

December 2014

WEST TORONTO CHAPTER  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS ONTARIO  
<http://www.westtoronto.peo.on.ca>

**Chair's Message for Winter 2014** By Eugen Karanxha, P.Eng.

First I wish all the membership Happy Holidays! A prosperous and joyful New Year 2015!

As the year end approaches it is natural to look back and review the activity that happened during this year. But before I count and describe the events organized by WTPEO, I would like to highlight some of the successful components that took place in the life of the chapter. Going back to basics and understanding the essential purposes of the chapter is always needed, synchronizing this effort with PEO activities gave the chapter more energy and a fresh perspective.

Attracting new and young members is a very important element for every organization; it is wonderful that WTPEO has attracted many new engineering graduates. They have become key in the life of the chapter and I would like to thank them for the active contribution. WTPEO is keeping up with the times utilizing the new website and the social media to represent the profession. WTPEO has created new links by working together with many educational institutions, professional organizations and the local government.

A great example is our Women in Engineering and Science (WIES) Design Competition collaboration with Toronto Rehabilitation Institute and the Ontario Brain Institute. The event was held over one month ending in August and challenged girls in grades 6 to 8 to design a device to prevent falls, or injuries from falls.

On September we had a fresh perspective on civil engineering with "Aesthetics and cost in bridge design" event. Event was well attended with an active Q&A session.

During October we held the "Design of Energy and Water Systems for Remote Communities" event. An excellent example of the difference good engineering can make in the lives of people.

Our November event "NIMBY" (Not In My Back Yard!) highlighted the importance of public relations on engineering projects. As well the license presentation ceremony was held on November welcoming new professional engineers to the chapter.

I would like to close by thanking all the volunteers and executive members for their contribution this year and inviting all the chapter members to volunteer and contribute to the West Toronto Chapter of PEO.

**PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS ONTARIO  
WEST TORONTO CHAPTER  
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) OF MEMBERS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of the West Toronto Chapter of Professional Engineers Ontario will take place on Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. sharp, in Room MC-254, Mechanical and Industrial Engineering Building, University of Toronto, 5 King's College Road, Toronto, for the following purposes:

1. Receive the Chair's report
2. Review and accept the audited financial statements of the chapter for the fiscal year ended 31 December, 2014.
3. Appoint the Auditor for the 2015 fiscal year.
4. Receive the reports from the subcommittees.
6. Elect up to 12 chapter members to the Board of the chapter.
7. Transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.
8. Speaker - TBA

DATED at Toronto this 10th day of December, 2014, by order of the Board  
Eugen Karanxha, P.Eng., Chair

Note: A copy of the By-Laws may be accessed at [http://members.peo.on.ca/index.cfm/ci\\_id/28664/la\\_id/1.htm](http://members.peo.on.ca/index.cfm/ci_id/28664/la_id/1.htm)

## Election of the Chapter Board

The Chapter's By-Laws (Article 4, Paragraphs 2, 3, & 4) stipulate that the Board will consist of a minimum of seven and a maximum of 15 voting members. Five of the voting board members are officers (Chair, Vice Chair, Past Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary), and the remaining up to 10 voting board members are executives.

The Chair, Past Chair, and Vice Chair position are filled by rotation from Vice Chair to Chair to Past Chair to Executive (Article 4, Paragraph 9), therefore vacating the position of Vice Chair. This rotation occurs every two years, and most recently occurred at the 2013 AGM. At this AGM, the Vice Chair and the remaining executive positions are available to interested members.

Candidates for the board can be nominated by contacting the Chair of the Nominations Committee, **Jim Chisholm, P.Eng.**, at [jimchisholm@gmail.com](mailto:jimchisholm@gmail.com) up to two weeks before the AGM. Candidates can also be nominated at the AGM by a mover and a seconder, with the agreement of the candidate, who must be present at the AGM. Their name will be added to the ballot. If the ballot contains fewer than, or equal to, 12 nominees, all will be accepted as acclaimed. If the final ballot contains more than 12 nominees as a result of nominations from the floor, the membership present at the AGM will be permitted to elect up to 12 nominees as voting members of the chapter board.

The membership present will then elect in a separate vote up to 12 other executives. Their titles and function will be decided on at the first business meeting following the AGM.

