



Professional Engineers  
Ontario

Government Liaison Program



# GLP WEEKLY TIMES

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Education Minister **Steven Lecce**, MPP (King-Vaughan) (centre left) had a chance to meet three PEO York Chapter GLP representatives at his Community Appreciation event in Maple on Sept 10. He is speaking here with **Brian Carruthers**, P. Eng. (left), **Peter Vert**, P.Eng. (centre right), and **Reza Mahmoudipour**, P. Eng. (right)

## SIX GLP REPS MEET EDUCATION MINISTER AND NEW LIBERAL MPP TO DISCUSS PEO INITIATIVES

MAPLE - PEO GLP representatives continue to meet with MPPs in record numbers to bring them up to date on new licensing initiatives. Since the introduction last year of one representative per MPP, relationships have been steadily growing with Ministers and MPPs of all parties.

Although the *Professional Engineers Act* comes under the auspices of the Attorney General, other Ministries have been instrumental in moving PEO's agenda forward.

For more on this past week's meetings, see pages 2 and 3.

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# CHAPTER NEWS

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Education Minister **Steven Lecce**, MPP (King--Vaughan) had his second chance this month to speak with PEO representatives. On September 10, he met three PEO York Chapter representatives at his annual community appreciation event at the Maple Community Centre.

Attending on behalf of PEO York Chapter were:

- **Peter Vert**, P.Eng, the new GLP representative for Minister Lecce's riding
- **Reza Mahmoudipour**, P. Eng, PEO York Chapter GLP Chair
- **Brian Carruthers**, P. Eng, the new GLP representative for York Simcoe riding

Minister Lecce has had a long time interest in PEO and the work of the York Chapter.

On meeting the delegation, he told them that he appreciated the opportunity to provide them with video messages for their annual meetings and licence certificate ceremonies.

"I am a brand new GLP rep and I was pleased to not only meet the Minister, but speak for 20 minutes with one of his staff on PEO. She agreed to set up a formal meeting with the Minister to update him on PEO licensing initiatives in the coming weeks," said Mr. Vert.

Minister Lecce was first elected in 2018 and reelected in 2022.

He previously worked on the staff of Prime Minister **Stephen Harper**.

York Chapter has nine ridings, five of them represented by Ministers and all represented by PC MPPs.



Education Minister **Steven Lecce**, MPP (King-Vaughan) (right) spoke with **Peter Vert**, P.Eng. (left) during his community appreciation event on September 10.

### PEO SCARBOROUGH CHAPTER INTRODUCES NEWLY ELECTED MPP TO PEO IN FIRST MEETING



PEO York Chapter representatives **Samuel Jacob**, P.Eng. (left), **Santosh Gupta**, P.Eng. (centre right), and **Victor Lan**, P.Eng. (right), met with newly elected MPP **Andrea Hazell** (Scarborough–Guildwood) (centre left) in her constituency office on September 8.

Newly elected MPP for Scarborough–Guildwood **Andrea Hazell** formally met with representatives of PEO Scarborough chapter on September 8.

They were:

- **Samuel Jacob**, P.Eng., Chapter Chair
- **Santosh Gupta**, P.Eng., Chapter Vice-Chair
- **Victor Lan**, P.Eng., PEO GLP Representative for Scarborough–Guildwood riding

They presented a PEO fact sheet outlining the role of PEO in Ontario's engineering community. They discussed PEO's 100 plus year history as the regulator of professional engineering in the province in the public interest.

They also outlined PEO's work on the *Fair Access to Regulated Professions and Compulsory Trades Act* and mandatory continuing professional development.

MPP Hazell agreed to speak at the upcoming Scarborough Chapter's licensing presentation ceremony on September 14.

MPP Hazell won her seat as a Liberal on July 29 replacing long time MPP **Mitzie Hunter**.

Scarborough chapter has six ridings, with representation from the PC, NDP and Liberal parties.

## PEO PROVINCE-WIDE 2023 GLP TRAINING TO FOCUS ON EXTERNAL RELATIONS STRATEGY



MPPs **Stephanie Bowman** (Don Valley West) (centre) and **Andrew Dowie**, P.Eng., MPP (Windsor-Tecumseh) (centre right) both participated in the PEO GLP training session on October 21, 2022. Also in the photo are PEO North Bay GLP Chair **Donovan Rainbow**, P.Eng., (left) PEO East Toronto Chapter Rep **Tracy Garner**, P. Eng., Government Liaison Committee Vice Chair **Asif Khan**, P.Eng., (centre left) PEO Windsor-Essex Chapter Rep **Juliana Otero**, P. Eng., (second from the right) and GLC Chair **Jeffery Lee**, P. Eng., (right).

As reported in previous editions of *GLP Weekly Times*, PEO licence holders interested in the Government Liaison Program should hold the date of Saturday, November 18.

That day, GLP representatives from every one of Ontario's 124 ridings are invited to participate in a day-long training session with MPPs.

This year, attendees will take part in discussions on the new external relations strategy of PEO, as well as the role of volunteers in achieving outcomes. PEO will look to consult with GLP representatives on making sure meetings with MPPs are as productive as possible.

The session will be held at the Holiday Inn Toronto International Airport.

