

## Chapter News

September 2016

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

### Spring Licensing Ceremony, Tuesday, May 10, 2016

On Tuesday, May 10, 2016, the West Toronto Chapter of the Professional Engineers of Ontario (WTPEO), welcomed 33 new Professional Engineers to the PEO and our 2900-member strong West Toronto Chapter. The ceremony was held at the Markland Wood Golf Club in Toronto, and MC'd by **Richard Weldon**, P.Eng. The new licence holders honoured at the ceremony included:

<p><b>Steven Maxwell Agranove, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Abbas Akhavan, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Genevieve Lindsay Ashton, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Alexandre Ayers, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Daniel Frank Baggio, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Milena Cristiana Beloia Cheres, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Derek Albert Chow, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Alexander Asher Dason, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Irena Doslo, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Poorya Ali Ferdowsi, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Michael James Ferguson, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Ryan John Douglas Fletcher, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Andre Marcel Girard, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Maria Anunciacion Gutierrez Diez, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Laura Marlene Hawkins, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Shahin Kouchekian-Sabour, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Kevin Kai-Chi Leung, P.Eng.</b></p>	<p><b>Jimmy Zhong Yan Lu, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Raymond Phan, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Veljko Pirkovic, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Mutasim Subhi S Qudaih, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Matthew McLean Ratcliffe, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Christina Chung-Man Tang, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Catherine Eleanor Joan Thorn, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Laura Lee Towsley, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Ian Serdar Tuncay, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Mark Ryan van Tol, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Jonathan Vincent Alfred Venere, P.Eng.</b>  <b>William Robert Wagar, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Joshua James Wallace, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Tomas Martynas Ycas, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Peter An Yao Yu, P.Eng.</b>  <b>Jennifer Xueying Zhang, P.Eng.</b></p>
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The head table guests presiding over this ceremony, included **Bob Dony**, PhD, P.Eng., FIET, FEC President-elect; **Danny Chui**, P.Eng., FEC, West Central Region Councillor; **Warren Turnbull**, P.Eng., West Central Councillor; **Matthew Ng**, P.Eng., FEC, PEO Chapters Manager; **Gerard McDonald**, MBA, P.Eng., PEO Registrar; and our special guest speaker **Marisa Sterling**, P.Eng., Assistant Dean, Inclusivity and Diversity, Lassonde School of Engineering, York University.

On behalf of **Barry Westhead**, P.Eng, FEC, West Toronto PEO Chapter Chair, who introduced the new chapter licence holders, and the chapter board, we congratulate all who received their licence at this ceremony. We also gratefully acknowledge the support and contributions of friends, family, and guests who helped our licence recipients achieve their goals. Truly another milestone in our licence recipients' careers.

The chapter executive would like to welcome all our new licence holders to join us at upcoming chapter seminars and events organized. You will automatically receive eBlasts of upcoming chapter events, but you should also check the calendar page on the [West Toronto Chapter PEO website periodically](http://www.westtoronto.peo.on.ca), (or copy and paste <http://westtoronto.peo.com/> into your web browser) for upcoming chapter events. Follow the tabs to the Events Calendar. Please ensure your personal profile is always up to date in the PEO Database.

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

Photos from this ceremony, have been posted to our chapter licensing page website at <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/06hek64hiomp7sf/AACoOpneuJb3d2pJ4fU1jleva?dl=0> (alternately copy and paste into your web browser). Alternately just go to the Chapter website and follow the links on the "Other" drop down menu.

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

**Final Report - Climate Change: Ontario's Path Forward – March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016** – by Tom Markowitz, P.Eng.,  
WTPEO Environment Committee Chair

### The Event

Climate Change: Ontario's Path Forward was a one-day symposium on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at the University of Toronto. This event was part of National Engineering Month ("NEM"). The purpose of the symposium was to present expert advice on what Ontario should do to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere. The Province of Ontario has pledged to reduce Ontario's annual greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 by 37% below 1990 totals. The symposium emphasized the science and engineering of Ontario greenhouse gas emissions, the sectors that emit these emissions, and how we can reduce these emissions. The symposium ended with an expert analysis of government policy options for emission reduction.

