



GLP WEEKLY TIMES

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We've changed the name. We've changed the look. Let us know what you think!



Government House Leader **Paul Calandra**, MPP (Markham—Stouffville) (front row, third from the left) had an exclusive interview with the *GLP Weekly Times* on August 3.

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH ONTARIO GOVERNMENT HOUSE LEADER

The *GLP Weekly Times* interviewed Government House Leader **Paul Calandra**, MPP (Markham—Stouffville) on August 3.

Minister Calandra shared his thoughts on the role that PEO plays in regulating and advancing the practice of engineering to protect the public interest.

For more on this story, see pages 6 and 7.

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FORMER PREMIER WHO MADE MAJOR CHANGES TO PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS ACT PASSES AT 92



Ontario's 18th Premier **William Davis** (right) passed away on August 8 in Brampton at the age of 92. He served as Premier from 1971 to 1985 and played a role in amending the *Professional Engineers Act*. With him in the photo is then Attorney General **Roy McMurtry** (left). PHOTO CREDIT: Toronto.com

(BRAMPTON) – Ontario's 18th Premier, **William Davis**, passed away on August 8 in Brampton, Ontario at the age of 92. He served as Premier from 1971 to 1985. Mr. Davis also served as an MPP in Peel Region from 1959 to 1985.

The Policy Options magazine named Mr. Davis the second-best Canadian Premier of the last 40 years, beaten only by Alberta's former Premier **Peter Lougheed** who served as Premier for the same 14 years.

In a TVO article, the Agenda Host **Steve Paikin** said "It's a sad day for Ontario and for Canada. It's a sadder day for those of us who were lucky enough to know and love him." Mr. Paikin received the PEO President's Award in 2014.

PEO 2019-20 President **Nancy Hill**, P.Eng., and Government Relations consultant **Howard Brown** had a chance to speak with Mr. Davis at a TVO event honouring him in October 2019. "He was a remarkable man who served this province and country with enormous distinction," said Ms. Hill.

In 1984, he played a role with then Attorney General **Roy McMurtry** amending the *Professional Engineers Act*, which strengthened PEO's ability to regulate the practice of engineering.

PEO LONDON CHAPTER MEETS WITH MPP



PEO London Chapter representatives **Arman Rasekh**, P.Eng. (bottom left) and **Ayodeji Daniel Abiola**, P.Eng. (bottom right), met with **Terence Kernaghan**, MPP (London North Centre), NDP Critic for LGBTQ and Government Services and Consumer Protection via Zoom on August 6.

(LONDON) – PEO London Chapter met with **Terence Kernaghan**, MPP (London North Centre), NDP Critic for LGBTQ and Government Services and Consumer Protection on August 6.

MPP Kernaghan was elected to the Legislature in 2018. Prior to being elected, he was an elementary school teacher and librarian.

Participating in the call were PEO London Chapter Chair **Ayodeji Daniel Abiola**, P.Eng., PEO London Chapter GLP Rep **Arman Rasekh**, P.Eng., and PEO Government Relations consultant **Howard Brown**. Mr. Abiola is the Director of Communications and Membership of Black Engineers of Canada.

In their hour-long discussion, they reviewed that there is now one GLP Rep for all 124 MPPs, Take your MPP to Work Days, PEO's governance changes, as well as upcoming PEO London Chapter events that MPPs have an opportunity to participate in.

MPP Kernaghan has previously met with the PEO London Chapter, attending licence certificate presentation ceremonies and other events.

It is important for PEO Chapters to maintain relationships with their MPP.

THE GOVERNMENT LIAISON COMMITTEE WELCOMES NEW MEMBER FROM EAST TORONTO CHAPTER



The Government Liaison Committee (GLC) met on July 21. During the meeting two new Chapter representatives were introduced including **Tracy Garner**, P.Eng., and **Asif Khan**, P.Eng. Pictured in the photo are GLC members including (top row, left to right) Manager, Government Liaison Programs **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng., PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown**, GLC Vice-Chair **Jeffrey Lee**, P.Eng., (middle row, left to right) student representative **Shawn Yanni**, former PEO Councillor and GLC Chair **Warren Turnbull**, P.Eng., GLC member and PEO East Toronto Chapter GLP rep **Tracy Garner**, P.Eng., and (bottom row) PEO Councillor **Lorne Coe**, P.Eng.

PEO's Government Liaison Committee (GLC) met on July 21.

During the meeting, new GLC member **Tracy Garner**, P.Eng., GLP Rep for PEO's East Toronto Chapter was introduced.

Asif Khan, P.Eng., former PEO Windsor-Essex GLP Chair is also a new GLC member and will be introduced at the GLC meeting on August 18.

Ms. Garner provided feedback on the GLP training and she mentioned that she thought the training and diversity of members was helpful.



New GLC member **Asif Khan**, P.Eng. (left) at an event with **Lisa Gretzky**, MPP (Windsor West) (right) at an event in 2019.

Also discussed at the meeting was ongoing GLP activities including two planned Take Your MPP to Work Days by PEO Oakville and Windsor Chapters in the coming weeks.

ENGINEERS CANADA BOARD APPROVES NEW NATIONAL POSITION STATEMENT ON PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE IN BIOTECHNOLOGY



The Engineers Canada Board approved a new National Position Statement on professional practice in biotechnology on July 29. PHOTO CREDIT: Engineering Matters

The Engineers Canada Board has approved a new National Position Statement on professional practice in biotechnology as reported in Engineering Matters on July 29.

The Statement consists of two recommendations for the federal government:

- "Ensure that any legislation or regulations that refer to engineering work in the development or implementation of biotechnology require the involvement of a professional engineer in accordance with provincial and territorial engineering acts." and;
- "Ensure that there is a legislative requirement that when engineering work is being performed, individuals involved in the development or implementation of biotechnology at the federal level be engineers who are licensed to do so."