## Licensing Ceremony, Wednesday, November 12, 2014

On Wednesday, November 12, 2014, the West Toronto Chapter of the Professional Engineers of Ontario (WYPEO), welcomed 21 new Professional Engineers to the PEO and our 2900 member strong West Toronto Chapter. The ceremony was held at the Islington Golf and Country Club in Toronto, and MC'd by PEO Vice-President **George Comrie, P.Eng.** The new licence recipients presented to the assembled guests at this ceremony were:

<b>Gregory Dwyer Everitt Ball, P.Eng.</b> <b>Sabrina Stefania Cescolini, P.Eng.</b> <b>Timothy Alan Cheney, P.Eng.</b> <b>Peter Chng, P.Eng.</b> <b>Alexander Shirriff Dolson, P.Eng.</b> <b>Ali Husain, P.Eng.</b> <b>Basel Jarrad, P.Eng.</b>	<b>Daniel Richard Jung, P.Eng.</b> <b>Abdul Aziz Khan, P.Eng.</b> <b>Silvia Mauser, P.Eng.</b> <b>Owen Edward McGaughey, P.Eng.</b> <b>Adam Richard McLoughlin, P.Eng.</b> <b>Adriano Michael Memme, P.Eng.</b> <b>David Ng, P.Eng.</b>	<b>Gabriela Nuta, P.Eng.</b> <b>Andrew Orel-Golla, P.Eng.</b> <b>Nigel Krishan Parker, P.Eng.</b> <b>Gamaliel Silverio, P.Eng.</b> <b>Brian Francis Smith, P.Eng.</b> <b>Konrad Witkowski, P.Eng.</b> <b>Di Zhang, P.Eng.</b>
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The head table guests presiding over this ceremony, included **Matthew Ng, P.Eng.**, FEC, PEO Chapters Manager; **Danny Chui, P.Eng.**, FEC; PEO Junior Regional Councillor, West Central Region; **Robert Willson, P.Eng.**, FEC, PEO Senior Regional Councillor, West Central Region; **Gerard McDonald, MBA, P.Eng.**, PEO Registrar, and our guest speaker **Ms. Laura Albanese, MPP** - York South-Weston.

On behalf of **Eugen Karanxha, P.Eng.**, Chapter Chair, WTPEO, **Barry Westhead, P.Eng.**, Vice-Chair, WTPEO, who introduced the new chapter license recipients, and the chapter board, we want to congratulate all who received their license at this ceremony. We also want to gratefully acknowledge the contributions made by friends, family, and guests of our license recipients who attended the ceremony in support.

The chapter executive would like to also take this opportunity for all our new license recipients to join us at upcoming seminars and events organized by the chapter. You will automatically receive eBlasts of upcoming chapter events, but you should also check repeatedly the calendar page on the chapter website (<http://www.westtoronto.peo.on.ca>) for upcoming chapter events. Follow the tabs to the Events Calendar. Please make certain that your profile is always up to date in the PEO Database.

I would also like to thank all the volunteers who helped to make this one of the smoothest running and successful ceremonies for the West Toronto Chapter.

Photos of this ceremony will shortly be posted to our chapter website at <http://www.westtoronto.peo.on.ca>. Just follow the tabs to License Presentations.

**Georg A. M. Kralik, P.Eng.**, FEC, Past Chair, Vice Chair - Women in Engineering Committee, License Presentation Coordinator  
Engineer-in-Residence, West Toronto Chapter, Professional Engineers Ontario (WTPEO)

**Environment Committee Report** by Tom Markowitz, P. Eng.

**NIMBY Seminar, November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, the WTPEO Environment Committee presented an evening seminar on the phenomenon of NIMBY, which complicates many engineering projects.

What is NIMBY? NIMBY is an acronym for Not In My Back Yard, and it is a recent and growing phenomenon. Many necessary engineering projects in e.g. waste management, energy, waste water treatment, are obstructed by groups of opponents, some of whom live in the “back yard” of the proposed projects, and others who live far away.

The other acronym mentioned at the seminar is BANANA, which stands for BAN ANYthing, Anywhere. Many necessary engineering projects are obstructed by people who live a long distance away from the proposed project sites.

