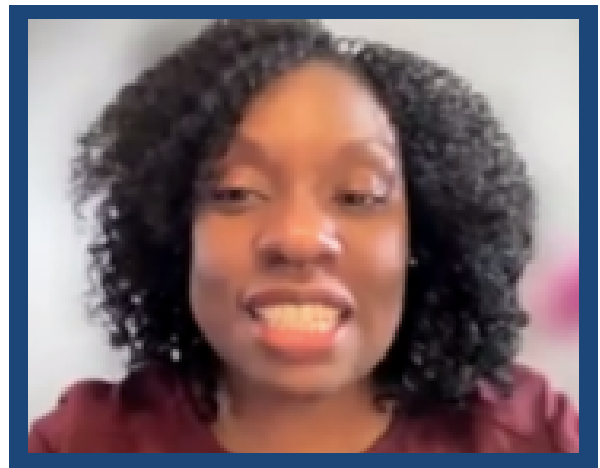




# GLP WEEKLY TIMES

APRIL 1, 2022 | VOLUME 16, ISSUE 11



**Christina Mitas**, MPP (Scarborough Centre) (left) and **Mitzie Hunter**, MPP (Scarborough-Guildwood) (right) attended and provided remarks at a PEO Scarborough Chapter event on March 26.

## THREE MPPS PARTICIPATE IN SCARBOROUGH CHAPTER COMPETITION

PEO's Scarborough Chapter hosted the annual Young Inventors of Scarborough (YIS) and Young Engineers of Scarborough (YES) Student Competition on March 26.

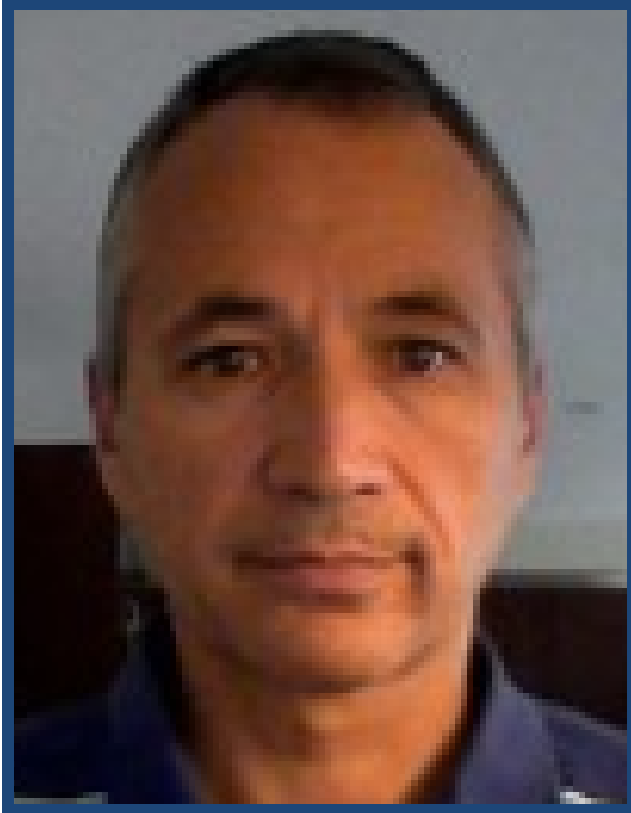
**Mitzie Hunter**, MPP (Scarborough-Guildwood) and **Christina Mitas**, MPP (Scarborough Centre) both attended the event and gave brief remarks. A video featuring a speech by Hon. **Raymond Cho**, MPP (Scarborough North), Minister of Seniors and Accessibility was also played for attendees.

For more on this story, see page 7.

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## PEO COUNCILLOR ENDS TERM, NEW ONE APPOINTED



**George Nikolov**, P.Eng. (left) has been appointed as a new Lieutenant Governor Appointed (LGA) PEO Councillor. Former Councillor **Qadira Jackson**, (right) served on Council for six years.

The Ontario Government has appointed a new PEO Councillor, **George Nikolov**, P.Eng. as Lieutenant Governor Appointee. Mr. Nikolov is a professional engineer with over 25 years of experience as a business strategist across four continents. He holds master's degrees in Civil Engineering and Business Administration and is additionally certified as a Project Management Professional.

