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PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM GLP WEEKLY

Volume 15,
Issue 12



PEO COUNCILLOR AND GOVERNMENT LIAISON COMMITTEE PAST VICE-CHAIR ELECTED TO ENGINEERS CANADA BOARD

PEO Councillor **Arjan Arenja, P.Eng.** (right) was elected by PEO Council on March 26 to the Engineers Canada Board of Directors. He is the past Vice-Chair of the PEO Government Liaison Committee.

Here he is at the 2018 PEO Government Relations Conference, which he co-chaired with **Jerome James, P.Eng.** (left).

Also in the photo are (left to right) **Jim McDonnell, P.Eng., MPP** (Stormont-Dundas-South Glengarry), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, **Nathalie Des Rosiers**, then Liberal Attorney General Critic and Ottawa-Vanier MPP, **Bhutila Karpoché**, MPP (Parkdale-High Park), NDP Critic for Early Learning and Childcare and Deputy Green Party Leader **Bonnie North**.

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/glpl-weekly-newsletter>

Deadline for submissions is the Thursday of the week prior to publication. The next issue will be published on April 16, 2021.

TOP STORIES THIS WEEK

1. PEO GLP REPS PARTICIPATE IN ONLINE EVENTS WITH MINISTERS AND MPPS
2. ENGINEERING DIMENSIONS PUBLISHES INTERVIEW WITH NDP MPP
3. PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON COMMITTEE HOLDS MONTHLY MEETING

PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM UPDATE

PEO GLP representatives attended three events with Ministers and MPPs over the last two weeks (see pages 3 and 4). PEO licence holders are encouraged to tune in for online discussions with MPPs, as it allows you to maintain relationships.

Engineering Dimensions published an interview with **Laura Mae Lindo**, MPP (NDP-Kitchener Centre) in its latest issue (see page 5). GLP representatives may wish to share copies of GLP Journal articles in *Engineering Dimensions* with MPPs to allow them to stay up to date with the ongoing work of PEO.

PEO NEWS

OVER 85 PEO GLP REPRESENTATIVES REGISTER FOR FIVE ACADEMIES OVER THE NEXT MONTH



Ontario Deputy Speaker **Rick Nicholls**, MPP (Chatham-Kent-Leamington) (front, centre right) was the guest speaker at the 2019 PEO Western GLP Academy on May 11 in Chatham.

Over 85 PEO Government Liaison Program representatives from across Ontario have registered to participate in five upcoming virtual training Academies over the next month.

The PEO Government Liaison Committee has set the GLP Academies for:

- **Northern Region on Tuesday, April 13 from 7 to 9 PM**
- **Western Region on Thursday, April 15 from 7 to 9 PM**
- **Eastern Region on Tuesday, April 20 from 7 to 9 PM**
- **East Central Region on Thursday, April 22 from 7 to 9 PM**
- **West Central Region on Wednesday, May 5 from 7 to 9 PM**

An additional session has been scheduled for **Saturday, April 24 from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM** to accommodate those who cannot attend the regional scheduled days.

EVENTS WITH MPPS

PEO GLP REPRESENTATIVES PARTICIPATE IN ONLINE EVENTS WITH MINISTERS AND MPPS



PEO East Toronto Chapter GLP Chair **Omid Sadeghi**, EIT (top row, centre) participated in an online event hosted by **Peter Tabuns**, MPP (Toronto-Danforth), NDP Energy and Climate Crisis Critic (top row, right) on March 29.

MPP Tabuns has a long time relationship with the PEO East Toronto Chapter and was most recently a guest speaker at the Chapter's 2021 Annual General Meeting.



