



Professional Engineers
Ontario

Government Liaison Program



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SPECIAL SUMMIT EDITION



PEO President **Roydon Fraser**, P.Eng. (back row, centre left) was a guest speaker at the PEO GLP training summit held on November 18th. Also in the photo are Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development **Deepak Anand**, MPP (Mississauga–Malton), Toronto's Chief Engineer **Jennifer Graham Harkness**, P.Eng. (second row from back, centre right), and regulatory legal expert **Ken Jull** (second row from back, centre).

TORONTO'S CHIEF ENGINEER, MPP AND PROFESSORS HEADLINE PEO GLP SUMMIT

Over 70 PEO GLP representatives gathered on November 18th for what many are calling one of the best day-long sessions in the program's almost 20-year history.

Over 15 speakers highlighted the Summit, which featured:

- New City of Toronto Chief Engineer **Jennifer Graham Harkness**, P. Eng, a former deputy Minister with the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario,
- **Deepak Anand**, MPP (Mississauga-Malton), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development and an engineering graduate,
- **Ken Jull**, a legal expert and author of the leading textbooks for law students studying regulatory law and corporate governance.

They discussed the topic of building public trust through regulating the practice of professional engineering.

Continued on pages 2 to 5.

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Attorney General Downey's address to the PEO GLP Training Summitpg.5
- PEO Council votes to hold 2024 AGM in Barrie.....pg.6



Attorney General **Doug Downey**, MPP (Barrie--Springwater--Oro-Medonte) addressing the PEO GLP training summit. To read the transcript of his address, see page six.



Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade **Andrew Dowie**, P.Eng., MPP (Windsor--Tecumseh) providing greetings to his fellow engineers at the PEO GLP training summit.

The event also featured a video presentation by Ontario Attorney General **Doug Downey**, MPP (Barrie--Springwater--Oro-Medonte). A full transcript can be found on page six. A message was also provided by **Andrew Dowie**, P.Eng., MPP (Windsor--Tecumseh), Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade.



Public Policy and Governance professor **Kate Graham** (left) provided the program's keynote address, highlighting the importance of gaining public approval for projects by using her personal example of advocating for a local dog park.

Dr. **Kate Graham**, the newly appointed Chair of the Public Policy and Governance program at Huron University College at Western University, was the event's keynote speaker. Her discussion focused on 'Civic Engagement and Leadership - How to stay relevant in an ever-changing world.' Dr. Graham sought the Ontario Liberal leadership in 2020 and was a two-time candidate for provincial office in London.

PEO Chapter Coordinator **Julie Hamilton** (left) with panel members **Jennifer Graham Harkness**, P.Eng. (centre-left), **Deepak Anand**, MPP (Mississauga--Malton) (centre-right), and **Ken Jull** (right) during the PEO GLP training summit on November 18th.



Other sessions featured PEO CEO/Registrar **Jennifer Quaglietta**, P.Eng., and PEO President **Roydon Fraser**, P.Eng., who both spoke at a joint session with the PEO Chapter Leader's Conference.

Other speakers included:

David Smith, Director of External Relations, who spoke on how the work of the GLP aligns with his department.

Asif Khan, P. Eng, Vice Chair of the PEO Government Liaison Committee (GLC) lead an excellent session on the do's and don'ts on building relationships with MPP.

Assisting him on this were five GLP reps:

- PEO Ottawa Chapter GLP representative **Zaineb Al-Faesly**, P.Eng.,
- PEO Lake Ontario Chapter GLP representative **Wintta Ghebreiyesus**, P.Eng.,
- PEO York Chapter GLP Chair **Reza Mahmoudipour**, P.Eng.,
- GLC Chair **Jeffrey Lee**, P.Eng.,
- PEO Chatham Kent Chapter GLP representative **Haris Ahmadzai**, P.Eng.

Ms. Al-Faesly ran an opening interactive icebreaker GLP session, and Mr. Ahmadzai moderated the GLP awards ceremony for Chapter engagement. Photos can be seen on the next page.



ABOVE: Roydon Fraser, P.Eng. (left) and Jennifer Quaglietta, P.Eng. (right), both discussed their goals and views for PEO in the coming years.