Registration for the 2023 training session, along with a full itinerary of events will be open in the coming weeks.



NDP Attorney General Critic **Kristyn Wong-Tam**, MPP (Toronto Centre) speaking at the PEO GLP Training event on October 21, 2022 in Mississauga.



**Monte McNaughton, MPP (Lambton--Kent--Middlesex)** speaks during a press conference in 2021. MPP McNaughton resigned September 22.  
Image credit: CTV; The Canadian Press/Chris Young



**Kaleed Rasheed, MPP (Mississauga East--Cooksville)** speaks during a press conference in 2021. MPP Rasheed resigned September 20.  
Image credit: CP24; The Canadian Press/Tijana Martin

## TWO MINISTERS RESIGN FROM CABINET

Ontario's Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development **Monte McNaughton**, MPP (Lambton--Kent--Middlesex) has decided to resign his cabinet position and step away from politics.

MPP McNaughton has worked closely with PEO for many years, in particular over the last year, on important changes to the *Professional Engineers Act* on licensing procedures, including the elimination of Canadian experience for internationally trained engineers hoping to work in Ontario.

Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery **Kaleed Rasheed**, MPP (Mississauga--Cooksville) has also resigned from his cabinet position and the Progressive Conservative caucus.

Expense report records show contradicting accounts of a Las Vegas trip that was investigated by the province's integrity commissioner. Premier **Doug Ford**'s office confirmed MPP Kaleed Rasheed's resignation in a short statement released Wednesday afternoon. However, they added that if the integrity commissioner cleared him, he would be "provided an opportunity to return to caucus."

MPP Rasheed regularly participates in PEO Mississauga chapter events.

Premier Ford is expected to announce replacement Ministers in the coming days.



## PEO OUTLINES STEPS FOR APPLICANTS TO RECEIVE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING LICENCE

As recently posted on their social media pages, PEO has created a step-by-step guide for individuals who are interested in applying for a professional engineering licence.

With recent updates to legislation, internationally trained engineers no longer need Canadian work experience to be licenced in Ontario. This guideline has been developed to help applicants understand the remaining requirements to meet professional engineering standards.

Through this five-step process, applicants will gain a clear understanding of the necessary requirements, including the Good Character Assessment, which can be completed through PEO.

To learn more about the application process to become a professional engineer or to start your journey towards obtaining your licence, [click here](#).

# KNOW YOUR MP

This week, the PEO *GLP Weekly Times* features **Natalia Kusendova-Bashta, MPP (Mississauga Centre)** and **Joel Harden, MPP (Ottawa Centre)** so PEO licence holders can get to know their representatives. For a full list of MPs, click [here](#).

## NATALIA KUSEDOVA-BASHTA (MISSISSAUGA CENTRE)



**Natalia Kusendova-Bashta, MPP** (Mississauga Centre) in the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Francophone Affairs.

She was first elected as a Progressive Conservative in 2018, and re-elected in 2022. Prior to holding office, she worked as a registered nurse at the Etobicoke General Hospital.

MPP Kusendova-Bashta has been involved with PEO events in the past, including an online meet and greet hosted by the PEO Mississauga Chapter in January of 2021.

## JOEL HARDEN (OTTAWA CENTRE)



MPP **Joel Harden** (Ottawa Centre) with PEO Ottawa Chapter GLP Chair **Ishwar Bhatia**, P.Eng., at an event in August 2019.

**Joel Harden**, MPP (Ottawa Centre) is the NDP Critic on Transit and Active Transportation. MPP Harden was first elected in 2018, and was re-elected in 2022. Prior to being elected, he was a researcher with the Canadian Federation of Students and Director of Education for the Canadian Labour Congress.

MPP Harden has had a strong relationship with his local PEO Chapter, including submitting video greetings for PEO Ottawa Chapter Annual General Meetings, and congratulations to new PEO licence holders.

# GLP TRIVIA CONTEST

Congratulations to PEO Scarborough Chapter Vice Chair **Santosh Gupta** P.Eng., for being the first to submit the correct answer to last week's trivia question.

**Last week's question:** Who replaced Municipal Affairs and Housing Minister **Steve Clark**, MPP (Leeds--Grenville--Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes) in the recent Cabinet shuffle?



**Answer: Paul Calandra**, MPP (Markham--Stouffville)

**Honourable Mentions:** PEO East Central Region Councillor **Nanda Lwin**, P.Eng.

**This week's question:** What day will PEO be holding their province-wide GLP training?

Test your knowledge of the *GLP Weekly Times* with our trivia contest!

Send your answers to **Howard Brown** at [howard@brown-cohen.com](mailto:howard@brown-cohen.com) by Tuesday, September 26. You may only win once in a four-week span.

## WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF PEO GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM?



The goals of PEO's Government Liaison Program (GLP) are:

- To ensure that the government, PEO licence holders and the public continue to recognize its regulatory mandate, in particular its contributions to maintaining the highest level of professionalism among engineers working in the public interest.
- To have the government view PEO as a partner and understand and support PEO's policy direction.

Through the *Professional Engineers Act*, PEO governs more than 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 Thursday the week prior to publication. Our next issue is September 29.

If you have any comments, additions or questions about the *GLP Weekly Times*, please call or email: Howard Brown, 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)