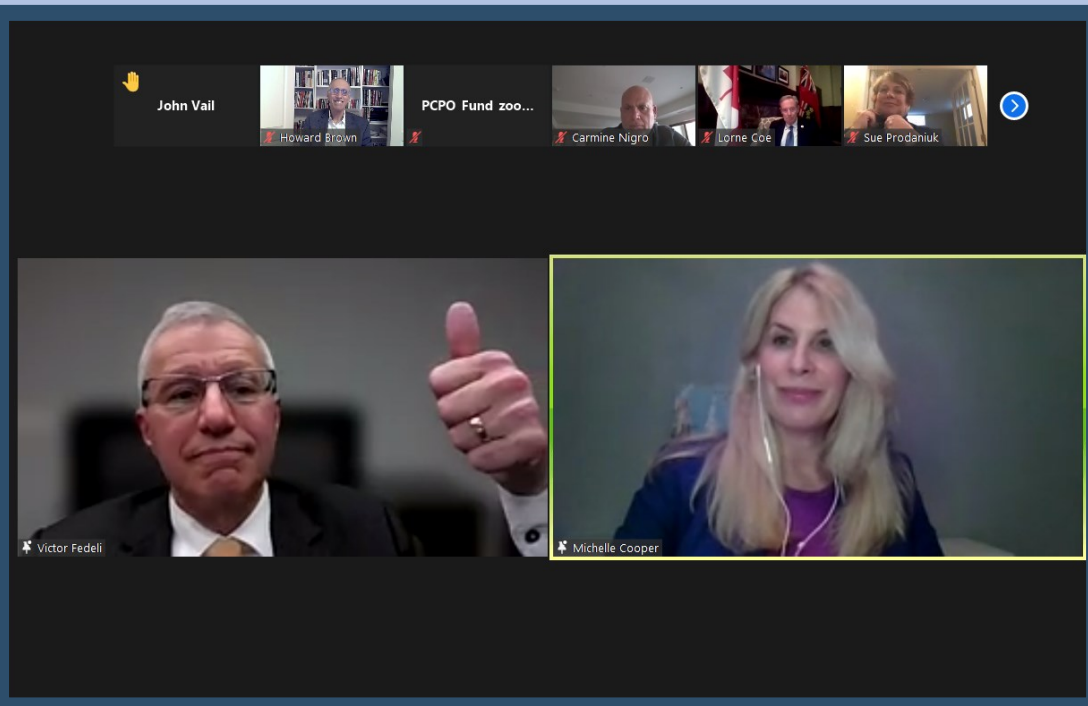
Natalia Kusendova, MPP (Mississauga Centre), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Francophone Affairs (top row, right) hosted an online event on April 1. Also in attendance was Francophone Affairs and Transportation Minister **Caroline Mulroney**, MPP (York-Simcoe) (main photo). She previously served as Ontario's Attorney General with responsibility for the *Professional Engineers Act*.

PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown** (top row, second from the right) also participated in the 90 minute session.

*story continued on Page 4

EVENTS WITH MPPS

PEO GLP REPRESENTATIVES PARTICIPATE IN ONLINE EVENTS WITH MINISTERS AND MPPS



Vic Fedeli, MPP (Nipissing), Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade participated in an online discussion on March 24, which covered a number of issues. PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown** was also in attendance.



Also participating in the event on March 24 were Premier **Doug Ford**, MPP (Etobicoke North) (left), **Lorne Coe**, MPP (Whitby), Chief Government Whip (right row, third down), **Daisy Wai**, MPP (Richmond Hill), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Seniors and Accessibility (right row, second from the bottom) and **Jim McDonnell**, P.Eng., MPP (Stormont-Dundas-South Glengarry), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (right row, bottom).

It is important for PEO licence holders to continue tuning in and attending online events hosted by MPPs. It helps build and maintain relationships and ensures PEO stays top of mind with elected officials.

PEO NEWS

ENGINEERING DIMENSIONS PUBLISHES INTERVIEW WITH NDP MPP

GLP JOURNAL

MPP ENCOURAGES PEO TO CONTINUE PROMOTING DIVERSITY

By Howard Brown

Diversity is one of the defining strengths of Canada, and reflecting that in our government and professions is key to ensure a range of experiences, perspectives and skills. In 2018, Ontario made history with the highest number of women in its provincial legislature, with 49 women representatives (39.5 per cent). Additionally, there are now more than 20 members of provincial parliament (MPPs) who are visible minorities. We spoke with Laura Mae Lindo, PhD, MPP (Kitchener Centre), to get her thoughts on the importance of diversity in politics and the professions. As chair of the first-ever New Democrat Black caucus and opposition critic for anti-racism, and the former director of diversity and equity at Wilfred Laurier University, Lindo says having engineers with diverse backgrounds represent the profession has its benefits.



