

PEO 2021 AGM Motion:

Commit to Fundamental Principles of Good “Self-Regulation” Governance

PREAMBLE:

Good “self-regulation” and “democratic” governance involves and respects members, and should adhere to, but is not limited to, the following governance principles:

1. Transparency.
2. Obtaining member input.
3. Respecting dissenting views.
4. Empowering members with knowledge, and a voice.

Our federal and provincial parliamentary systems empower the public through elections AND by opposition parties being given a formal voice and committee representation. PEO is not based on a party system, hence the formal voice must come from other means, e.g., peer review, referendum, etc. Elections are not enough. Autocracies can and do hold elections, however, they

- (i) control elections, and restrict who can run in an election
 - Council runs electronic elections that cannot be scrutinized, resists calls to investigate anomalies in election voting data, and imposed term limits taking away choice from members.
- (ii) control the messaging and media
 - PEO recently adopted the practice of removing dissenting views from minutes, yet dissenting views are the foundation of a fair and knowledge-based process as revealed, for example, by dissenting views being a formal part of legal decisions should they exist,
- (iii) control the information reaching decision making bodies
 - peer review is not sought for anything deemed to be governance related, and this includes any decision by Council concerning continuing professional development (CPD) despite a promise by previous Councils to seek member input first should there be a move to make CPD mandatory
- (iii) misrepresent the truth,
 - Council being told that the multiple-choice National Professional Practice Examination (NPPE) measures the same things as the written PEO Professional Practice Examination (PPE) - Ethics is the heart of the engineering profession, and whereas the NPPE does reveal what one knows, it is not designed to reveal how one thinks - for an analogy, just imagine if all your engineering courses only had multiple choice exams.
- (iv) intimidate,
 - Council currently emphasizing confidentiality of strategic meetings concerning governance despite governance not being a By-Law explicit reason for PEO to hold an in-camera session
- (v) Etc.

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Whereas:

PEO Council has taken to the practice that ALL GOVERNANCE decisions do not require peer review, no matter how significant - this is in direct conflict with previous Council policy that all significant motions to Council require peer review.

Whereas:

PEO Council rescinded a prior Council promise to hold a NON-BINDING referendum on mandatory continuing professional development (CPD) “program” - note the emphasis on program and non-binding..

Whereas:

PEO Council has adopted confidential meetings to discuss matters such as governance, matters that are not explicitly identified as permitted confidential items given in PEO’s By-Laws, and hence against the spirit of the By-Laws. To claim that the profession is really “self” regulating means that the members are fully capable of being involved in how it is governed.

Whereas:

Election platforms are insufficient to provide Councillors with mandates to proceed with significant policy changes if not part of their platform, for example, you will not find mention of support for mandatory CPD among the election platforms of some of the strongest supporters of a mandatory CPD program. You should ask yourself, “Why?”

Whereas:

PEO Council has taken to removing dissenting views from minutes.

Whereas:

PEO Council has taken to providing information on significant governance changes with only two weeks notice AT BEST prior to a Council meeting to vote on the matter, giving no time for members to effectively learn about and provide feedback on such matters even when so motivated. Often the actual briefing note is not available to members until just days before a Council meeting.

Whereas:

Etc - there is a lot more.

Be It Resolved That:

Council commit fully to

- (a) peer review,**
- (b) knowledge-based decision making,**
- (c) highest levels of transparency,**
- (d) effective communication, and**
- (e) removal of systemic biases and barriers to hearing and respecting diverse views,**

and that it halt all current procedures and practices that do not abide by these self-regulating governance principles.

Moved by:

Roydon Fraser, P.Eng., FEC

9 times elected Councillor, 25+ years PEO volunteer

Seconded by:

Leila Notash, P.Eng.

Councillor-at-Large, 18 years PEO volunteer

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INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED, AS APPLICABLE (Please note, this form is fillable electronically. Please download, fill out, save the document and email to: agmsubmissions@peo.on.ca)

1. Title of Submission

Commit to Fundamental Principles of Good "Self-Regulation" Governance

2. Please briefly describe the issue, problem, risk or gap that this submission addresses.

See attached Preamble and Whereas statements.

3. Please summarize the action that you are requesting from Council and how it will address the issue, problem, risk or gap stated above.

Action: stop destroying self-governance by following, instead of violating, the principles given in the motion. Action: Insert the self-governance rules in the Council manual with examples and counter examples. Addresses: destruction of self-governance.

4. Please cite and briefly summarize any research that supports the proposed action.

See Preamble and Whereas statements.

5. As applicable please describe how the proposed action will contribute to serving and protecting the public interest as it pertains to the regulation of professional engineering and the engineering profession.

Prevents a clique, an oligarchy, an autocratic form of PEO governance. Public interest is best served with FULL transparency, FULL knowledge-based decision making, FULL understanding of the members (e.g., as with anything, it is always best to understand your audience), etc.

6. Please identify any legal considerations (eg., the need for changes to the statute, regulation, by-laws etc.) that may affect Council's ability to implement the proposed action.

No legal changes needed to start implementing.

7. Please identify any considerations that are relevant to the timing (or urgency) of the proposed action.

Super urgent as Council embarks on some no-turning back governance policies and operations policies.

8. Please provide any other information that you feel will assist members of the AGM and Council in understanding your submission, in particular your proposed action.

Review and compare Council meetings and minutes from the past year.

9. Please list any attachments to this document.

See attached document, "Commit to Principles motion - 2021 AGM.pdf"

Member #1 (name/signature):

Roydon Fraser



Member #2 (name/signature):

Leila Notash



Date:

05/03/2021

**PLEASE FORWARD THE COMPLETED SUBMISSION ELECTRONICALLY,
WITH ANY ATTACHMENTS**

TO:

CEO/REGISTRAR, c/o AGMSUBMISSIONS@PEO.ON.CA

AT LEAST TEN (10) DAYS PRIOR TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING