MPP (Scarborough North), Minister for Seniors and Accessibility delivered remarks via video.

Participating were **Vijay Thanigasalam**, MPP (Scarborough-Rouge Park), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Transportation and Liberal Finance Critic **Mitzie Hunter**, MPP (Scarborough-Guildwood). Both of them congratulated the Chapter on the success of the competition.

Also participating was PEO Vice –President (Appointed) and PEO Councillor **Arthur Sinclair**, P.Eng. He encouraged the students to come up with good questions in their daily life, that will lead to new discoveries.

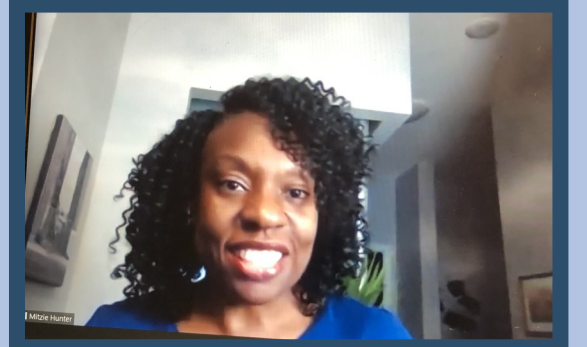
Thirty-four students took part in the competition.

The project manager for the competition was Chapter GLP representative **Samuel Jacob**, P. Eng. Assisting him was **Shintha Gragossian** P.Eng.

Activities such as these help to maintain strong relationships with their local MPPs.



Vijay Thanigasalam, MPP (Scarborough-Rouge Park), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Transportation



Mitzie Hunter, MPP (Liberal-Scarborough-Guildwood)

NEW PEO COUNCILLOR SHARES HIS THOUGHTS ON THE VALUE OF THE GLP

(KENORA) - This week's interview is with PEO Lieutenant Governor Appointed Councillor **Scott Schelske, P.Eng.**

1. What is your experience dealing with the political process?

I have virtually no experience with the political process, as I didn't even become a Canadian citizen until 2017 (although I immigrated to Canada in 1966). My family moved back to the U.S., but I stayed, having married a Canadian.

However, I decided to keep my options open to return south until my retirement, when I decided to remain in the 'True North' and become a citizen. I voted for the first time in my life in the 2018 Ontario election.

2. Why did you get interested in government liaison activities at PEO?

In 2004, PEO was considering folding the Lake of the Woods Chapter due to years of inactivity. Five of us at the Lake of the Woods Chapter accepted an invitation to meet with PEO Council Executives and agreed to attempt to restart the Chapter.

We divided up the executive duties and since I had the most flexible work schedule, I agreed to take on any role needed to fill in the gaps. When the Government Liaison Program (GLP) started and 'GLP Rep' became a Chapter position, I accepted it along with my other three Chapter Executive positions of Secretary, Kenora Area Representative and Education Coordinator.

That being said, I was always very interested in the GLP from the outset, having been working for a Civil Engineering firm that was mainly involved in commercial work. I had to start taking the Building Code exams because the Ontario Government didn't exempt engineers from having to take them, similar to what was done to the architects. Therefore, the value of the GLP and consulting with MPP's before legislation was passed became immediately apparent.

3. What do you think the biggest challenges are for the GLP?

With the changes coming from PEO Council, it's important that the GLP remain intact at PEO to keep MPP's abreast of developments.

4. What do you think the biggest opportunities are for the GLP?

Ontario has an enormous land mass and has a huge diversity in climate, topography, people, industry, employment opportunities, etc. It is extremely difficult for groups to relate to each other and to make everyone work in unison toward any sort of common goals. PEO has an opportunity to connect with MPPs through our volunteers all across Ontario and ensure all our opinions and interests as the regulator of the profession are being heard by MPPs.



PEO Councillor **Scott Schelske, P.Eng.**

GLP TRIVIA CONTEST

CONGRATULATIONS to former PEO Windsor-Essex Chapter GLP Chair and Town of Tecumseh Councillor **Andrew Dowie**, P.Eng. for being the first to submit the correct answer to:

Question: Who was the keynote speaker at the PEO Government Relations Conference?

Answer: Marilyn Gladu, P.Eng.

This week's question: What is the name of the GLP Chair that participated in an online event with the Associate Minister of Small Business on Nov 19?

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, November 30.

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



Town of Tecumseh Councillor and former PEO-Windsor Essex Chapter GLP Chair **Andrew Dowie**, P.Eng.

ONLINE MPP EVENTS

Every Saturday—Coffee with your MPP hosted by **Faisal Hassan**, MPP (York-South Weston), NDP Critic for Youth Engagement from 3 to 4 PM. To join visit: <https://www.facebook.com/FaisalHassanNDP/>

Thursday, December 3—Empire Club presents Attorney General **Doug Downey**, MPP (Barrie-Springwater -Oro-Medonte) at noon. To register, visit: <https://www.livemeeting.ca/profile/empire-club-of-canada/>

Thursday, December 10—Empire Club presents National Builder of the Year award with guest speaker Premier **Doug Ford**, MPP (Etobicoke North) at noon. Other federal and municipal elected officials, as well as local industry leaders will be speaking. To register, visit: <https://www.livemeeting.ca/profile/empire-club-of-canada/>

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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