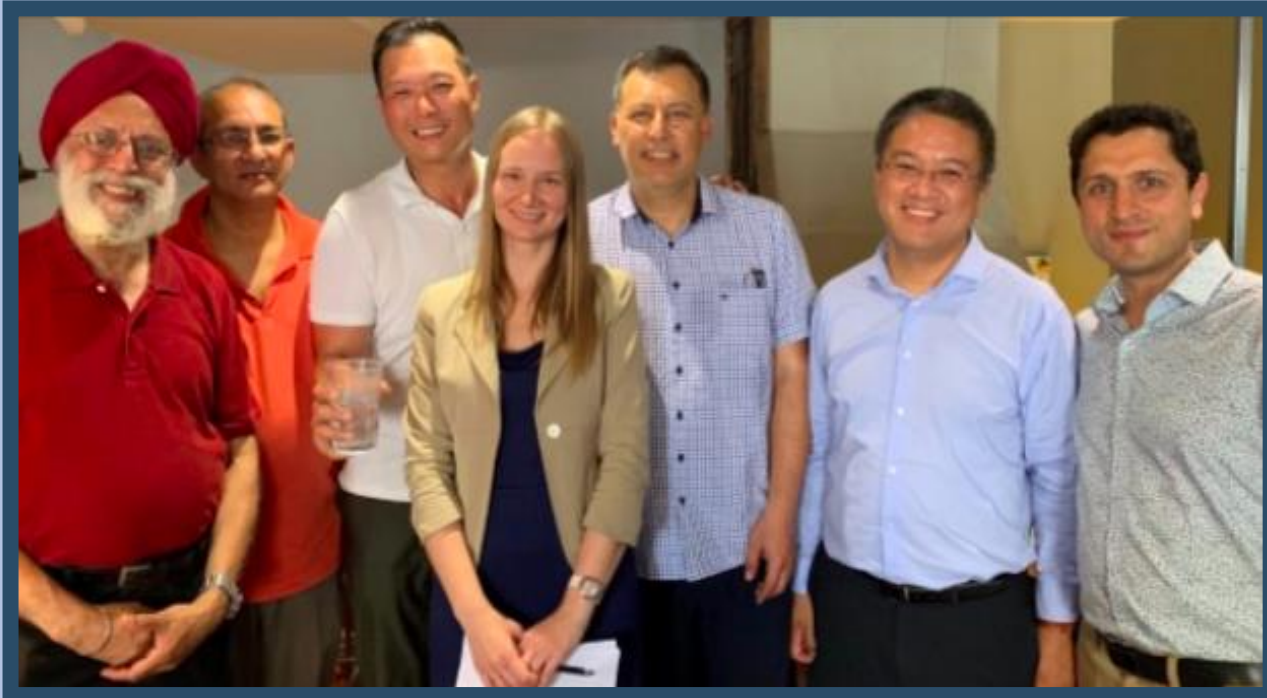




June 25,  
2021

## PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM GLP WEEKLY

Volume 15,  
Issue 22



### PEO ALLIES MAKE CABINET

**Stan Cho**, MPP (Willowdale) (third from the left), was sworn in as Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Transportation after Premier **Doug Ford's**, MPP (Etobicoke North) cabinet shuffle on June 18. Mr. Cho is shown above with members of PEO Willowdale-Thornhill Chapter at a meet and-greet event in 2019. For more on this story, see page 7.

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/glp-weekly-newsletter>

Deadline for submissions is the Thursday of the week prior to publication. There will be no issue on July 2 due to the shortened holiday week. The next issue will be published on July 9, 2021.

## TOP STORIES THIS WEEK

1. ENGINEERS CANADA ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS PROGRESS ON REGULATION
2. ATTORNEY GENERAL AND ATTORNEY GENERAL CRITIC RESPONSIBLE FOR REGULATORY BODIES

## PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM WORKS

GLP Weekly interviews PEO Lake Ontario Chapter GLP Chair **Pankaj Panchal**, P.Eng., (see page 4) who shares his views on the value of the Government Liaison Program (GLP).