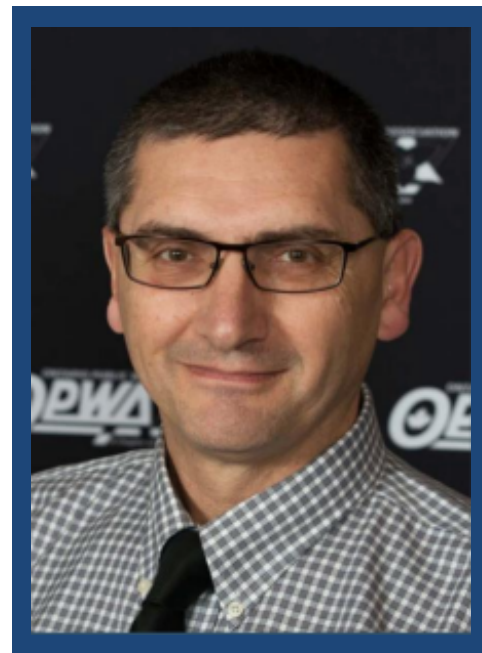
The announcement was made on March 25 at the PEO Council Plenary which was chaired by PEO President **Christian Bellini**, P.Eng. who provided opening remarks.

In addition to Mr. Nikolov's appointment to Council, **Qadira Jackson's** term as PEO Lieutenant Governor Appointee has ended. Ms. Jackson, who has served on the Council for six years, is a lawyer and has made strong contributions to PEO in many roles.

Also at the Plenary, there were reports given on the Anti-Racism and Anti-Discrimination Exploration Working Group (AREWG) by Councillor **Lisa MacCumber**, P.Eng. and on the work of the Governance and Nominating Committee by Councillor **Arjan Arenja**, P.Eng.

# PEO PRESIDENT-ELECT SHARES HIS THOUGHTS ON THE GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM

This week, we continue our series of interviews with PEO Councillors, GLP Representatives and other PEO opinion leaders. Today, we feature PEO President-elect Nick Colucci, P.Eng. This interview was originally published in the June 11, 2021 edition of the GLP Weekly Times. Mr. Colucci will become PEO President at the PEO Annual Meeting on April 30.



PEO President-elect  
Nick Colucci, P.Eng.

PEO President-elect **Nick Colucci**, P.Eng., has been an active PEO volunteer for over two decades. He has served as a PEO East Central and Eastern Region Councillor and has been on several standing committees and task forces. President-elect Colucci professionally works as the Director of Infrastructure Services with the Town of Erin.

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

I work for a municipality, the Town of Erin in Wellington County and previously in the Townships of Brock in Durham region and Tay in Simcoe County. In two of those communities, I had the pleasure of working directly with the then-Infrastructure Minister **Laurie Scott**, MPP (Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock) who represents the riding where I currently live.

I also had the pleasure of working with PEO Past President **Marisa Sterling**, P.Eng., when she ran for the Ontario Legislature a decade ago. As well, in my job I have a lot of interaction with both our local MPP and the MP. Recently, we have been looking at a large infrastructure project for wastewater treatment plants. We have had a lot of meetings with both levels of government dealing with funding and approval.

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

I was very interested in the Government Liaison Program (GLP) from day one when it was created in 2005. My background of volunteering for PEO was within the Chapter. When you are at the local level, on the Chapter level, you interact with MPPs organizing events and inviting them to annual meetings and licence certificate ceremonies.

It was during my first term on Council that the province changed the *Building Code Act* to require engineers to write tests, which directly conflicted with PEO's jurisdiction. At the time, PEO Council challenged the legislation in court and was successful in protecting PEO's jurisdiction. One of the reasons why we created the GLP was so that we could interact and build relations with the Government to avoid these situations in the future.

Continued on page 4

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

I think the biggest challenge is maintaining a connection with this government and future governments. We have found out in the past, connections with staff alone may not be enough. We want the government to consult with us on engineering regulation issues before they get introduced. My take is we underestimate the value of relationships with individual MPPs. The biggest challenge right now is COVID-19 as everything is virtual. In some ways, it's easier to connect, but in other ways it is harder because of the lack of a personal one-on-one connection.

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

When Council developed the plan for the GLP, we had as a specific objective to tell MPPs that “PEO has unique knowledge and expertise and it is in the best interest of government to consult with it before considering any new policy directions that may have the potential to impact the regulation of the practice of professional engineering.”

Furthermore, inviting MPPs to Chapter events and having them listen to young engineers getting their licences helps to foster a genuine connection with MPPs. Take your MPP to Work Day is also a good opportunity for MPPs to experience the work of different engineering companies.



