



**Susan MacFarlane, M.Sc., Ph.D., P.Eng.**  
**for PEO Western Region Councillor**

I am an Environmental Engineer and have worked in the areas of water, waste, stormwater, wastewater and contaminated sites assessment and management for both industrial and municipal clients for over 25 years. My most recent position was General Manager of the Lambton Area Water Supply System (LAWSS) from 2010 to 2018 where I managed capital projects and oversaw the

operations and maintenance of the water treatment plant, booster stations and distribution system. Prior to my work at LAWSS, I worked for a variety of environmental consulting companies on projects across Canada. I was on the Board of Directors of the Ontario Municipal Water Association (OMWA) from 2016 until I left LAWSS in 2018. While on the OMWA Board I wrote a paper and prepared a presentation encouraging and promoting water conservation. I completed my undergraduate and graduate degrees at the Universities of Guelph and Toronto.

I understand that a recent regulatory performance review at the PEO identified several issues within the current PEO structure and operation. I also know these issues are currently being addressed. In addition, I am aware of a new governance road map that was developed and that the PEO Council is currently implementing. I would like to volunteer my time to assist with this important work.

You may know that only about a quarter of all Canadian trained engineers apply to get their P.Eng. license. What can the PEO do to encourage more engineers to become license holders? Is the process too arduous or overly taxing? These issues need to be explored.

One specific initiative that I support is the 30 by 30 initiative from Engineers Canada which is committed to raising the percentage of newly licensed female engineers in Canada to 30 percent by 2030. In 2017, only 19 per cent of newly licensed engineers in Ontario were women.

I am also interested in learning more about the voluntary Practice Evaluation and Knowledge (PEAK) program which is designed to inform PEO on the engineering practice profiles while encouraging individualized continuing education and professional development. I understand there is a discussion around whether the PEO should have mandatory training like other professions. Based on my current understanding, I would suggest that any future mandatory training requirements from the PEO should allow locally sourced training such as conferences, lunch and learns, peer to peer training and online webinars from relevant companies or parts suppliers. The PEO

should be flexible in what it allows to qualify as training to accommodate different work situations for different license holders.

I understand the role of the Consulting Engineers of Ontario (CEO) and Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE) in relation to that of the PEO. I am aware that historically there has been some overlap between the mandates of OSPE and PEO. It is clear that each organization must fully align with their mandates and continue to work together to increase each other's value and relevancy to its individual members.

In conclusion, I believe I have the skills and experience to work effectively and cooperatively within the PEO Council to achieve the changes that are required to respond to the current identified issues as well as any new challenges in the upcoming years.

If you require any further information please contact me at [susan.macfarlane@sympatico.ca](mailto:susan.macfarlane@sympatico.ca).