

Awards News

A new addition to the York Chapter executive in 2013 was the Awards & Recognition Committee. The mandate of this new directorate is twofold: to find new and innovative ways to recognize the contributions of Chapter volunteers, and to lead and develop the Engineering Project of the Year Award. One way that we have traditionally recognized volunteers is at the Certificate Presentation Ceremony and Awards Gala. A new initiative that will be rolled out soon is a "Distinguished Volunteer" section on the chapter website, which will highlight the contributions of a different featured volunteer every few months.

Chapter Board 2013/2014

Officers

Chair: Dennis Woo, PhD, P.Eng.
Vice Chair: Gordon Ip, P.Eng.
Secretary: Daniel Liao, P.Eng.
Treasurer: Patrick Yeung, P.Eng.
Past Chair: Sarah Jin, P.Eng.

Executives (Directors)

Certificate: Annabelle Lee, P.Eng.
Communications: Fiona Leong, EIT
Education: Paymon Sani, P.Eng.
Gov. & Business: Ed Fung, P.Eng.
Program: Rick Vender, P.Eng.
Mentorship/EIT: Vikas Thakur, P.Eng.
Awards & Recognition: Liz Daher, P.Eng.

About this Newsletter

This newsletter is published for the benefit of over 8000 members of PEO York Chapter. 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.

Comments and suggestions of this newsletter should be sent via email to communications@peoyork.com

Please remember to update your contact information at www.peo.on.ca to ensure you receive all of our communications material.

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Facebook: PEO York Chapter
Twitter: peoyork
Website: www.peoyork.com

The Engineering Project of the Year Award is now in its second year; this initiative seeks to recognize outstanding technical projects within our community and showcase the achievements of local businesses, while promoting the practice of professional engineering and highlighting our Chapter's activities. The prizes will be presented at the Awards Gala on February 22nd, 2014. Please visit www.peoyork.com/poty for all of the contest details. We look forward to celebrating your successes!

Liz Daher, P.Eng.
Awards & Recognition Director,
PEO York Chapter

Certificate News

The 2013 Fall Certificate Event was held at Hilton Suites Hotel in Markham on September 21, 2013. Congratulations to the 52 new P.Eng. within York Chapter! Aside from the new certificate recipients, the York Chapter Engineering Scholarships were awarded to 7 first year engineering students. The scholarships were made possible by our "Tee for Scholarship 2013" golf event. A big thank you to the team of volunteers and executives who made this a successful.

The next Certificate Ceremony is to be held on February 22, 2014. It will be held in conjunction with the York Chapter Annual General Meeting where chapter business will be discussed and election will be held for next year's executives.

To the new Professional Engineers, you have worked hard and earned your professional designation. Please remember how professional engineers impact society. Obtaining your license is not the end of your engineering journey but only the beginning. Consider giving back to the professional society by being active with the chapter or become a mentor for new graduates.

Annabelle Lee, P.Eng.
Certificate Director, PEO York Chapter

2014 Chapter Executive Nominations

As the Past Chair of the PEO York Chapter I will be chairing the election in 2014 at the Chapter Annual General Meeting. The purpose of the election is to provide an opportunity for registered members or EIT to serve in the Chapter's executive board for a period of one (1) year if elected. The only exception for an EIT is that the person if elected cannot serve as Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer or Secretary.

The executive board consists of the following positions: Chair; Vice Chair; Past Chair; Secretary; Treasurer; and also the following Director positions: Program; Certificate; Education; Mentorship & EIT; Government & Business Liaison Program; Communications; Awards & Recognition.

Please note that the Past Chair position is the only position that is reserved for the previous Chair; all other positions are open to the Chapter membership.

Who is eligible to run for election?

The following must be met in order to be eligible to run for election:

- Member of good standing with PEO and have no criminal record;
- Recommendation via email by two (2) professional engineers that you are a member of good standing. The email to be sent to me: past-chair@peoyork.com;
- A short description why you would run for election and which position do you intend to run for; email the short description to me.

On election day at the AGM

- Each candidate is to provide a short speech on why they chose to run and if elected how are they going to serve the Chapter;

Deadline

Please note that the deadline is two (2) weeks before the AGM. The last day for candidacy submission is February 8, 2014.

If you have any questions please contact me via email (past-chair@peoyork.com)

Sarah Jin, P.Eng., FEC
Past Chair, PEO York Chapter



Professional Engineers
Ontario
York Chapter

Mailing Address:
Box 186, 7305 Woodbine Ave.
Markham, ON L3R 3V7
www.peoyork.com

Annual Chapter Newsletter Winter 2013



Fellow engineers and friends,

Your Chapter has never been better - we have more events, bigger events, and more attendance! All of these were made possible by the team of volunteers who worked tirelessly to raise the profile of engineers and the visibility of York Chapter in the region. You will notice that we've sent more emails to you for diverse topics in engineering, social issues and professional development. If you have attended our certificate presentation ceremony, you will have noticed the professional photographers and videographers, and the premium 5-star venue that has made our newly licensed engineers proud of their profession. If you have attended our boat cruise and golf tournament, you will have seen the hundreds of people we've reached out to.