PEO President-elect **Nick Colucci**, P.Eng., (middle row, centre) also sits on the Board of Directors for the Ontario Public Works Association.

# ENGINEERS CANADA ISSUES NEW NATIONAL POSITION STATEMENT



OTTAWA - Engineers Canada has released a new National Position Statement on the essential role engineers play in increasing Canada's productivity.

The statement called on the Government of Canada to invest in research and development, support improvements to equity, diversity and inclusion within the engineering profession and accelerate project approvals promised under the *Investing in Canada Plan* as methods of increasing productivity.

Engineers Canada regularly produces position statements on various issues that engineers play a role in. The specific five recommendations of the most recent statement include:

- Create a plan to increase Canada's productivity at a rate faster than Canada's peers. It must do so if it is to at least maintain its citizens' current standard of living.
- Change Canada's regulatory framework to promote innovation and accelerating productivity.
- Increase productivity through the acceleration of projects promised under the Investing in Canada Plan and other federal-provincial legacy programs.
- Continue investment in research and development (R&D) and innovation in Canada, which will stimulate innovation leading to the creation of new goods and services, and labour and growth productivity.
- Continue collaboration with the engineering profession in supporting improvements in equity, diversity, and inclusion in the engineering profession.

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. They are not only meant to provide information about the issue to members of the engineering profession, but are also meant to facilitate discussion with government and influence public policy.

Engineer's Canada CEO, **Gerard McDonald**, P.Eng. served as PEO's Registrar from 2014 to 2018. PEO has five directors on Engineers Canada's board.

# MEET YOUR MPPS

This week, the *GLP Weekly Times* features Hon. **Monte McNaughton**, MPP (Lambton-Kent-Middlesex) Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development and **Peggy Sattler**, MPP (London West) NDP Critic for Labour and Democratic Reform.

## HON. MONTE MCNAUGHTON, MPP



Hon. **Monte McNaughton**, MPP  
(Lambton-Kent-Middlesex)

Hon. **Monte McNaughton**, MPP (Lambton-Kent-Middlesex) was first elected to the Ontario Legislature in 2011 as a member of the Progressive Conservative Party.

He is currently the Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development.

Prior to his election, MPP McNaughton served as a Municipal Councillor for his hometown Newbury, as President of the Strathroy and District Chamber of Commerce from 2009 to 2010 and on the board of Four Counties General Hospital Foundation.

Mr. McNaughton has long been a supporter of PEO.

## PEGGY SATTLER, MPP

**Peggy Sattler**, MPP (London West) was first elected in a by-election to the Ontario Legislature as a member of the New Democratic Party in 2013.

MPP Sattler is the NDP Critic for Labour and Democratic Reform and the Opposition House Leader.

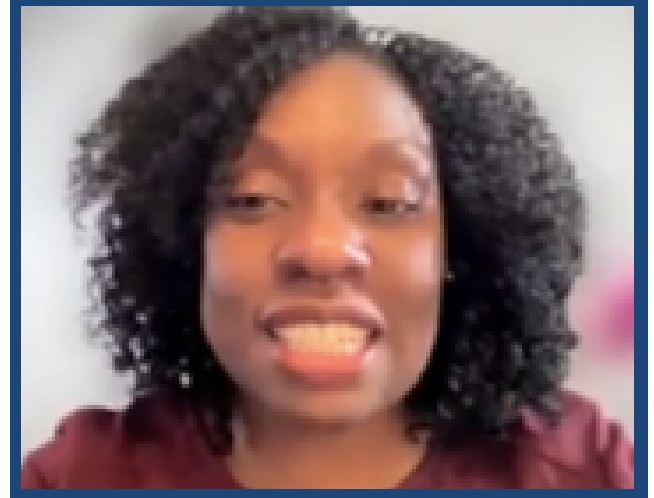
Prior to her election, she served as a Trustee on the Thames Valley District School Board for 13 years and served two terms as Chair.

MPP Sattler has been supportive of PEO in the past, including attending and inviting London Chapter members to various events. She participated in an All Candidates Meeting organized by PEO London Chapter just prior to her election. She also spoke at length in the Legislature in support of PEO's request for the repeal of the industrial exception in the *Professional Engineers Act*.