### Sponsors

The lead organization for Climate Change: Ontario's Path Forward was the West Toronto Chapter of Professional Engineers Ontario.

The head office of Professional Engineers Ontario facilitated the symposium through a grant of \$1,000 from Special Project Funds, as part of National Engineering Month.

The other organizations, co-sponsoring the event, were,

- Ontario Society of Professional Engineers
- University of Toronto, Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering
- University of Toronto, School of the Environment
- Professional Engineers of the Province of Ontario

In addition, the East Toronto Chapter and Humber Chapter of Professional Engineers Ontario provided support.

### Program:

You can view the event on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wUZ1STGjZMg&list=PLBDvjA-6cD9RKFkd2KaDKE-dl8VuYfqrW&index=1>

### Event Site

The site of the symposium was the Reichmann Family Lecture Hall, Room 1050, Earth Sciences Centre, University of Toronto. Room 1050 is an excellent, 400-seat lecture hall, with convenient audio-visual equipment, and a large lobby for gatherings and catering.

The West Toronto Chapter thanks the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering for obtaining this fine site for the symposium.

### Administration

The following Environment Committee members worked diligently as a team to create a successful event:

Simran Brar, Jim Chisholm, Arezoo Karimian, Nigel Fung, Summit Lalwani, Hilary Whiting, Yuan Chun Mei, Rachel Yuhui Song, Maja Zugic

### Registration

Total registration was 246 people.

**Environment. Committee Report, Summer 2016 Newsletter** – by Tom Markowitz, WTPEO Environment Committee Chair

Purpose:

Here is the Purpose of the WTPEO Environment Committee, as agreed by the WTPEO Executive:

- 1) In line with the Definition of Engineering Practice, in the *Professional Engineers Act*, to encourage Chapter members to promote the safeguarding of the environment as a fundamental feature of engineering practice.
- 2) To promote environmental awareness to the public.

Our major event of the year was the one-day symposium, Climate Change: Ontario's Path Forward, at the University of Toronto, on March 5<sup>th</sup>. For information, please read the report on this event in this newsletter.

In the coming year, we will be planning other seminars and field trips. The Environment Committee is planning a site visit to the Ashbridges Bay Wastewater Treatment Plant, in November, and a policy-related evening seminar during the winter.

In general, we are looking for ideas on how to market our events to increase turnout and participation.

If you are interested in joining the Environment Committee, please see me or one of the Environment Committee members, or email us through the Chapter email address.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge the excellent administrative work of the following Environment Committee members in making our events a success:

Nigel Fung, Maja Sugic, Yuan Chun Mei, Arezoo Karimian, Simran Brar, Rachel Yuhui Song, Jim Chisholm, Summit Lalwani, Hilary Whiting, Jim Chisholm, Setareh Janbakhsh

**Women in Engineering and Education Outreach** – by Hilary Whiting, E.I.T.

The third annual WIES Design Competition took place July 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. This annual event is co-hosted by Professional Engineers Ontario West Toronto Chapter (WTPEO) and the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute (TRI). This partnership allows for an engaging youth outreach program that exposes participants to the wonders and opportunities of a career in engineering.

The theme of this year's competition was mobile apps and the 11-14 year old participants were tasked with creating an app that would help solve problems that were inspired by some of the real life work done at TRI. Each group of participants chose one of three stakeholders who experience daily challenges due to spinal cord injury, age-related memory loss or falling. The participants were introduced to the concept of using apps as tools to help solve problems by groups at TRI who are doing just that! The Postcard Memories App, developed by a team led by Dr. Frank Rudzicz and the OnMyFeet and DementiaObservation (DObs) apps being developed by a team led by Dr. Andrea Iaboni were presented by members of the respective teams, giving the participants some insight into how mobile technology is being used today in research and patient care. The participants used MIT App Inventor to code their Android apps and on top of creating functional apps, they also completed market research and developed a marketing strategy to ensure their app would reach their target audience. The winning team, Para-Sync, developed an app that helps people with spinal cord injury develop and follow custom exercise programs.