York Chapter is led entirely by a dedicated group of volunteers - the 5 officers and 7 directors are responsible for

the operations of the Chapter. Our vision in 2013 focused on community initiatives, operation efficiencies and relationship development between the chapter and the broader community. For our community initiative, 30+ engineers, family and friends raised over \$4,300.00 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation; we organized training programs for our engineers to mentor high school FIRST Robotics teams; and we delivered fun filled Design Challenge programs to York Region's schools as well as neighboring schools within GTA. For the operation initiative, we have streamlined our event operations such that our volunteers will gain more leadership experience by off-loading mundane tasks to hired professionals. For the relationship initiative, we partnered with local businesses and municipality to create values to our members by raising the profile of engineers and developing sponsorships opportunities for our Chapter's initiatives. Our efforts have led to thousands of sponsorship dollars for additional scholarships and the execution of large events.

Over the last couple of years, our Chapter has evolved into an ideal platform for our volunteers to participate in our operations and events in order to develop both leadership and management skills. We are a sandbox that allows our volunteers to experiment and learn from their experiences in a risk-free environment that is supported by experienced past and current Chapter executives. I would like to encourage you to become a volunteer - not only will your participation bring new ideas and diversity to our Chapter and further advance our vision, but it also gives you opportunities to develop your soft skills. To get involved, simply attend our monthly meeting to get to know your Chapter and see how you can participate. The time commitment is yours to decide.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone in my team (the officers and directors) and our volunteers who have made 2013 a stellar year for York Chapter. I am wordless to express how much I appreciate all of you and how proud I am of each and everyone of you. Thank you!

Dennis Woo PhD, P.Eng.
Chair, PEO York Chapter



*Note: Annabelle Lee, P.Eng. (Certificate Director, PEO York Chapter) and Paymon Sani, P.Eng. (Education Director, PEO York Chapter) are not present in the above photo

Place holder for mailing address

Program News

This year has been a very busy one for the Program Committee - we organized 43 events in 2013! We focused on technical presentations and financial presentations as in the past, and added self improvement presentations with excellent life coach presenters such as Lori Cammerota, Bruno LoGreco and Bradley Foster. We hope to have them back for more next year. In addition, we started a Women in Engineering Program headed by Ms. Maricon Aquino, P.Eng. (wie@peoyork.com) and had a successful networking event specifically for women. Stay tuned for more!

Our second Toronto Harbour Cruise featuring wine tasting attracted 191 attendees. This is more than double the attendance from the wonderful cruise that was organized in June 2012 on a smaller vessel! Everyone enjoyed the day and the follow up feedback rated this event as Excellent/Very Good. Many liked the Jubilee Queen cruise ship, and as well, the Wine Tasting from Reif Estate Winery and Pondview Estate Winery. Many thanks to these wineries which provided representatives for the tasting booths. If you have an idea for a theme or other suggestions for a 2014 Harbour Cruise, please let me know (program@peoyork.com).

We introduced the London Pub as our new main presentation venue and the feedback has been very good. The dining room we use mid-week is warm and cozy; the staff is friendly. It is an excellent spot to have a brew, chomp on some chicken wings and listen to an interesting speaker. We encourage networking at these events so do come by in 2014 if you haven't done so yet. Additionally, we are currently working on three first quarter facility tours which should be very interesting.

We hope that some of you can attend the 1-day Mentor Workshop scheduled for Friday, January 17th in Markham. Mentoring is an important key to the success of a business as it brings juniors up to speed quicker, retains them longer and makes them more productive. We as Canadian businesses are way behind the Americans and Japanese in this important area and need to apply mentoring programs in our workplace to stay competitive in this modern world. We suggest that senior engineers who are interested should approach their management to finance the seminar. Contact me for more information.

Rick Vender, P.Eng.
Program Director, PEO York Chapter

EIT & Mentorship News

Engineer-In-Training

Each year, hundreds of engineering graduates join the Engineer-in-Training (EIT) program with the PEO York Chapter. The EIT committee at the PEO York has been established to assist these new and existing members in becoming a Professional Engineer. We organize various activities to help EITs set the right path to become a Professional Engineer. A training workshop webinar called "Engineering Experience - What PEO is looking for" was held on October 2, 2013, for all the PEO York EIT members.

Mentorship

The 2013 PEO York Mentorship program is well under way with over 30 member groups. Our kick off training session was held on June 23, 2013 at the Markham Convergence Centre. The Mentorship program consists of mentors and mentees - those who provide or seek support. At the PEO York Mentorship Program, we have paired several mentors and mentees. In several cases, our generous mentors have accommodated more than one mentee. We have created several pairs and groups across the Region of York, which were formed based on criteria related to engineering disciplines, short and long term goals, and logistics.

