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2021

## PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM GLP WEEKLY

Volume 15,  
Issue 16



### ONTARIO ATTORNEY GENERAL TO ADDRESS PEO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NEXT WEEK

Attorney General **Doug Downey**, MPP (Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte) has accepted PEO's invitation sent by PEO President **Marisa Sterling**, P.Eng., to speak at the association's Annual General Meeting next Saturday, May 15. The photo above was taken on October 27, 2020 when Minister Downey (top left) met virtually with President Sterling (bottom left). Also in the photo are Minister Downey's Senior Policy Advisor **Patrick Schertzer** (top right), PEO's CEO/Registrar **Johnny Zuccon**, P.Eng. (bottom right) and Manager, Government Liaison Programs **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng. (top centre).

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 May 14, 2021.

## TOP STORIES THIS WEEK

1. PEO YORK CHAPTER HOSTS EVENT WITH MINISTER AND MPP
2. PEO SCARBOROUGH CHAPTER HOSTS NEM EVENT WITH MINISTER AND THREE MPPS

## PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM WORKS

PEO hosted its final GLP Training Session on May 5 (see page 3). The purpose is to ensure all individuals representing PEO's GLP have the same standard of knowledge and skills.

PEO's York and Scarborough Chapters hosted events with MPPs (see pages 4 and 5). It's important for PEO Chapters to continue hosting events with MPPs to maintain relationships.

## PEO NEWS

### PEO PRESIDENT ELECTED NEW ENGINEERS CANADA DIRECTOR



PEO Council last met in-person in February 2020. Online sessions have been held since.

PEO Council held its 540th meeting on April 30.

The chair was PEO President **Marisa Sterling**, P.Eng. This was her last meeting as PEO President.

Items of discussion included:

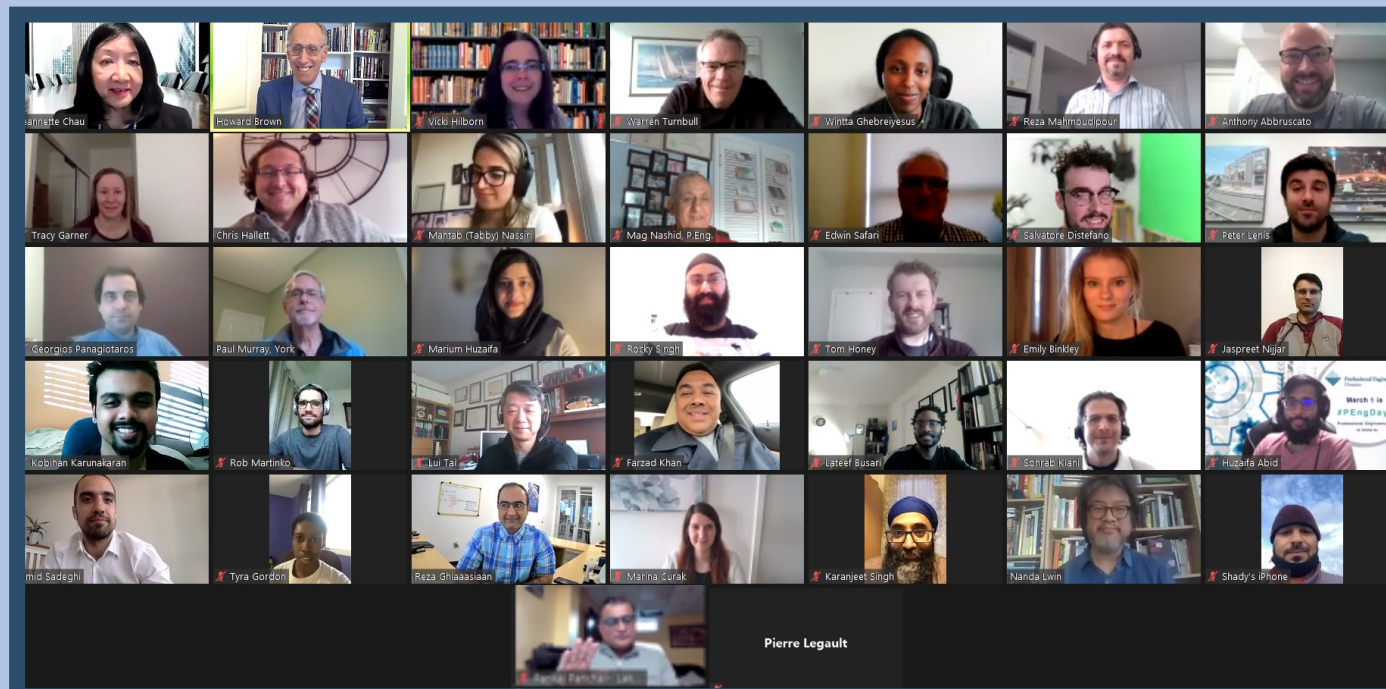
- The approval of four board governance committees
- Approval of a governance roadmap
- President Sterling was elected as a new Engineers Canada Director



PEO President **Marisa Sterling**, P.Eng., at PEO's Council meeting on March 26, 2021.

