



# Chapter News

Fall 2006

YORK CHAPTER

www.peoyork.com

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## Chapter Executive 2006/07

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  - **E-Communication -Stephen Liu, P.Eng.**
  - **GLPCS - Lolita Chakravarti, P.Eng.**

## Chair's Message



As we are welcoming 2007, it is time for the Chapter to prepare for its AGM and elect a new board of executives. Thanks to all chapter executives who had devoted their time and effort to make 2006 another successful and rewarding year. As Chapter Chair for the past 2 years, it is time to reflect on the highlights which signified my leadership.

**Enhancing our Professional Engineer's Image.** One of my missions as Chair is to promote the professional image of engineers at the chapter level. Two things were done: a) Presenting P.Eng. certificates at upscale venues, such as hotels or golf clubs, b) Making the new license recipients feel proud at the ceremony and their engineering profession. I invited representatives of consulting engineering firms to be the guest speakers at our Dinner and Licence Presentation ceremonies, which they, in return, help sponsor. Their real life experiences and achievements have inspired the new engineers to go beyond the call of duty.

**Mentorship Program at Ryerson University.** As part of the education outreach to post-secondary schools, a mentorship initiative was developed with Ryerson University engineering students. A kick-off ceremony was held on November 8 at the Radisson Hotel Markham to launch a mentorship program for York Chapter engineers to work with Ryerson engineering faculty as mentors or Technical Advisors on the Capstone Design courses which 4th year students have to complete before graduation. At the ceremony, Dr. Boctor, Dean of Faculty of Engineering, Architecture and Science presented the "Letter of Appointment" from Ryerson University to each mentor. The event was attended by 12 mentors, Kim Allen and Manoj Choudhary of PEO, Dr. Boctor and 6 faculty members, including 3 Department Chairs.

**Implementing the Chapter's Government Liaison Program.** PEO recognizes the important role of chapters in providing a local presence with direct communication to the MPPs in their local community. Each chapter has been asked to establish its GLP sub-committee (GLPCS). I established our GLPCS this August. Currently, we have 5 members on this committee including myself.

**Volunteer Recruitment with the "Class of Licensees".** Volunteers come and go for various reasons. To make the chapter a fun place to work, we will continue to recruit volunteers at chapter events, get them trained and involved them in running chapter activities. I implemented an idea suggested by Bob Goodings, P.Eng. at our last AGM, called the "Class of Licensees". These classes are made up of all the new engineers receiving their certificates on the same day. These groups of recipients can provide a new pool of volunteers and can increase member participation in chapter events. To date, we have recruited six recipients as representatives of their respective groups and called them Class Reps 2006. A training session was held in August to familiarize them with chapter business.

**Participating at PEO Chapter Forum.** York Chapter took on a leading role at the Chapter Leaders Forum held in November. We hosted the Hospitality Suite on Friday night. Over 40 delegates and their spouses attended. My wife, Holly helped organized the Partners Program for out-of-town delegates on Saturday. I was thrilled to be a speaker on the Volunteers Panel on Saturday talking about "Revitalizing member participation". For the past two years, I had worked with a team of dedicated executives who shared the values of my initiatives and stepped up to help. I connected with Chapter Chairs and Regional Councillors from East Central and other Regions and shared our experiences on chapter events. I am thankful to PEO staff, especially Michael Chan, Donna Piccinin-Craig and Sharon Gillam for their assistance. Wishing you and your family a happy holiday and a prosperous 2007!

*Edward Poon, P.Eng., Chair*

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(L-R) Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Sultana at Fall Presentation



(R-L) Mr. & Mrs. Shawn Smith at Fall Presentation



(L-R) Frank Klees, MPP received PEO Pin from Ed Poon, at Fall Certificate Presentation



(L-R) Lorne Atkinson, Chair of Cansult Ltd. received PEO gift from Ed Poon, at Fall Certificate Presentation



## Congratulations and Welcome!

Over 90 people attended the Fall Certificate Presentation, October 21, 2006 at the Richmond Hill Golf Club. Special guests included Bob Goodings, Past President, Ken Lopez, P.Eng., Vice President of PEO, and Frank Klees, PC MPP for Oak Ridges. Lorne Atkinson, Chair of Cansult Ltd., presented a video show of the impact of Canadian Engineers in the Middle East, UAE on a wide range of public works, transportation, building and environmental consulting projects. Vito Cianci, Plant Manager of GE, presented the manufacture of a new generation of protection relays. The evening included messages from Ed Poon, P.Eng., Chapter Chair, John Schindler, P.Eng., OSPE Director, Thomas Chong, P.Eng., PEO Regional Councillor, and Matthew Xie, P.Eng., Chapter Vice-Chair.

