



Chapter News

Chapter Board 2006/07

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 - **Web Designer** - Stephen Norton, P.Eng.
 - **EIT** - Kamlesh Bhatt, Provisional Licence

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York Chapter Board



Chair's Message



At our Annual General Meeting, February 18, 2006, current executives were re-elected to the Board for another term, with the addition of Hari Patel, P.Eng. Hari had been our Program Director three years ago. Welcome back, Hari! Our succession planning enables executives to rotate their challenging roles.

The York Chapter has over 5,000 P.Eng.s and 200 EITs. This is a significant force to shape the future of the engineering profession. PEO is implementing the Government Liaison Program (GLP), with the objective of enhancing the profile of the profession among legislators to ensure PEO is consulted when engineering-related policy discussions arise. York Chapter has established a Government Liaison Program Committee, headed by the GLP Director. The key role will be to solicit chapter volunteers as spokespersons and contacts to the MPPs for GL activities. If you are interested in participating in this program, please contact me through the chapter email address.

I have two new initiatives this year. The first is to expand our Education Outreach program. Our Education Committee had worked hard in the past to build successful Engineer-In-Classroom (EIC) programs with Grades 7 and 8 students in York Region School Boards. Matthew Xie, P.Eng., our Vice Chair and I have a personal mission to extend this program to the universities level.

The second is on volunteers recruitment. Volunteers run the Chapter and organize our events. PEO President Bob Goodings, P.Eng. introduced the idea of "Class of Licensees" for those who received their P.Eng. certificates on the same day. The class is bonded with the same day experience. I will contact our Class of Licensees from February 18/06, to recruit 2 class reps. They will be invited to plan and attend (free of charge) our next certificate presentation, June 17, at Radisson Hotel.

On behalf of the York Chapter, I would like to congratulate Thomas Chong, P.Eng., our Communication Director, in winning this year's PEO Council election as the East Central Region Councillor, 2006-2008. Gordon Ip, P.Eng., succeeds Thomas as our next Communications Director on April 30. Remember to log on to our website www.peoyork.com for latest information on upcoming events. *Ed. Poon, P.Eng., Chair*



(L-R) Thomas Chong, Sarah Jin, Jennifer Neate at AGM



(R-L) Brian Morrison & partner at AGM



(L-R) Mr. & Mrs. Zaki Atta Malik at AGM



(L-R) Elsa Ng & Steven Liu (Recipient) at AGM

Congratulations and Welcome!

The Annual General Meeting was held on February 18, 2006 at Richmond Hill Country Club. Chair Edward Poon, P.Eng., thanked all the executives for their hard work in providing well-organized events and promoting the value of engineering. New executives for 2006-2007 were elected. Over 130 members, guests, family and friends attended the meeting and dinner. Guests included Bob Goodings, P.Eng., President PEO, Kim Allen, P. Eng., CEO and Registrar PEO, Bryon Wilfret MP, Oak Ridges and Jeff Mark P.Eng., PEO Regional Councillor. The evening included a lucky draw and concluded with energetic dancing to entertaining music.

A very important part of the evening was the winter Certificate Presentation Ceremony where a total of 34 new P.Eng. members received their certificates. Please join us in welcoming the following new members to our profession and to York Chapter.

Jennifer Neate P.Eng., Certificate Director



(L-R) Peter Brosz (Recipient) & partner at AGM



(L-R) Victor Teo (Recipient) & partner at AGM



(L-R) Thomas Chong, Ed Poon, Bob Goodings, (Front) Mr. & Mrs. Kim Allen at AGM



(L-R) Mr. & Mrs. Nourbar Takessian (Willowdale-Thornhill Chair) at AGM



Certificate Presentation Recipients: Dan Andronesco, Alen Atamer, Freddy Baron Castaneda, Stefan Rudolf Bartus, Peter James Elliott Brosz, Oksana Buyda, Sudhir Desai, Alexandru-Marius Dumitru, Kevin Duong, Mohsen Ehsaan, Bob Eivani, Jason Andrew Glaskin-Clay, Ioan Haba, Shahram Honarparvar, Syed Waqar Hyder, Fred Kouhdani, Calvin Kuan, Evgeni Lam, Helen Li, Jun Liu, Steven Liu, Zaki Atta Malik, Upkar Singh Matharu, Bama Moorthy, Brian Donald Morrison, Oana Nandrea, Domokos Papoi, Marin Pasareanu, Jennifer Leigh Petkovic, Jawaid Samdani, Victor Teo, Steven John van Haren, Wenhui Wang, Manzar Zaidi

Councillors' Corner

At the 2006 PEO Council Election, two members of the York Chapter were elected into Council. Congratulations to Thomas Chong was elected as East Central Region Councillor, and Márta Ecsedi as Councillor-at-large. See the official election results at PEO website www.peo.on.ca

On March 20, 2006, PEO filed Notice of Application for Judicial Review with the Divisional Court. PEO felt it had no other option than to take this action regarding changes to the Ontario Building Code to maintain the integrity of its exclusive jurisdiction over regulation of engineering under the Professional Engineers Act (PEA).

In March 2005, Council approved the Strategic Plan 2005-2009. The plan establishes PEO's strategic change agenda for the next five years by investing in the P.Eng. licence. Refer to PEO website for details.