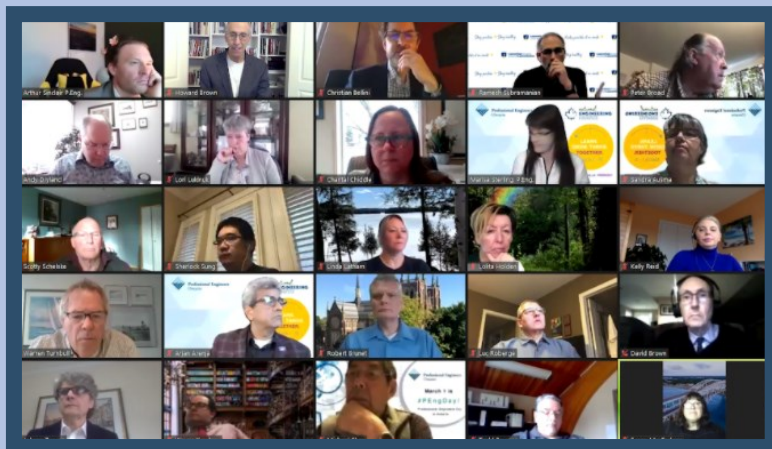
PEO Grand River Chapter GLP Chair Gabe Tse, P.Eng., FEC (left), with Laura Mae Lindo, PhD, MPP (Kitchener Centre), NDP critic for anti-racism, at a community event last year.

The Diversity issue of *Engineering Dimensions*, which was published in March 2021.

PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown** interviewed **Laura Mae Lindo**, MPP (Kitchener Centre), NDP Critic for Anti-Racism and Colleges and Universities for the GLP Journal in *Engineering Dimensions*. The theme of the issue was Diversity. To read the entire article, click [here](#).

PEO NEWS

PEO COUNCILLOR AND GOVERNMENT LIAISON COMMITTEE PAST VICE-CHAIR ELECTED TO ENGINEERS CANADA BOARD



A screenshot taken from the PEO Council meeting on March 26. Not all PEO Councillors and meeting attendees are shown.

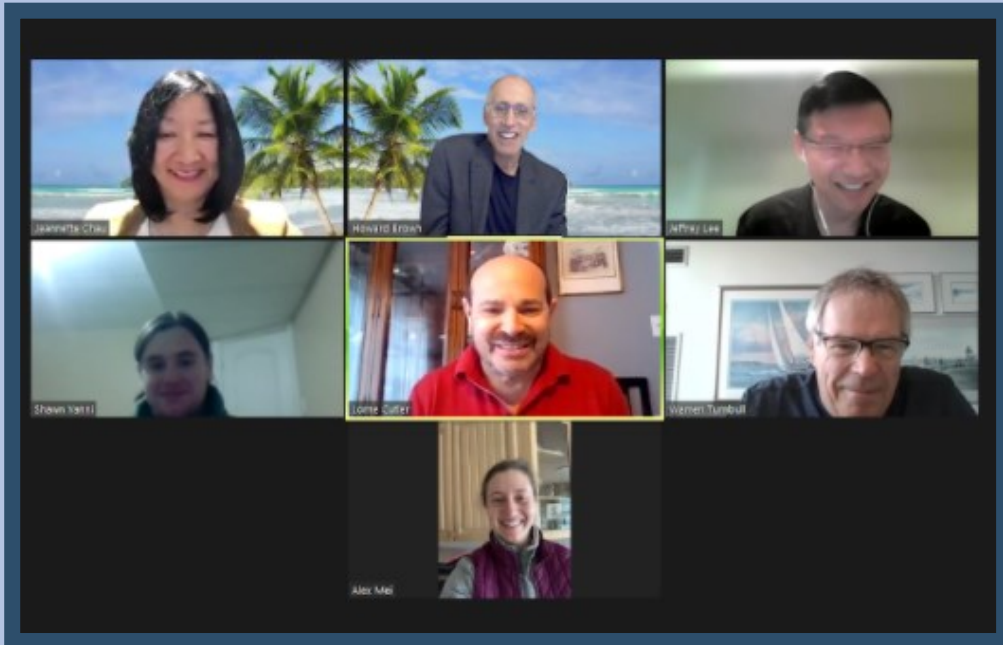
PEO Council held their 538th meeting on March 26. The meeting was chaired by PEO President **Marisa Sterling**, P.Eng.