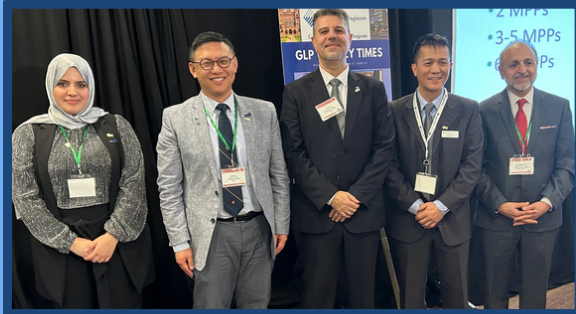
BELOW: David Smith outlined his portfolio's relationship to the Government Liaison Program, and how they will continue to work together to ensure awareness of PEO's role as the profession's provincial regulator.



PEO Government Liaison Committee (GLC) Vice Chair **Asif Khan**, P.Eng. (right) chairs panel with members of the Summit planning committee to address questions new reps ask. In photo are GLC Chair **Jeffrey Lee**, P.Eng. (left), PEO Chatham-Kent Chapter GLP representative **Haris Ahmadzai**, P.Eng. (second from left), PEO Ottawa Chapter GLP representative **Zaineb Al-Faesly**, P.Eng. (centre left), PEO York Chapter GLP Chair **Reza Mahmoudipour**, P.Eng. (centre right), and PEO Lake Ontario Chapter GLP representative **Wintta Ghebreiyesus**, P.Eng. (second from right)

PEO GLP SUMMIT AWARD WINNERS

The PEO GLP training summit awarded Chapters for outstanding performance over the past year. The following are the awardees for four categories.



LEFT: Zaineb Al-Faesly, P.Eng. (left), Jeffrey Lee (centre left), Asif Khan, P. Eng. (right) with PEO Oakville Chapter GLP representative **Yousef Jamous**, P.Eng. (centre), and GLP Chair **Bruce Li**, P.Eng. (centre right)



ABOVE: Zaineb Al-Faesly, P.Eng. (left) and Asif Khan, P. Eng. (right) with PEO Upper Canada Chapter GLP representative **Steve Stang**, P.Eng. (centre), who won the award for best GLP performance for a Chapter with two MPPs.



LEFT: Zaineb Al-Faesly, P.Eng. (left) and Asif Khan, P. Eng. (right), with PEO Kingsway Chapter GLP Chair **Steve Favell**, P.Eng. (middle right) and representative **Yanushka Gnanamuttu**, EIT (middle left), who won the award for best GLP performance for a Chapter with one MPP.



LEFT: Zaineb Al-Faesly, P.Eng. (left), Jeffrey Lee, P.Eng. (centre left), and Asif Khan, P. Eng. (right) with PEO York Chapter GLP representative **Brian Carruthers**, P.Eng. (centre), who received an honourable mention for outstanding performance by a new GLP representative.

OTHER MEMORIES FROM THE DAY



ABOVE: Guest speaker **Ken Jull** (left) with GLC Vice-Chair **Asif Khan**, P.Eng. (centre) and PEO Vice President, Policy & Governance and Chief Legal Officer **Dan Abrahams** (right)



ABOVE: Guest speaker **Ken Jull** (left) and **Jennifer Graham Harkness**, P.Eng. (centre left) with PEO Mississauga Chapter GLP representative **Vineet Missra**, P.Eng. (centre right), and Mississauga Chapter GLP Chair **Jeannette Chau**, P.Eng. (right)

ATTORNEY GENERAL DOWNEY'S ADDRESS TO THE PEO GLP TRAINING SUMMIT



The following is a transcript of Attorney General Doug Downey's address to attendees of the PEO GLP Training Summit

Good afternoon everyone. I'm Doug Downey, Ontario's Attorney General.

Thank you for inviting me to bring greetings to today's event, it's always a pleasure. I'd like to begin by expressing my appreciation for the work you do, as Professional Engineers of Ontario. Thank you for your steadfast leadership and continued work across the province.

It has been an exciting few years as we continue to literally "Build Ontario" together, expanding access to justice, breaking down longstanding barriers in the system, and moving forward with vital infrastructure projects. Today's Summit comes at an exciting time in this province because our government is building for the next generation of newcomers. We are experiencing rapid growth across the province, so it goes without saying that we need to build transit, roads, hospitals, schools, and housing. That's why today's event is so vital. Leaders in the engineering, political and regulatory fields coming together to share ideas and best practices in support of your Government Liaison Program. I'm proud of this ongoing collaboration, because we couldn't put shovels in the ground without your expertise. You are on the front lines of innovation, transforming the places where we work, live and play. Our economy and communities grow stronger because of what you do. The engineering profession in Ontario will continue to grow stronger as we work together to break down barriers.