## PEO NEWS

### OVER 30 PEO GLP REPS PARTICIPATE IN LAST OF SIX TRAINING SESSIONS



PEO held its last of six GLP Training Sessions on May 5. It was the East Central Region session for GLP representatives. Speakers included PEO's Government Liaison Committee (GLC) Chair **Vicki Hilborn**, P.Eng., (top row, third from the left), Manager, Government Liaison Programs **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng., (top row, left) and Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown** (top row, second from the left).

PEO's Government Liaison Committee (GLC) held its last of six GLP Training sessions on May 5. Over 30 participated.

A total of over 100 representatives have attended one of the sessions this spring.

The purpose of the certification sessions are to provide all representatives with the same standard of knowledge and skills, insight on how to interact with MPPs and the opportunity to develop skills required to engage with government effectively.

Speakers included PEO's GLC Chair **Vicki Hilborn**, P.Eng., Manager, Government Liaison Programs **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng. and Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown**.

PEO's West Central Region Councillor **Warren Turnbull**, P.Eng., the GLC past Chair also participated.

Each representative will now go through two other stages of training to complete the certification.

## EVENTS WITH MPPS

### PEO YORK CHAPTER HOSTS EVENT WITH MINISTER AND MPP



The PEO York Chapter hosted their Engineering Project of the Year Ceremony on April 21. One of the guest speakers was **Daisy Wai**, MPP (Richmond Hill), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister for Seniors and Accessibility (top row, left).

PEO York Chapter held their Engineering Project of the Year Ceremony on April 21.

Chapter GLP Chair **Reza Mahmoudipour**, P.Eng., provided an excellent report on April 25.

Speakers at the event included:

- Education Minister **Stephen Lecce**, MPP (King-Vaughan) who sent in a recorded greeting
- **Daisy Wai**, MPP (Richmond Hill), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister for Seniors and Accessibility
- PEO President **Marisa Sterling**, P.Eng.

There were nine recipients in three categories for the Engineer Project of the Year Award, in addition to a Research Project of the Year Award.

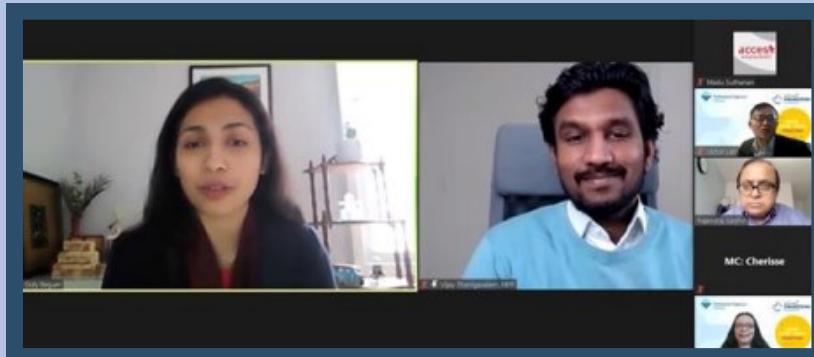
It is important for PEO Chapters to invite MPPs to their local events so that they can become familiar with the work that engineers do, and to raise the profile of PEO and its regulatory role.



**Stephen Lecce**, MPP (King-Vaughan), Minister of Education gave remarks at the virtual event.

## EVENTS WITH MPPS

### PEO SCARBOROUGH CHAPTER HOSTS NEM EVENT WITH MINISTER AND THREE LOCAL MPPS



PEO Scarborough Chapter hosted a National Engineering Month event with **Doly Begum**, MPP (Scarborough Southwest), NDP Critic for Citizenship, Foreign Credentials, and Immigration Services (left) and **Vijay Thanigasalam**, MPP (Scarborough-Rouge Park), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Transportation (right) on March 27.

PEO Scarborough Chapter held events with all six of their local MPPs during National Engineering Month (NEM) in March.

**Rajendra Gadhvi**, P.Eng., the new Chapter GLP Chair provided an update of one event on March 27 that was not previously covered in the GLP Weekly.

The participating MPPs were:

- **Vijay Thanigasalam**, MPP (Scarborough-Rouge Park), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Transportation
- **Doly Begum**, MPP (Scarborough Southwest), NDP Critic for Citizenship, Foreign Credentials, and Immigration Services

This was followed by pre-recorded greetings from **Raymond Cho**, MPP (Scarborough North), Minister of Seniors and Accessibility and **Mitzie Hunter**, MPP (Scarborough-Guildwood).

The event was a competition for Young Inventors of Scarborough (YIS). There were 22 presentations, of which four were selected for an award ceremony on March 27.