GLP Weekly features the Attorney General and Attorney General Critic (see page 6). It's important for Chapters to continue to host events with MPPs to maintain relationships.

## SECTOR NEWS

### WATER CANADA ANNOUNCES NEW WEBINARS ON THE KEYS TO A BLUE ECONOMY



Water Canada presents its online discussion series: The Keys to a Blue Economy. PHOTO CREDIT: Water Canada

Water Canada has announced four new seminars taking place this year in a series entitled: The Keys to a Blue Economy.

The seminars include: Driving Diversity in Canada's Water Industry, Ensuring Reliable Access to Safe Drinking Water, Advancing Municipal Co-digestion, and Innovations in Stormwater Management.

Regarding the Ensuring Reliable Access to Safe Drinking Water seminar, Water Canada noted: "In Canada, the federal and provincial governments play an important role in setting and updating the guidelines and regulations needed to provide reliable access to safe drinking water. This session will explore questions such as: what's working? What's not working? What more is needed?"

To register, click [here](#).

# ENGINEERS CANADA ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS PROGRESS ON REGULATION



Engineers Canada has released its 2020 Annual Report with a focus on regulatory bodies in the engineering profession such as PEO. PHOTO CREDIT: Engineers Canada

Engineers Canada’s latest annual report highlighted the need for regulator relationships.

“In the midst of a changing environment, the attention to our mission remained focused” said Engineers Canada President **Jean Boudreau**.

“A primary reason that Engineers Canada exists is to support consistent high standards in the regulation of engineering.”

A key part of the document highlighted the regulatory relationships of the report. It said: “Facilitating and fostering working relationships between and among the regulators is the core of our work. Through our existing programs, we work to encourage collaboration among the regulators and strengthen the profession through the sharing of ideas and best practices.”

Engineers Canada has, and will continue to support, the regulation of the engineering profession as it is important for public safety and the public interest.

For a link to the full report, click [here](#).

## GLP WEEKLY INTERVIEW

### LAKE ONTARIO CHAPTER GLP CHAIR SHARES HIS THOUGHTS ON THE GLP



This week, GLP Weekly interviews PEO Lake Ontario Chapter GLP Chair, **Pankaj Panchal**, P.Eng., above in the photo (second from right) with **Lorne Coe**, MPP (Whitby) (centre).

#### 1. What is your experience dealing with the political process?

I grew up in India and my brother-in-law was involved in politics. I did some political volunteer work with him in the early 1990s. When I came to Canada in 2002 I took an interest in political issues when I was living in Windsor and working in Detroit. I then moved to Chalk River to work with Atomic Energy of Canada.

#### 2. Why did you get interested in government liaison activities at PEO?

I got involved with PEO Algonquin Chapter in 2013, volunteered as GLP Chair and was able to meet our MPP **John Yakabuski** (Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke) who was then Chief Opposition Whip. I then moved to Bowmanville in 2016 and again got involved with the GLP when I started working at the Darlington nuclear plant. I am involved with the Lake Ontario Chapter and met with many MPPs such as **Lorne Coe**, MPP (Whitby) and **Jennifer French**, MPP (Oshawa), Critic for Transportation and Highways and Infrastructure. To give credit to my predecessor **Raymond Chokelal**, P.Eng., our Chapter won the GLP award that year for its work with our five MPPs who represented all three political parties at Queen's Park at the time.

#### 3. What do you think the biggest challenges are of the GLP?

I think the biggest challenge for the GLP is to figure how PEO can take advantage of the relationships at the local level to improve PEO's positioning as the regulator with MPPs. I think GLP Academies and Congresses, Queen's Park Days and bi-annual conferences are ways we can build on our work with MPPs, particularly in a post-Covid environment. Interviewing my MPP at the PEO government relations conference in November in front of my peers allowed me to be more informed on the actual issues facing PEO as a regulator.