NIMBY and BANANA are recent and growing phenomena. The social solidarity that took pride in the construction of major engineering projects in the 1960's (e.g. Ontario's fleet of Candu nuclear reactors) has been replaced by a fractured society of small pressure groups, each one claiming to be the victim of large governments and large corporations. At the same time, we live in an increasingly crowded, increasingly technological society, which requires guidelines and infrastructure to avoid chaos and environmental degradation. Can planners and engineers succeed in planning and building necessary projects in the age of NIMBY?

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, our two speakers, Richard Carlson and Dave Hardy, offered guidance and understanding of the phenomenon of NIMBY and how to work with people to build necessary, beneficial projects. Here are the backgrounds and abstracts of the two speakers:

• **Richard Carlson**, Senior Energy Policy Associate at Mowat Centre (University of Toronto's School of Public Policy and Governance), is a co-author of Mowat Energy's Getting the Green Light: The Path to Public Support of Ontario's Power Plans, The Politics of Pipelines: Ontario's Stake in Canada's Pipeline Debate, and Re-Energizing the Conversation: Engaging the Ontario Public on Energy Issues. During his international career, he advised the UK investors and governments on energy and environmental policy, published works on energy issues in Canada, Europe, and Turkey, and co-edited a book on social and political developments in post-independence Central Asia. Richard has an MA in International Studies from the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies, with focus on energy development in the Caspian Basin.

① **Abstract:** *The lack of public understanding and acceptance of energy policies and programs often results in undue delays, uncertainty, and higher costs of important projects. This presentation will examine what “NIMBYism” means, how it relates to social licence issue, what has been done in different jurisdictions and sectors, and what Ontario itself could do to solve it.*

• **Dave Hardy**, M.E.S., is a Registered Professional Planner with the Canadian Institute of Planners and the Ontario Professional Planners Institute. As a professionally trained facilitator and a member of the International Association for Public Participation, he has led over 300 strategic planning meetings and public consultation workshops for a variety of public and private clients. In addition to being a social scientist and environmental planner, he is noted for the environmental policy advice he has provided before Boards, Commissions and select Committees. Dave is also the Principal of *Hardy Stevenson and Associates Limited (HSAL)*.

① **Abstract:** Dave offered his view on “NIMBYism” from the perspective of his vast practical experience in designing and running public consultation programs and evaluating impacts that the strategic projects for land use, water, wastewater, forestry, energy, nuclear waste management and transportation can have on the society and its communities. He will talk to the processes of citizen engagement, public relations & communications, and the significance of soliciting meaningful public input towards resolving issues and building consensus amongst diverse and opposing stakeholders on complex and interconnected matters of economic development, community benefits and impacts.

The two speakers offered some major insight into the need for public consultation and acceptance of engineering projects. Certainly, the old way of planning projects, with limited public consultation, cannot succeed in our modern society. The two presentations outlined the need to obtain “social license” for every proposed project, and the positive steps that can educate and win the support of a local community, before seeking government approvals.

Total attendance at the event was 60. The members of the WTPEO Environment Committee, notably Nigel Fung, Maja Sujic, and Yuan Chun Mei, were extremely competent in setting up the event.

### **Government Liaison Project (GLP) Committee Report** by Parvin Marzban, P. Eng.

Below are highlights of some activities of the GLP subcommittee of the WTPEO chapter in 2014:

**Tuesday March 25, 2014:** Parvin Marzban, P.Eng. FEC, the GLP Chair of the PEO West Toronto Chapter, attended a fundraising reception for Liberal MPP, Mike Colle (Eglinton - Lawrence). PEO Government Relations Consultant Howard Brown was also among participants, who together with Ms. Marzban had an opportunity to speak with Mr. Colle and Hon. Jeff Leal about the PEO's positions on some matters related to the engineering profession.

**Friday May 02, 2014:** Parvin Marzban, attended a Post-Budget meeting held by Mike Colle (MPP- Lib, Eglinton - Lawrence). The objective of the meeting was to discuss the highlights of the 2014 Budget; to gather feedbacks from the local community and business leaders on the Budget, and to provide a platform for business owners, senior managers and practitioners.