The report also stated that, "Engineers Canada's National Position Statements are consensus positions of the provincial and territorial engineering regulators on key issues that relate to the public interest."

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

MEET YOUR MPP

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH ONTARIO GOVERNMENT HOUSE LEADER



Government House Leader **Paul Calandra** (Markham – Stouffville) had an exclusive interview with the *GLP Weekly Times* on August 3.

The *GLP Weekly Times* was pleased to have a chance to interview Government House Leader **Paul Calandra**, MPP (Markham – Stouffville) on August 3.

Minister Calandra was first elected to the Ontario Legislature in 2018 and was the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines. In June 2019, Premier **Doug Ford**, MPP (Etobicoke North) appointed MPP Calandra as Government House Leader, one of the single most important positions in the Cabinet. One of the reasons that he was appointed was because he had experience both federally and provincially as he had earlier served as a federal Member of Parliament for the riding of Oak Ridges—Markham from 2008 to 2015.

During his time in Ottawa, he served as Parliamentary Secretary to then Prime Minister **Stephen Harper**. His post included responsibility for Intergovernmental Affairs. He also served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages. He worked closely with then Pickering – Scarborough East MP **Corneliu Chisu**, P.Eng. Minister Calandra said he learned a lot about the regulation of professional engineering from Mr. Chisu. In addition to being a professional engineer, Mr. Chisu was a PEO Vice President and Councillor prior to his election.

Minister Calandra was kind enough to give the *GLP Weekly Times* 45 minutes on August 3 by phone. We had a chance to discuss a number of issues, particularly in ways to not only build relationships with MPPs but also explain PEO's almost 100-year mandate to regulate the practice of professional engineering in the public interest. Not all MPPs understand that PEO is the regulator for professional engineering in Ontario, not the advocacy body, and the difference between the two.

He suggested some Ministries that could be beneficial to PEO in fulfilling its mandate to regulate the practice of professional engineering in the public interest. He placed special emphasis on the role of the Treasury Board and its expanded mandate under this Government to not just look at spending, but the impact of legislation more broadly. He also talked about the important role of the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services for PEO.

The interview was set up with the assistance of Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing **Steve Clark**, MPP (Leeds - Grenville - Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes).

Here are some excerpts from the interview:

1. As PEO tries to be a better regulator every day to serve and protect the public interest, do you have any advice from the government's perspective on how to become a better regulator?

From a government standpoint, we always look for regulators that are lean and fulfill the mandate that they are supposed to fulfill first and foremost. But then on the opposite, we're also looking for opportunities where regulators can perhaps provide advice on how we can remove red tape to make it easier for people to enter into the profession. We've seen in other instances where often regulators have become obstacles for the people that they represent (who want to be licenced). And that doesn't work for the government and doesn't work for the people that they're supposed to represent (who want to get licenced). So I think, first and foremost, as long as the regulator fulfills its mandate to the people it's representing in a clear, concise way then they're doing a good job.

2. How do you think regulators can educate MPPs on the role of regulatory bodies when they are so busy and very seldom have time to meet and discuss issues that are not on the immediate public agenda?

As far as approaching cabinet and the type of information that we get, by the time it gets to us, it's pretty high-level stuff... so we rely on the different layers that feed into the final cabinet decision-making process to ensure that we're in a good spot when we make a decision...so we have relied on the deputies and assistant deputies to make sure that what we're doing, or the decisions that we're making are the best decisions both for taxpayers and the safest decisions...so I think at layers below the final cabinet processes where would be where we rely on you (regulators)...

...Engineers, as you said, are in every single riding, and are probably across every single political stripe. And I always told people that the best way is to let people know what it is (that regulators are) about so that they know in advance even during an election.

3. How can regulators build relationships with MPPs when it isn't on the immediate public agenda?

I will bring it up at our next caucus meeting and will follow up with (MPPs like) **Stephen Crawford** who is quite knowledgeable on this... As far as the broader agenda, I think we would look at how the Ministries of Labour and Government and Consumer Services work together to help... and would also go back to Infrastructure Ontario and ask how the work that you (as a regulator) does impacts how we do things in Ontario.

GLP TRIVIA CONTEST

CONGRATULATIONS to PEO Willowdale Thornhill Chapter Chair **Nanda Lwin**, P.Eng, for being the first to submit the correct answer to:

Question: Which former PEO Councillor is the 2021-22 Engineers Canada President?

Answer: **Danny Chui**, P.Eng.

This week's question: What Minister made an infrastructure announcement in the City of Hamilton on July 26?

Join the Contest: Test your knowledge of the *GLP Weekly Times* with our weekly trivia question! Send your answers to **Emily Binkley** at emily@brown-cohen.com by Monday, August 16. **You may only win once in a four-week span.**



Nanda Lwin, P.Eng., is the winner of last issue'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/>

August 16-18 - Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO) Virtual Conference, London, Ontario. Sessions will be held with party leaders, Ministers, and others including one on Municipal Digital Transformation: Building Permits in the 21st Century. PEO Government Relations Consultant **Howard Brown** will be in attendance. Registration is \$850 for non-members. Please note that PEO cannot cover the cost of this event. To register, click [here](#).

August 17 6:30-8 PM – An Evening with Ontario Liberal Party Leader Steven Del Duca. Tickets are \$1000. Please note that PEO cannot cover the cost of this event. To register, click [here](#).

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. The next issue will be published on August 20, 2021.

If you have any comments, additions or questions about The GLP Weekly Times 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 | www.brown-cohen.com