#### 4. What do you think the biggest opportunities are for the GLP?

It has been very difficult to get in touch with MPPs during the pandemic. Positively on the other side, there is now an opportunity for the GLP to increase engagement with them post-Covid. We can do so by inviting them to our own events and attending their events to really build meaningful relationships.

### GLP GETS SHOUT OUT AT PEO AWARDS CEREMONY



**Paul Ballantyne**, P.Eng., was one of two Companion of the Order Award recipients at the 2020-2021 PEO Virtual Order of Honour Awards.

The 2020-2021 Virtual Order of Honour Awards took place on June 19. It was MCed by PEO Past President **Marisa Sterling**, P.Eng., with assistance from 2019 President **Nancy Hill**, P.Eng., and 2003 President **Ken McMartin**, P.Eng.

The two recipients of the Companion of the Order Awards, as announced in last week's issue, were former Councillor **Paul Ballantyne**, P.Eng. and former President **Bob Dony**, P.Eng.

Mr. Ballantyne and several others were recognized for their work with the Government Liaison program.

He said that the necessary skills for volunteer success are simple: "show up, do what you said you would do, help where you can, don't complain or criticize, smile, and come back again."

He has provided service and leadership at all levels of PEO including serving as Algonquin Chapter Chair for four years, with the Chapter's Government Liaison Program (GLP) helping the chapter earn the small chapter GLP award, serving on PEO Council for two terms as Eastern Region Councillor, and a long history of committee and task force service.

Mr. Dony has spent eight years serving on PEO Council and a term as PEO President, providing exceptional service to the profession including helping to amend the *Professional Engineers Act*, providing PEO authority to establish a continuing professional development program, and endorsing Engineers Canada's 30 by 30 initiative.

GLP Weekly was pleased with a number of award recipients shown in photos with past and present MPPs including at the virtual event including:

**Steven Crawford**, MPP (Oakville) with **Brett Chmiel**, P.Eng., **Rick Nicholls**, MPP (Chatham-Kent-Leamington) with **Stacey McGuire**, P.Eng., **Edward Kai-Jee Poon**, P.Eng., with then MPP **Michael Chan** (Markham-Unionville), and **Helen Wojcinski**, P.Eng., with **Reza Moridi**, MPP (Richmond Hill).

For a link to the full 2020-2021 Virtual Order of Honours Awards, click [here](#).

## MEET YOUR MPP



### ATTORNEY GENERAL AND ATTORNEY GENERAL CRITIC RESPONSIBLE FOR REGULATORY BODIES

Welcome to the new feature in the GLP Weekly. Meet your MPPs will highlight MPPs that are especially relevant to the work of PEO and the GLP. The next provincial election is planned for June 2, 2022 and we are scheduling to feature over 80 MPPs between now and the election. We will also be asking for interviews with them. Here are the first two that we are featuring, both well known to PEO:



Attorney General **Doug Downey**, MPP (Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte), is the Minister responsible for the *Professional Engineers Act*.

**Doug Downey, MPP (Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte) is the Attorney General of Ontario.**

The Attorney General is the chief legal adviser to the Government of Ontario and oversees the Ministry of the Attorney General.

Minister Downey has served on the Canadian and Ontario Bar Associations.

PEO Council is accountable to the public through the Ministry of the Attorney General to uphold PEO's duty to protect the public interest.

Minister Downey has participated in five PEO meetings since being elected, two at the Muskoka Chapter level, two with PEO President and at PEO's 99<sup>th</sup> AGM last month.

**Gurratan Singh, MPP (Brampton East) is the NDP Attorney General Critic and Deputy Opposition House Leader.**

He was a sole legal practitioner at his own firm for over six years and is the brother of federal New Democratic Party Leader **Jagmeet Singh**, MP (Burnaby South).

Since his election in 2018, MPP Singh has been a regular participant in Brampton Chapter activities including speaking at conferences at PEO headquarters in 2019 and 2020.