**April 22, 2014:** Take your MPP to work: PEO West Toronto Chapter hosted MPP Mike Colle (Eglinton-Lawrence), and the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, at the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute. The group met with a number of engineers, doctors and other health care practitioners who work at the hospital, and toured various demonstrations of new technology that make both injury prevention and rehabilitation more accessible.

**Nov 5, 2014:** members of the WTPEO GLP committee (Parvin Marzban and Jim Chisholm) along with the Eugene Karanxha, the WTPEO chapter chair attended PEO's 8th annual Queen's Park Reception.

**Nov. 12, 2014:** Parvin Marzban invited Ms. Laura Albanese (MPP- York South-Weston) to the PEO Quad chapter License Certificate presentation Ceremony on November 12. Ms. Albanese who was the key note speaker addressed the "Role of Engineers in Canada."

**Dec. 06, 2014,** Parvin Marzban, Jim Chisholm and Rob Wilson attended the GLP academy and congress which was held at the PEO headquarters. The event was well attended by GLP chairs and delegates from different region chapters. Participants at this event, learned about approaching and engaging elected members of provincial parliament, regional and municipal council representatives, political parties and community leaders on matters pertaining to the engineering profession.

**U of T Engineering Liaison Report** by Marina Freire-Gormaly, E.I.T.

Report on the West Toronto PEO Lecture (Oct. 22, 2014) by Prof. Amy Bilton called "Design of Energy and Water Systems for Remote Communities"

On October 22nd, Prof. Amy Bilton, Assistant Professor at the University of Toronto and Director of the [Water and Energy Research Lab](#) gave a presentation entitled, "Design of Energy and Water Systems for Remote Communities."

Prof. Bilton outlined an innovative design methodology for solar PV powered reverse osmosis systems. The design methodology can reduce the set of possible designs from larger than the number of atoms in the universe to a single optimal design.

She also gave an in-depth presentation of ongoing research and collaboration with communities in the developing world, including in Mexico and in Nicaragua. One particular project she discussed involved a team of undergraduate students performing a capstone design project. The team has visited the community in Nicaragua and received positive feedback and engagement for the design and development of a wind-powered irrigation system.

Over 45 professionals, students and the public attended to learn about this innovative research, and many lingered on into the evening to ask in-depth questions regarding her work and the work of her lab.

<b>WEST TORONTO CHAPTER BOARD</b>			
<i>Officer Positions</i>			
<b>Eugen Karanxha, P.Eng.</b>	Chair	<b>Lise Eamer, EIT</b>	Secretary, Logistics (co-chair)
<b>Barry J. Westhead, P.Eng., FEC</b>	Vice-Chair	<b>Pat Scanga, P.Eng., FEC</b>	Treasurer
<b>Jim Chisholm, P.Eng.</b>	Past-Chair		
<i>Executive Positions:</i>			
<b>Jim Chisholm, P.Eng.</b>	Volunteers	<b>Thomas Markowitz, P.Eng.</b>	Environmental
<b>Marina Freire-Gormaly, MASc., EIT, LEED GA,</b>	Education	<b>Parvin Marzban, P.Eng.</b>	Gov't Liaison Program (GLP)
<b>Catherine Hancharek, P. Eng.</b>	Women in Engineering, Logistics, Education (Co-Chair)	<b>Richard Mraz, P.Eng.</b>	Communications
<b>Jacob Kachuba, P.Eng.</b>	EIT, Gov't Liaison Program (GLP) (Co-Chair)	<b>Vesna Nedic, P.Eng.</b>	OSPE Liaison
<b>Georg A. Kralik, P.Eng.</b>	Licensing	<b>Liara Weiler, E.I.T.</b>	Member-at-Large, Volunteers
		<b>Mehdi Zanganeh, P. Eng.</b>	I.T.
<i>Committee Members (Non-voting):</i>			
<b>Ahmad Al-Dabbagh, P.Eng.</b>	Registration	<b>Sergey Slynko, P. Eng.</b>	I.T. (Social Media)
<b>Roman Lysiak, P.Eng., FEC</b>	Member-at-Large	<b>Jeff Wiseman, P.Eng.</b>	Newsletter
<b>Natasha Remtulla</b>	Member-at-Large		