**Peggy Sattler**, MPP  
(London West)

# THREE MPPS PARTICIPATE IN SCARBOROUGH CHAPTER EVENT



**Christina Mitas**, MPP (Scarborough Centre) (left) and **Mitzie Hunter**, MPP (Scarborough-Guildwood) (right) attended and provided remarks at a Scarborough Chapter event on March 26.

PEO's Scarborough Chapter hosted the annual Young Inventors of Scarborough (YIS) and Young Engineers of Scarborough (YES) Student Competition on March 26.

Scarborough Chapter GLP Chair **Victor Lan**, P.Eng. reported that MPP **Mitzie Hunter** (Scarborough-Guildwood ) and MPP **Christina Mitas** (Scarborough Centre) both attended the event and spoke briefly to express their thanks to the Chapter for organizing the event and to applaud students for continuing to innovate and create. Over 40 students and volunteers were in attendance.

Additionally, a video with a speech from **Raymond Cho**, MPP (Scarborough North), Minister of Seniors and Accessibility, was featured at the competition.

All three MPPs have been supportive of Scarborough Chapter's activities in the past. Minister Cho and MPP Hunter both attended last year's YIS event as well as the Athletics Competition in 2020 hosted by the Chapter. Attending PEO activities is a great way for chapter members to build relationships with their local MPPs and feel comfortable reaching out to them in regards to regulatory concerns.



Hon. **Raymond Cho**, MPP (Scarborough North) Minister of Seniors and Accessibility, submitted a video giving a speech directed to students participating in the event.

# GLP TRIVIA CONTEST

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

**Question:** Which Ontario Minister recently introduced a motion allowing participants to go maskless in the legislative chamber and committee rooms?

**Answer:** Hon. **Paul Calandra**, MPP (Markham-Stouffville), Government House Leader and Minister of Long-Term Care and Legislative Affairs.

**This week's question:** Which MPP presented GLC Chair **Jeffrey Lee**, P.Eng. with a certificate on March 14?

**Join the Contest:** Test your knowledge of the GLP Weekly Times with our weekly trivia question! Send your answers to Erika Murray at [erika@brown-cohen.com](mailto:erika@brown-cohen.com) by Monday, April 4. **You may only win once in a four-week span.**



**Samuel Jacob**, P.Eng. is the winner of last issue's GLP Trivia Contest.

## UPCOMING MPP EVENTS

**Wednesday, April 6 at 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM - Mississauga Board of Trade** hosts A Luncheon with Ontario Liberal Leader **Steven Del Duca**. Location: Hyatt Place Toronto/Mississauga & Luxe Convention Centre, 5787 Hurontario Street, Mississauga. Member tickets are \$65, non-member tickets are \$85. To register, click [here](#).

**Wednesday, April 6 at 12 PM - 1:30 PM - Empire Club of Canada** presents **Ontario's Economy is Getting Stronger- Here's How, In Conversation** with Ontario's Minister of Finance **Peter Bethlenfalvy**, MPP (Pickering-Uxbridge). Location: Arcadian Court, 401 Bay Street, Simpson Tower 8th Floor, Toronto. This event will be held in hybrid format. In-person tickets are \$99 +HST. Virtual tickets are free. To register, click [here](#).

**Monday, April 11 at 6 PM - The Progressive Conservative party** presents **The Loyal Blue Club Spring Reception** with Education Minister **Stephen Lecce**, MPP (King-Vaughan), **Merrilee Fullerton** MPP, (Kanata-Carleton) Minister of Children, Community and Social Service, and **David Piccini**, MPP (Northumberland-Peterborough South) Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks. Location TBA. Tickets are \$1000. To register, click [here](#).

**Tuesday, April 12 at 11:45 AM - 1:30 PM - Canadian Club of Toronto** presents **Unleashing Ontario** with **Victor Fedeli**, MPP (Nipissing) Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade. Location: Hilton Hotel Toronto, 145 Richmond St. W. Tickets are \$115 for non-members and \$100 for members. To register, click [here](#).

**Tuesday April 12 at 6:30 PM - Brampton South PC Riding Association** is hosting their **2022 Annual Fundraiser** for Treasury Board President **Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria**, MPP (Brampton South). Location TBA. Tickets are \$1000. 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/aboutpeo/glp-weekly-newsletter>

Deadline for submissions is the Thursday of the week prior to publication. The next issue will be published on April 8.

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](mailto:howard@brown-cohen.com) | [www.brown-cohen.com](http://www.brown-cohen.com)