Key items discussed included the approval of Charters and Governance and the election of a PEO representative to the Engineers Canada Board. Council voted for PEO Councillor and past Vice-Chair of the PEO Government Liaison Committee, **Arjan Arenja**, P.Eng., to the Engineers Canada Board.

Also included were reports from President Sterling and PEO CEO/Registrar **Johnny Zuccon**, P.Eng.

The full Council meeting recording can be found [here](#). The next Council meeting will take place Friday, April 30.

PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON COMMITTEE HOLDS MONTHLY MEETING



The PEO Government Liaison Committee (GLC) met on March 24. Attendees pictured are (left to right) PEO, Manager of Government Liaison Programs **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng., PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown**, GLC Vice-Chair **Jeffrey Lee**, P.Eng., Student representative **Shawn Yanni**, PEO Councillor **Lorne Cutler**, P.Eng., Regional Councillors Committee and Council Liaison **Warren Turnbull**, P.Eng. and EIT representative **Alexandra Weryha**, EIT.

The PEO Government Liaison Committee (GLC) held their monthly meeting on March 24.

Participating were:

- GLC Vice-Chair **Jeffrey Lee**, P.Eng.
- PEO Councillor **Lorne Cutler**, P.Eng.
- Regional Councillors Committee and Council Liaison **Warren Turnbull**, P.Eng.
- Student representative **Shawn Yanni**
- EIT representative **Alexandra Weryha**, EIT
- PEO, Manager of Government Liaison Programs **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng.
- PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown**

Topics of discussion included:

- An overview of the GLP Activity Report presented by Ms. Chau
- Chapter GLP Rep Selection
- Committee Reports and new regional training sessions

GLP TRIVIA CONTEST

CONGRATULATIONS to PEO Scarborough Chapter GLP representative **Samuel Jacobs**, P.Eng., for being the first to submit the correct answer to:

Question: What is the date of the first scheduled PEO GLP Academy in April 2021?

Answer: April 13, 2021

This week's question: Which PEO Chapter participated in an event with London West MPP Peggy Sattler on March 18?

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, April 12.

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



Samuel Jacob, P.Eng. is the winner of this week's GLP Trivia Contest.

ONLINE MPP EVENTS

Every Friday—Virtual Coffee Hour with **Teresa Armstrong**, MPP (London-Fanshawe), NDP Children and Youth Critic from 3 to 4 PM. To register visit <https://www.teresaarmstrong.com/coffeehour>

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

Tuesday, April 20—Etobicoke-Lakeshore Fundraiser with Ontario's Finance Minister **Peter Bethlenfalvy**, MPP (Pickering-Uxbridge), President of the Treasury Board and Christine Hogarth, MPP (Etobicoke-Lakeshore), Parliamentary Assistant to the Solicitor General from 6 to 7 PM. Tickets are \$750. To register visit https://etobicolakeshore.ontariopc.ca/peter_bethlenfalvy2022

Thursday, April 22—Protecting the Ottawa River with **Joel Harden**, MPP (Ottawa Centre), NDP Critic for Accessibility and Persons with Disabilities at 6 PM. To register visit https://www.joelharden.ca/town_hall_on_protecting_the_ottawa_river

Thursday, April 29—Leading Women Leading Girls Virtual Celebration with **Peggy Sattler**, MPP (London West), Opposition House Leader and NDP Critic for Labour and Democratic Reform at 7 PM. To tune in live visit <https://bit.ly/2OxbYVi>

Wednesday, May 12 – Ontario Environment Industry Association (ONEIA) presents EvolutiON with Deputy Minister, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, **Serge Imbrogno** and Deputy Minister, Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, **Giles Gherson** from 12 to 1 PM. To register visit <https://www.oneia.ca/event-4207543>

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

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