The Government Liaison Program (GLP) is well underway through volunteer spokespersons and the Chapter GLP Representatives. They help bring awareness to the government regarding the role of PEO and the value of a self-regulating engineering profession.

Chapter Leaders' Conference are scheduled on April 28, and PEO AGM & Chapter Training on April 29, 2006.

*Jeff Mark P.Eng., and Thomas Chong P.Eng.,
East Central Region Councillors*

Design Challenge 2006

The 2006 Design Challenge for the York Region Schools was held March 2 at Newmarket High School. The challenge was to build a flying object capable of performing four main tasks that were graded by the judges: Flying path control accuracy, speed, flying length and flying endurance. Seven schools participated in the challenge. Students and other attendees, including judges, teachers and parents enjoyed participating and witnessing the development and tests of the models. The model built by the team from St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic School won the challenge. The attendees praised the event organization. The event received good media coverage, including local newspapers and Rogers TV. *Edgar Martinez P.Eng., Education Director*





Dinner & Licence Presentation

Saturday, June 17, 2006

Radisson Hotel Markham

55 East Valhalla Drive, Markham (Hwy 7 & Hwy 404). Tel. 1-800-333-3333



A special event for members, families & friends *Spring Licence Presentation and Dinner*

Reception: 6:00 p.m. Speech: 7:00 p.m. Dinner: 7:30 p.m.

Licence Presentation: 8:30 p.m.

\$40 per person (early bird) by June 5, 2006. \$45 per person after June 5, 2006

Cheque/money order must be received by Monday, June 12, 2006 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

York Chapter Licence Presentation & Dinner - Saturday, June 17, 2006 - Ticket(s) Order

I would like to order: _____ ticket(s), \$40 each (by June 5) or \$45 each (after June 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 Events

Including the Annual General Meeting, York Chapter is providing six events for the first part of 2006. York Chapter sponsors four workshops annually with Markham Small Business Enterprises at no cost to our members. At the first seminar on March 24, twenty five members participated in a workshop on Record Keeping Made Easy that provided useful insights into how to keep the taxman happy and more money in your pockets. Additional seminars are planned for: April 20 Managing Risk; May 4 Networking For Business Success; and June 21 Effective Costing & Pricing.

On Saturday, March 25, Matthew Xie, P.Eng., led a seminar titled Prosper in Turbulent Times that provided useful career advice for engineers seeking or holding intermediate engineering positions. Twenty members attended this very informative and interactive session.

On Thursday, April 27, Don Gordon, General Manager, York Region Transit, provided a presentation on the Future of Transit in York Region where he discussed existing and planned services. York Region Transit (YRT) currently provides local services in all nine municipalities in York Region. With the launch of Viva in September 2005, the Region of York introduced rapid transit services along Yonge Street, Highway 7 and two north-south links to the TTC subway system. Together, YRT and Viva deliver one convenient public transit system with faster travel times, higher service frequencies and improved connections with Toronto, Durham and Peel.

For more information on planned and future events, please contact Gerry Meade, P.Eng., at gerry.meade@peoyork.com

OSPE Update

In April 2006, Ontario Society for Professional Engineers (OSPE) started the Political Action Network (PAN). It engages in government relations activities advocating issues of importance to engineers. After the first PAN training session, Gregory Cook, P.Eng. (PAN volunteer) and I met with Frank Klees, Conservative MPP. The objective of the meeting was to develop relations and get his support for OSPE positions with respect to a number of issues important for engineers. A focus of the meeting was on repelling the proposed changes to the *Limitations Act*, which would waive the 15-year limitation period for filing claims for engineering services. Other topics included Quality Based Selection (QBS) and Calculus. Mr. Klees was receptive to presented OSPE positions and offered his support.

John Schindler, P.Eng., Past Chair, Board member of OSPE

Active Participation in Career Management Workshop

Matthew Xie held the Prosper in Turbulent Times workshop for 20 P.Engs on March 25. Matthew stressed the need for hard work as a career foundation and the art of balanced approach to handle work-related politics. He further examined the impact of age, Emotion.Quotient on every engineer's career journey. All participants were very motivated to participate to tackle two case studies:

- Should a 40-year-old U of T educated Chinese Engineer return to China for a two-year business development assignment?
- How can a 35-year old female engineer gain trust from her boss and customers?

We concluded the workshop after a 1.5 hour heated debate on the two cases. All participants applied their knowledge to evaluate numerous options. They presented their recommendations. With positive feedback, Matthew decided to host a series of events on career development. He is seeking generic case study materials from all members to use for new forum or workshops in the near future. Please submit your ideas or the topics you wish him to cover to matthew.xie@peoyork.com.



Professional Engineers Ontario

This newsletter is published for the benefit of over 5,000 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

- April 20 - Risk management
- April 27 - Future of York Region Transit
- May 4 - Networking for Business Success
- June 21 - Effective Costing & Pricing

York Chapter co-sponsors the above Small Business Seminars hosted by Markham Small Business Enterprise Centre

Contact Gerry Meade by email: gerrypeoyork@yahoo.ca for details. Or visit www.peoyork.com for update.



16th Avenue Trunk Sewer Phase II



We make things happen to serve you better