Table prizes and door prizes were donated by York Chapter and the Richmond Hill Golf Club. Licence Certificates were presented to 35 new P.Eng. recipients followed by a special moment of passing the torch from class representatives of June 17/06 to class representatives of October 21/06. Ed Poon also presented a recognition award certificate to Thomas Chong for his contributions to the York Chapter.

*Mervat Rashwan, P.Eng., Certificate Director*



**Certificate Presentation Recipients:** Abdul Rasool Fakhir, Ahad Zolfaghari, Andre Theriault, Ankur Amin, Ashraf Waguih Helmy Tadros Hanna, Fanche Petkovski, Genady Lubarsky, Govindan Ravindran, Hadi Sharifi, Hassan Zareh, Ho Kuen Fong, Ho Lik Iu, Hong Bo Sun, Jackey Ka Ki Fong, John Mabira, Ken Tsang, Mentor Xhumri, Michael Hai Chee Ho, Nagaratnam Arasaratnam, Nick Kalyvas, Paul Sousa, Peng Du, Ramin Shadpour, Rostislav Robtser, Samson Si-Keung Tam, Shairose Alarakhia, Charlene Tung, Shawn Joseph Smith, Simei Fei, Siu Chi Mok, Soeren Striepe, Stephen Orin Vieira, Stephen Sultana, Victor Tanios R Attalla, Zheng Wang.



(L-R) Remon Shekeib, winner (middle) of lucky draw, and Mervat Rashwan at Fall Certificate Presentation



*Passing the torch ceremony by the Class of Licensees 2006* (L-R) Thomas Chong, Stephen Vieira, Govi Ravindran, Charlene Tung, Lolita Chakravarti, Stephen Liu, and Ed Poon

## Call For Executive Nominations, Annual General Meeting

The Nominating Committee of the York Chapter is accepting nominations for the Chapter Directorate. The chapter executives are volunteer members with no remuneration, who donate time and effort to participate in the operations and functions of the chapter. The elected executives are required to attend monthly meetings, and participate in certain events. Additional time commitment will vary upon the particular role of each position. Pertinent sections of the Chapter by-laws are in **Article 4:**

1. The Directorate shall be not less than six members and not more than 12 members. A quorum shall be five.
2. A nominating committee comprised of one member of the current directorate and two members at large shall be appointed by the current executive. A notice shall be sent annually to all members requesting nominations for the directorate. The nominations must be received by the committee two weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Nominations must bear the signature of two nominators and the nominee, who must be a member of the chapter.
3. A slate of candidates, including all those properly nominated, shall be proposed by the Nominating Committee for presentation at the AGM.

4. The directorate shall be elected at the AGM from the proposed slate of candidates.
5. The directorate will meet immediately after the AGM to elect the officers from its members.
6. The officers shall be Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer. The immediate Past Chair shall be an officer ex-officio. The office of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined.

For a copy of the York Chapter by-laws, contact Chapter Secretary Kam Leong, kam.leong@peoyork.com.

All nominations must be received by the committee two weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting (AGM), at the address below by February 2, 2007. All York members are encouraged to attend and partake in the election process.

York Chapter PEO  
John Schindler, P.Eng.  
Nominating Committee  
P.O. Box 186, 7305 Woodbine Avenue  
Markham, Ontario L3R 3V7

The Annual General Meeting will be held on February 17, 2007, at the Richmond Hill Country Club, Richmond Hill at 6:30 p.m. See you there!