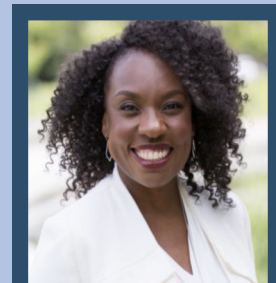
Mr. Gadhvi told GLP Weekly that “students presented their ideas in the presence of NEM adjudicators”, and “impressed the audience with their innovative approach to engineering and technology.”

He further added that the MPPs “stressed the importance of such events in creating the next generation of engineers.”

Winning entries were presented with certificates and prizes.



**Raymond Cho**, MPP  
(Scarborough North),  
Minister of Seniors  
and Accessibility



**Mitzie Hunter**, MPP  
(Scarborough-  
Guildwood)

### ENGINEER AND FORMER LONG-TIME MPP AND AG APPOINTED TO CHAIR GREENBELT COUNCIL



Former MPP **Norm Sterling** has been appointed the Chair of the Greenbelt Council.

PHOTO CREDIT: [The Toronto Star](#).

Engineer and former MPP **Norm Sterling** has been appointed as the Chair of the Greenbelt Council. The appointment was announced by the Ontario government on April 29.

Mr. Sterling served as an MPP for Eastern Ontario ridings from 1977 until 2011, holding many portfolios including the Ministries of the Attorney General, Environment and Energy, and Transportation.

While an MPP, Mr. Sterling participated in many PEO events including a TVO hour-long program on professional engineering in the public interest with then PEO President **Catherine Karakatsanis**, P.Eng., PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown**, and three other MPPs.

The Greenbelt Council vacancy opened when former Toronto Mayor **David Crombie** resigned in December 2020.

To read the official announcement from the Government of Ontario, click [here](#).

### ONTARIO ATTORNEY GENERAL TO ADDRESS PEO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NEXT WEEK



Attorney General **Doug Downey**, MPP (Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte) (centre left) is the guest speaker at this year's PEO Annual General Meeting on May 15. Here is Minister Downey at a PEO Simcoe-Muskoka Chapter Annual General Meeting and Licence Certificate Ceremony on March 31, 2019 in Barrie. In the photo are: (from left to right) Simcoe-Muskoka GLP Chair **Greg Merrill**, P.Eng., then PEO East Central Region Councillor **Thomas Chong**, P.Eng., **Andrea Khanjin**, MPP (Barrie - Innisfil), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, then PEO East Central Region Councillor **Keivan Torabi**, P.Eng. and then Simcoe-Muskoka Chapter Chair **Kevin Hughes**, P.Eng.

Attorney General **Doug Downey**, MPP (Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte) has accepted PEO's invitation sent by PEO President **Marisa Sterling**, P.Eng., to speak at the association's 2021 Annual General Meeting (AGM).

The AGM will take place virtually next Saturday, May 15.

The meeting will start at 10 A.M. and Minister Downey will be a kickoff speaker.

This will be the first time that an Attorney General has spoken at a PEO AGM in many years.

Minister Downey was first elected to the Ontario Legislature in 2018. He was then appointed Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Finance before being elevated to the Cabinet as Attorney General in 2019.

Earlier in his career, he was elected and served for six years on Orillia City Council.

Before entering politics, Minister Downey was also very active in the Ontario Bar Association in a variety of posts including as Secretary and Treasurer. He also served as the Communications Chair of the Canadian Bar Association.

## GLP TRIVIA CONTEST

CONGRATULATIONS to PEO Hamilton-Burlington GLP Chair **Mike Bell**, P.Eng., for being the first to submit the correct answer to:

**Question:** Which regions hosted their GLP Academies on April 20 and 22?

**Answer:** Eastern Region on April 20 and West Central on April 22.

**This week's question:** Which incoming PEO Councillor attended the open Training Certification session on April 24?

**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](mailto:jchau@peo.on.ca) by Monday, May 10.

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



**Mike Bell**, P.Eng. is the winner of this week's GLP Trivia Contest.

## UPCOMING 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/>

**Wednesday, May 12—13 – Ontario Environment Industry Association (ONEIA) presents Evolution** with Minister of the Environment, Conservation & Parks, **Jeff Yurek**, MPP (Elgin-Middlesex-London) on May 12 and **Vic Fedeli**, MPP (Nipissing), Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade on May 13. To register visit <https://www.oneia.ca/event-4207543>

## UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENT

The planned Take Your MPP to Work Day with PEO Oakville Chapter and Oakville MPP **Stephen Crawford** announced in last week's GLP weekly is being rescheduled.

If you have any comments, additions or questions about *The GLP Weekly* please do not hesitate to call or email:  
Howard Brown, President, Brown & Cohen Communications & Public Affairs Inc.  
321 Brooke Avenue | Toronto, ON M5M 2L4 | Direct line: 416-783-1140 | Cell: 416-844-1180  
[howard@brown-cohen.com](mailto:howard@brown-cohen.com) | [www.brown-cohen.com](http://www.brown-cohen.com)