On behalf of Barry Westhead, P.Eng., FEC, WTPEO Chair, we'd like to thank our all of the dedicated volunteers, our judges, Geoff Fernie, Catharine Hancharek, D'Tanga Small and Janison Sivarajah and congratulate all the participants!

**Letter to Premier Kathleen Wynne – by Jim Chisholm, P.Eng., M.Eng.,**

On June 1, 2016, Sandro Perruzza, Chief Executive Officer of Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE) and Michael Monette President, OSPE together wrote a letter to Premier Wynne and to her cabinet. It used the Government Official Climate Change Action Plan as an example of the lack of meaningful consultation and expert analysis in planning. The letter highlighted OSPE's concern that the Government is making important decisions without the benefit of proper consultation and evidence.

The letter stated:

“Matters of complex science, functionality, and design are areas that demand the expertise of engineers to inform public policy decision-making. Sadly, the engineering community does not yet have an effective seat at the policy table. Often, by the time engineers are involved, high-level planning decisions have already been made by non-technical persons. These individuals are often unaware of the engineering ramifications of their choices. This approach gravely limits policy discussions on more cost-effective options and diminishes Ontario's ability to deliver the best-possible solutions to tackle its most complex problems.”

The letter concluded by calling on the government to engage in proper analysis and simulation in policy development...” The full letter can be viewed at:

[https://www.ospe.on.ca/public/documents/advocacy/submissions/2016\\_Letter\\_to\\_Premier\\_Wynne.pdf](https://www.ospe.on.ca/public/documents/advocacy/submissions/2016_Letter_to_Premier_Wynne.pdf)

Reflective of inadequate engagement of engineers, the Liberal government (which itself has no engineers in their caucus), has few or no engineers working in key ministries such as Infrastructure, Energy and Health and Long Term Care. The West Toronto Chapter of the PEO is working with OSPE to try to organize a forum on the importance of engaging engineers in public policy development and its implementation.

<b>WEST TORONTO CHAPTER BOARD</b>			
<i>Officer Positions:</i>			
<b>Barry J. Westhead,</b> P.Eng., FEC	Chair	<b>Eugen Karanxha,</b> P.Eng.	Past-Chair
<b>Catharine Hancharek,</b> P.Eng.	Vice-Chair, Women in Engineering (WiE) Chair	<b>Hilary Whiting,</b> EIT	Secretary; co-vice chair WiE
		<b>Pat Scanga,</b> P.Eng., FEC	Treasurer
<i>Executive Positions:</i>			
<b>Jim Chisholm,</b> P.Eng.	Past Chair, Volunteers Chair, GLP member	<b>Derek D'Costa,</b> P.Eng., FEC	
<b>Michael Flatt,</b> P.Eng.	Mentorship	<b>Marina Freire-Gormaly,</b> EIT	Education Chair
<b>Georg A. Kralik,</b> P.Eng., FEC	Licence Ceremony Coordinator, Co-Vice Chair, WiE	<b>Steve Lum,</b> P.Eng.	Scholarship
<b>Thomas Markowitz,</b> P.Eng.	Environmental Chair		
<b>Richard Mraz,</b> P.Eng.	Director of Communications	<b>Ivan Romo</b>	
<i>Committee Members (Non-voting):</i>			
<b>Farzad Behnamfard,</b> EIT		<b>Paul Collier,</b> P.Eng, Retired	
<b>Kenji Ferguson,</b> EIT	Newsletter	<b>Setareh Janbakhsh</b>	
<b>Arezou Karimian,</b> EIT		<b>Siddharth Lawande,</b> EIT	
<b>Roman Lysiak,</b> P.Eng., FEC		<b>Robert Willson,</b> P.Eng.,FEC	