# Annual General Meeting

Saturday, February 17, 2007

Richmond Hill Country Club

8905 Bathurst Street, near Hwy 7., Richmond Hill Tel. 905-731-2800



## A special event for members, families & friends Winter Licence Presentation, Dinner and DANCE

Reception: 6:00 p.m. Business Meeting: 6:30 p.m. Dinner & Licence Presentation: 7:30 p.m.  
Dance: 9:30 p.m. till midnight

\$40 per person (early bird) by February 5, 2007. \$45 per person after February 5, 2007  
Cheque/money order must be received, by Friday, February 9, 2007 at:  
York Chapter, PEO, P.O. Box 186, 7305 Woodbine Ave., Markham, ON L3R 3V7

For further information, please contact Mervat Rashwan at [mervat.rashwan@peoyork.com](mailto:mervat.rashwan@peoyork.com)

### York Chapter AGM, Licence Presentation, Dinner & Dance - Saturday, February 17, 2007 -Ticket(s) Order

I would like to order: \_\_\_\_\_ ticket(s), \$40 each (by Feb. 5) or \$45 each (after Feb. 5)

Food choice: Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ / Beef \_\_\_\_\_ /Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_

I have enclosed a cheque/money order for \$\_\_\_\_\_. Contact me to confirm my order.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town/City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

## Program Report

On October 19th, the Program Committee, in cooperation with the Education Committee, hosted a tour of the new Richmond Green High School in Richmond Hill. This new school has implemented state-of-the-art technology for teaching students on different trades and new technologies. Twenty engineers attended and were impressed with both the facilities and the level of education that the students are receiving.

On October 26, 2006 Noreen Calderbank, P.Eng, Manager Pre-Licensing Programs at PEO, provided an entertaining and informative evening for 30 EITs at the Angus Glen Community Centre in Markham. Noreen explained the licensure requirements, discussed the role of PEO in regulating the engineering profession and provided

information on the EIT program.

On November 13th, 30 Chapter Engineers attended a tour of the Ministry of Transportation Ontario COMPASS Freeway Traffic Management Centre. Mr. Phil Masters, P.Eng, Director of MTO's Advanced Traffic Management Section, provided a very interesting presentation and tour of COMPASS. COMPASS helps reduce traffic congestion and increase safety in the GTA and in Ottawa by monitoring flows, providing information to motorists and directing emergency vehicles to problem areas in a very timely manner. Plans are being considered to expand the system to cover the major border crossings and major roads feeding the freeways. A special thanks to Phil, who came in on a statutory holiday to provide an excellent tour. For more information on planned and future events, please contact Gerry Meade, P.Eng. at [gerry.meade@peoyork.com](mailto:gerry.meade@peoyork.com)

## OSPE Update

OSPE Board of Directors created a Chapter Liaison Committee, responsible for facilitating collaboration between OSPE and PEO chapters. The committee decided to undertake a pilot project, involving establishing the liaison with selected PEO chapters. OSPE has replaced PEO as the organizer of the annual Ontario Professional Engineers Awards Gala. Over 450 people attended this year's Gala at the Carlu in Toronto. A nice touch to the event was an art exhibition created by fellow engineers.

As a result of lobbying by OSPE, the Attorney General attempt to eliminate the 15-year limitation period (for engineering errors & omissions) has been abandoned. Also, the issue of removing calculus from the high school curriculum has been resolved to OSPE satisfaction - which means that calculus is going to stay. For more info, please check [www.ospe.on.ca/relations.html](http://www.ospe.on.ca/relations.html).

*John Schindler, M.Sc., P.Eng., Director - OSPE*

## All Candidates Meeting

Come join our All Candidates Meeting to hear the views and election platforms from the candidates running for PEO Council election.

**DATE:** Monday, January 29, 2007

**TIME:** 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

**PLACE:** Milliken Mills High School, Unionville ON  
7522 Kennedy Rd.

This is your opportunity to meet the candidates running for the various positions on PEO Council election 2006.

We will be asking questions from a prepared list and taking questions from the floor. If you have a question you wish asked, or for further information, contact Gerry Meade at [gmeade@rogers.com](mailto:gmeade@rogers.com)

*Gerry Meade P.Eng., Program Director, York Chapter*



## Professional Engineers Ontario

This newsletter is published for the benefit of the 6,700 members of the York Chapter, Professional Engineers Ontario. Its main goal is to communicate the Chapter's activities and views and to be a voice of our members. Hence, your comments, letters to the editor and guest articles are welcome.

