

REPORT OF 2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING/FIRST LICENSE CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE BRANTFORD CHAPTER OF PEO.

Saturday, May 31st, 2025 at the Canadian Military Heritage Museum, Brantford, Ontario

OPENING REMARKS BY CHAPTER CHAIR



The Annual General Meeting opened at 12:19 pm with a welcome address by the Chair, Mariana Balaban, P. Eng ,PhD. After the General Housekeeping/Land Acknowledgment, Mariana introduced the executive and thanked them for their commitment and cooperation. Mariana highlighted the 2024 achievements and improvements including our reporting styles, event diversification, regular monthly meetings, attendance at the regional congress and the GLP annual congress, update of the chapter website by Richard Eves, P. Eng, an increase in membership strength (now at 1,000), and a stronger volunteer list.

Mariana stated that we are looking into more networking events, more innovative ideas for the National Engineering Month (NEM) challenge, technical tours, more engineers being licensed at our next license ceremony, continued collaboration with other chapters for more member engagements/greater member benefits, and for the first time, our chapter will be looking into the score sheet of students who desire to pursue engineering at higher institutions, etc.

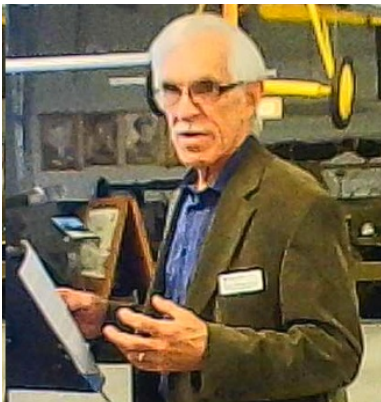
2024 FINANCIAL REPORT



The chapter's annual financial report was prepared by the Treasurer, Mark Simpson, P. Eng for the fiscal year 2024. The approved budget was \$12,660, while net expenses amounted to \$6,368, leaving a 49.7% of the approved budget as surplus. The surplus resulted from zero claims for child support by the executive and the chapter's inability to hold a spring event the previous year. The child support is intended to encourage and incentivize new and young members to get involved in chapter activities without incurring such costs at an individual's expense.

Mark stated that the 2026 budget is in the works, which shall be presented at the next Executive meeting and forwarded to PEO council during the third quarter of the fiscal year.

REMARKS BY THE CHAIR, GOVERNMENT LIAISON PROGRAM, GLP



Our Government Liaison Program (GLP) Chair, Larry Drebert, P.Eng, reported on his collaboration and communication with the provincial government regarding the recognition of the PEO as a self-regulating professional body. The GLP holds an annual conference to train volunteers for provincial chapter responsibilities, recognizes milestones, and tracks volunteers' lifecycles. He stated that we are in for another exciting year and went on to introduce our new volunteer member, Aidan Vandersteen, P.Eng, who will work with Larry for future opportunities.

A.G.M LECTURE ON REGULATORY COMPLIANCE by Guest Speaker: Ashley Gismondi, MPA



Ashley Gismondi, MPA, Enforcement and Outreach Officer, Regulatory Compliance at the PEO HQ, walked us through the Ontario Regulation 941 which addresses professional misconduct, the code of ethics, and reporting requirements, and Ontario Regulation 260 which addresses professional standards and design standards.

Ashley delved into negligence in professional practice, violations of the Professional Engineers Act (PEA), incompetence, harassment, etc. Ashley gave us an overview of the various license types, PEO practice guidelines, regulated professions, unlicensed practice enforcement, operational highlights on professional seal use, Ontario provincial court rulings on breach of professionalism for PEA offences, major successes recorded, and costs awarded to the PEO for infringements.

Hotline for unlicensed practice: 416-224-100, Ext: 1444.

ELECTION OF 2025/2026 EXECUTIVE

The outgoing executive was re-introduced as willing to stand for re-election with Nicole Snively, P.Eng, being named Vice Chair.

Mark Simpson, P. Eng nominated Joanne Palma, P. Eng as treasurer for the chapter. There was unanimous support by all members present for this revised slate.

The Annual General Meeting closed at 1:02 pm with a group photograph.

LICENSE CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION CEREMONY



The chapter was honoured by the presence of Will Bouma, MPP, representing Brantford-Brant and current Government Caucus Chair, at the License Certificate Presentation ceremony. Will Bouma congratulated both awardees, praised their dedication to personal and professional development, and presented certificates, scrolls, and gifts to Thomas William Coleman, P. Eng (pictured) and (Captain on duty) Christopher (Chris) Paul Mathew Ciambella, P. Eng., wishing them the very best at their respective practices.

Larry Drebert, P. Eng delivered Bobbi Ann Brady, MPP's congratulatory message to the chapter and newly licensed engineers. Praises for their dedication to professional practice and the vital roles they play in society, which are never overlooked and expressed regrets for missing the ceremony due to other official commitments.

CLOSING REMARKS BY THE CHAPTER CHAIR

The Chapter Chair's closing remarks encourage all members to work together for a lasting legacy, pray for resilience and restorative energy, dedicated teams, promise more activities and technical tours, and pledge to strengthen the chapter community.

The day's event wrapped up at 1:34 pm followed by another group photograph, a lovely lunch, and a tour of the museum by some attendees.

Oluremi Odejayi, EIT

Secretary