**Gurratan Singh, MPP (Brampton East) is the Attorney General Critic.**

Next week, the GLP Weekly will feature: **Lindsey Park**, MPP (Durham), Parliamentary Assistant to the Attorney General and **Lucille Collard**, MPP (Ottawa-Vanier), Vice-Chair, Standing Committee on Justice Policy.

## PEO ALLIES MAKE CABINET



**Nina Tangri**, MPP (Mississauga-Streetsville) (centre right) has been Associate Minister of Small Business and Red tape reduction in Premier **Doug Ford's**, MPP (Etobicoke North) Cabinet shuffle on June 18. Here she is at an event with PEO Manager, Government Liaison Programs **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng., (third from right) at an event in 2020.

Premier **Doug Ford**, MPP (Etobicoke North) announced a major shuffle to his cabinet on June 18 appointing seven new ministers, several of them who could have an impact on PEO including:

- **Rod Phillips**, MPP (Ajax), Minister of Long-Term Care
- **Dave Piccini**, MPP (Northumberland – Peterborough South), Minister of the Environment
- **Kinga Surma**, MPP (Etobicoke Centre), Minister of Infrastructure
- **Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria**, MPP (Brampton South), President of the Treasury Board
- **Parm Gill**, MPP (Milton), Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism
- **Stan Cho**, MPP (Willowdale), Associate Minister of Transportation
- **Nina Tangri**, MPP (Mississauga – Streetsville), Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction
- **Kaleed Rasheed**, MPP (Mississauga East – Cooksville), Associate Minister of Digital Government

Shuffled:

- **Jill Dunlop**, MPP (Simcoe North), now Minister of Colleges and Universities
- **Merrilee Fullerton**, MPP (Kanata-Carleton), now Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
- **Greg Rickford**, MPP (Kenora-Rainy River), now Minister of Northern Development, Mining, Natural Resources and Forestry, as well as Indigenous Affairs
- **Ross Romano**, MPP (Sault Ste. Marie), now Minister of Government and Consumer Services
- **Todd Smith**, MPP (Bay of Quinte), now Minister of Energy
- **Lisa Thompson**, MPP (Huron Bruce), now Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

Many of the Ministers have regularly participated in PEO Queen's Park and Chapter activities. Congratulations to all!

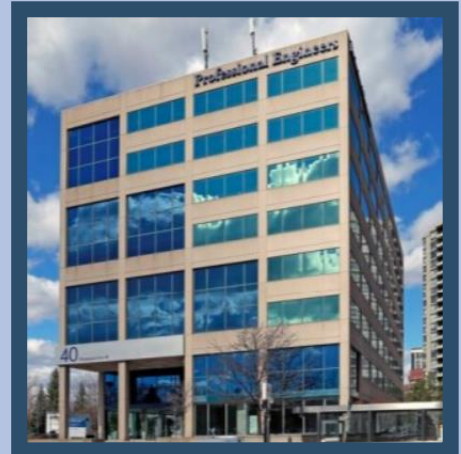
## GLP TRIVIA CONTEST

**This week's question:** Who was the PEO Chapter Chair that was interviewed in the June 18<sup>th</sup> issue of the GLP Weekly?

There was no winner of last week's question, so GLP Weekly has chosen a new question.

**Join the Contest:** Test your knowledge of the *GLP Weekly* with our weekly trivia question! Send your answers to **Emily Binkley** at [emily@brown-cohen.com](mailto:emily@brown-cohen.com) by Monday, June 28.

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



## 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/>

**Monday, June 28 – An evening with Monte McNaughton**, MPP (Lambton-Kent-Middlesex), Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development from 6:30 to 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$500. Please note that PEO cannot cover the cost of this event. To register, visit: <https://ontariopc.ca/events/an-evening-with-monte-mcnaughton/>

**Tuesday, June 29 - An evening with** Ontario Liberal Party Leader **Steven Del Duca**, at 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$1000. Please note that PEO cannot cover the cost of this event. To register, visit: <https://ontarioliberal.ca/events/june29/>



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)