We reserve the right to edit submissions for length, clarity and style. The Newsletter content does not necessarily reflect the opinion or policy of the Council of Professional Engineers Ontario, nor does the association assume responsibility for the opinion expressed.

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## Coming Events/Calendar

- **Jan. 29 - All Candidates Meeting (PEO Election)**
- **Feb. 17 - AGM Dinner & Dance (see Page 3)**

For program events contact Gerry Meade Email: [gerrypeoyork@yahoo.ca](mailto:gerrypeoyork@yahoo.ca) for details. Or visit [www.peoyork.com](http://www.peoyork.com) for updates.

### Mentorship Program

Chapter Chair, Edward Poon, P.Eng., approached Dr. Boctor, P.Eng., Dean of Faculty of Engineering, Architecture and Science of Ryerson University in April 2006 to introduce the mentorship initiative. The initiative will have professional engineers from York Chapter working with Ryerson engineering faculty to provide technical advice and guidance on the Capstone Design courses for the final year students. Practicing engineers will share their real life experience with the students and become resources to professors and students in completing their design projects. The idea was well received by Ryerson.

An open letter from the Chair was sent to all chapter members on August 3, 2006, introducing this mentorship initiative and recruiting volunteers to support a pilot program. The responses from the chapter members were overwhelming. A total of 15 engineers with experience in Civil, Mechanical or Aerospace engineering came forward to be mentors (technical advisors) for the 2006-07 pilot program.

The Mentorship Program was launched on November 8, 2006 at the Radisson Hotel Markham. All mentors received a Letter of Appointment from Dr. Boctor of Ryerson University. For the initial phase of the program, the majority of consultation will occur between January and April 2007. Each mentor is expected to commit approximately 2 to 3 hours a week for a total of 24 hours for this program. This will include meeting the students, guiding their design work, and attending their project presentation. Upon successful completion, formal recognition with a Certificate of Appreciation issued by Ryerson University will be awarded to the mentors in June 2007.

With experience obtained from the pilot program, we hope to extend the initiative to include Electrical, Computer, and Chemical engineering and other specialized departments in September 2007, which involves laboratory work in addition to design efforts.

*Edward Poon, P.Eng., Program Director, Mentorship Program*

### Education Leaders Conference

On October 27, I attended the Chapter Education Conference, with the theme of "Presenting our Profession". The agenda included speeches from Holly Anderson, P. Eng., Education Committee Chair, and Lindsay Banks, P. Eng., Chapter Liaison Committee Chair and MC of the event. I presented our Engineer-In-the-Classroom brochure, which was well received. There was an update on the Engineer-In-Resident program and a speech to motivate chapters to get more involved.

Saturday agenda included a lecture from Don Mahony, Business and Development Manager, Automation, from Schneider Electric, on "How to Present a Technical Subject to a Non-Technical Audience". There were presentations of success stories from chapters including the "Mathletics event" presented by Gordana Nikolic, P. Eng. of Scarborough Chapter, and the "Robotics Kits" presented by Angela Hasteley, P. Eng. of Chatham-Kent Chapter. Saturday afternoon included breakout sessions on issues related to the theme of the conference.

### Education Report

Our Education Committee has emphasized the importance of our Engineer-In-the-Classroom (EIC) program. The EIC program provides engineering expertise and knowledge to primary and secondary mathematics and science teachers to help them illustrate specific topics in their classrooms. Once the teachers identify topics requiring additional information, they contact our committee through the Board Consultants, who are part of our team. The committee identifies the volunteer Engineer meeting the required experience and verifies availability and interest.

With the help of the PEO Education Committee, we have developed a brochure to promote the program among schools and teachers in the region. The brochure was distributed to all schools and resulted in increased interest amongst the teachers. To respond to this demand we have promoted the program in various ways to York Chapter Engineers to get more volunteers.

*Edgar O. Martinez, P. Eng., Education Committee Chair*



(L-R) Dr. Boctor of Ryerson University, and Ed Poon, Chair of York Chapter



(L-R) Thomas Chong, PEO Councillor received recognition award from Ed Poon, York Chapter Chair



(L-R) Charlene Tung and her father Mr. Tung at Fall Licence Presentation



(L-R) Stephen Vieira and his mother at Fall Licence Presentation