This year's *Less Red Tape, More Common Sense Act* proposes some important amendments to the *Professional Engineers Act*. If passed, these amendments would ensure that processes are improved and further clarified, including: supporting the electronic delivery of notices and documents, the mandatory reporting of regulatory information and clarifying the process for the Complaints Committee to act on Registrar investigation reports. Even smaller changes like these have an impact, making your work easier and letting you focus on what truly matters within your profession. These changes also reflect our fundamental goals as a government, to modernize and streamline regulatory processes and move away from paper-based communication. We are listening to your feedback and working to ensure that high standards are maintained.

I want to thank the Professional Engineers of Ontario, including the representatives of PEO's Government Liaison Program for your continued work to maintain the highest level of professionalism among engineers working in the public interest. The province of Ontario relies on your expertise, experience and partnership, and we will continue to do so in the years to come.

Thank you. Merci. Miigwetch.

PEO COUNCIL VOTES TO HOLD 2024 AGM IN BARRIE



PEO President **Roydon Fraser**, P.Eng. (left), and PEO CEO/Registrar **Jennifer Quaglietta**, P.Eng. (right) provided updates during the final Council meeting of 2023 on November 17th.

PEO Council met on November 16th and 17th for the 560th meeting, outlining final steps before entering 2024. It was Chaired by PEO President **Roydon Fraser**, P.Eng.

External attendees of the meeting included **Sheryl Cameron** and **Candace Whitney**, who both serve as counsel on justice policy in the office of the Attorney General, as well as **James Mandel** and **Anna Eisner**, compliance analysts in the office of the Ontario Fairness Commissioner.

Council approved a motion that, effective as of December 31, 2023, the Licensing Committee, Enforcement Committee and Professional Standards Committee be stood down with Council's thanks and appreciation to all current and previous members. At its March 2023 meeting, Council directed staff to develop one or more Advisory Groups to replace these three committees. An advisory group will now be established to provide input, guidance and recommendations to staff on potential strategies and activities related to PEO's regulatory mandate.

Council approved a proposed plan to examine P.Eng. experience requirements using PEO's Policy Development Framework.

As part of her CEO/Registrar Update, **Jennifer Quaglietta**, P.Eng., provided additional information on the progress of the *Fair Access to Regulatory Professions and Compulsory Trades Act* (FARPACTA), Continuing Education/PEAK, and proposed changes to the *Professional Engineers Act*. To read Ms. Quaglietta's full update, [click here and scroll to page 116](#).

Council also approved the location for PEO's next annual general meeting (AGM), which will take place in Barrie on Saturday, April 20, 2024. Barrie is also significant for being represented by both Attorney General **Doug Downey**, MPP (Barrie--Springwater--Oro-Medonte) and Environment, Conservation and Parks Minister **Andrea Khanjin**, MPP (Barrie--Innisfil).

ONTARIO LIBERALS TO VOTE FOR NEW LEADER THIS WEEKEND

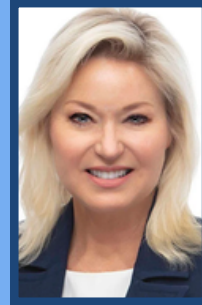
This weekend, the Ontario Liberals will vote for their new leader. Over 100,000 Ontarians are eligible to vote in their local ridings. For additional voting information, [click here](#).

The candidates are:

- Mississauga Mayor **Bonnie Crombie**
- **Nate Erskine-Smith**, MP (Beaches–East York)
- **Ted Hsu**, MPP (Kingston and the Islands)
- **Yasir Naqvi**, MP (Ottawa Centre)

PEO has worked closely with several of the candidates over the years including MP Naqvi when he was Ontario's Attorney General, Mayor Crombie when she was an MP in helping make the federal government aware of the need to address PEOs regulatory mandate and MPP Hsu in his work with PEO Kingston chapter.

The results will be announced at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre on December 2nd. To learn more about the leadership candidates, [click here](#).



Liberal leadership candidates (clockwise from top left) **Bonnie Crombie**, **Nate Erskine-Smith**, MP (Beaches–East York), **Yasir Naqvi**, MP (Ottawa Centre) and **Ted Hsu**, MPP (Kingston and the Islands)



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 December 1.

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 | www.brown-cohen.com