



John F. Thompson, P.Eng.

B.A.Sc., CMM III IP, PMP

Candidate for Vice President, PEO Council, 2021

Recently retired Director, Environmental Services, City of Barrie, Previously Director of Engineering, Ontario Clean Water Agency. Lead two Municipal Engineering Consulting Firms as President, formerly, Engineer for Bell and Union Gas.

President, Municipal Engineers Association (MEA), 2017/18
Municipal Councillor, Clearview, 1997 through 2003

Graduate of University of Waterloo, Civil Engineering

Served on PEO Professional Development Committee

Volunteered with PEO Chapters - Lake Ontario & Simcoe Muskoka

I understand the advantages of and need for good governance for an organization to be effective. Maintaining a keen focus on the core mission and principals is essential to securing the trust and respect of the Ontario public in our collective duty to keep them protected. We should remain ever cognizant that the PEO is a self governing regulatory body with cherished provincial sanction to continue as such provided we always properly administer the PEO Act.

It is troubling to have sensed deterioration over several years of the Public's esteem and impression of our profession – especially when at the core of our collective purpose is *“to serve and protect the public interest”*.

We have an obligation to work within our mandate to enhance the public's trust in Professional Engineers in our ever evolving world.

There should be no question that should an undertaking be required to be “Engineered”, it should be done by an individual that has been properly trained, qualified and licensed by our self-governing body whom will do so in accordance with good practice adhering to established standards while holding the public interest as paramount. Unfortunately, that is not necessarily the first consideration currently for many in Ontario requiring the completion of such an undertaking.

Correcting this is a necessary task for **all** Engineers and the PEO has its own role to play – while working from within its mandate.

It is my plan, as PEO Vice-President, to be guided by our need to enhance our public reputation to the extent possible as a licensing body – and encourage those external group efforts, outside of our mandate, to do their part to achieve this goal.

My considerable experience as a practicing Professional Engineer in both the private and public sectors, in positions of similar responsibility, will enable me to be instrumental in advancing the efforts and progress of the PEO as Vice President.