If you have any suggestions for EIT or Mentorship, I would love to hear about them.

Vikas (Vic) Thakur, P.Eng.
EIT & Mentorship Director,
PEO York Chapter

Education News

Design Challenge

The PEO York Chapter 2013 National Engineering Month Design Challenge was to complete the structure for a Pelton Turbine by designing and building a water wheel from materials that were provided. Students were informed about the application of Pelton Turbines and their role in harvesting kinetic and potential energy from moving water to generate green, renewable energy. The water wheel was assembled on a half inch hex shaft which was coupled to a gear box with a 42:1 gear ratio and a DC motor that produced electrical power. The water source was a 3 feet high water reservoir with a small half inch hole at the bottom of the tank. Bernoulli's law was applied to

estimate the speed of water jet coming out of the water tank and, the energy of the supply water jet was calibrated at the start of the competition. The Pelton Turbine efficiency was calculated at different resistive loads for each water wheel design. The event completed by recognizing the effort of all students and giving prizes to the top three teams with overall highest score in Design, Construction & Performance criteria.

2013 University Scholarship Awards

York Chapter was proud to recognize the academic and extracurricular activities of seven students entering a first year engineering program at a Canadian university this year. Education Committee reviewed twenty four applications to select the seven candidates, each scholarship recipient was awarded \$500 towards their education expenses.

The scholarship recipients are: Tony (Zhi Jiang) Ye, Marc Pietrobon, Liz Lozinsky, Melanie Levy-Hara, Ben Nagelmakers, Ryan Byerlay, and Victor Vuong.



2013 AMD Mathletics Competition

Mathletics is about the application of Math to solve everyday engineering problems. The questions reflect the grades 5-8 primary school math curriculum. Our AMD Mathletics competition was held on November 16 at Sir William Mullock Secondary School. The event started at 1 pm with opening remarks from Mr. I-Cheng Chen, Engineering Fellow at AMD, our title sponsor.

Ninety young and bright students from York Region Primary Schools participated in this year's competition. They individually solved engineering problems by applying their math



skills. The competition had three parts, Round 1, AMD Challenge and Round 2. AMD Challenge questions were related to Accelerated Processing Unit (APU) technology from AMD. The grand prize included a laptop with an AMD APU processor. There were other prizes for the top three Junior and Senior Level competitors.

AMD and Education Committee team members organized booths with fun and creative activities during the break time. Students participated in a face challenge contest where they made silly faces in front of the PC screen with an avatar that mimic their faces. They also visited the Education Committee booth with information and video about the Design Challenge competition that is held during the National Engineering Month in York Region. For the top 20 student rankings, visit the Education section at www.peoyork.com.

Paymon Sani, P.Eng.
Education Director, PEO York Chapter

Communications News

This past year has definitely been a busy one for the Communications committee and I must start off by thanking my group of volunteers who have each helped make the announcement of our Chapter's activities to our membership possible. Communications is the heart of the operation in the Chapter as we are the group that is responsible for informing you about the activities (seminars, tours, etc.) organized by the other committees in a timely fashion. It's hard to imagine, but we're involved in almost all of the activities offered to our members!

Our focus this year has been to communicate with you more effectively via social media and have been working on increasing our presence on Facebook (PEO York Chapter - Like Us!) and Twitter (peoyork - Follow Us!). We are also working on redesigning our website to bring you more accessible information at your finger tips. If you have any suggestions or would like to help us, please feel free to contact me.

Fiona Leong, EIT
Communications Director, PEO York Chapter

Government & Business Liaison Program News

East Central and West Central Region GLP Academy and Congress

More than 50 PEO representatives from 13 Chapters met for this inaugural East Central and West Central Region GLP Academy and Congress on June 8th, co-chaired by myself, Ed Fung, P.Eng., and Mississauga Chapter GLP Chair Khaled El-Rahi, P.Eng. Our guests speakers included Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities Soo Wong MPP (Scarborough-Agincourt), PC Seniors and Retirement Security Critic Julia Munro MPP (York Simcoe) and NDP Attorney General Critic Jagmeet Singh MPP (Bramalea-Gore-Malton).

In addition to meetings and discussions on political collaboration with the 3 MPPs, the group also used the opportunity to lobby the MPPs to support the repeal of section 12.(3)(a) of the Professional Engineers Act.

Reception for MPP Dr. Helena Jacek (Oak Ridges-Markham) Assistant to the Minister of Health and Long Term Care

At this event, I met with Helena Jacek MPP and the Deputy Premier Deb Matthews MPP, Minister of Health and Long Term Care. We discussed the impact of Ontario's Action Plan for Health Care in York Region; in particular, the shift of more out-of-hospital procedures into non-profit community-based clinics which will result in faster access to high-quality care at less cost.

Ed Fung, P.Eng.
Government and Business Liaison Director,
PEO York Chapter



Treasurer's Message

There were many major events held in February 2013 that our Chapter hosted. First were York Chapter's 2013 Annual General Meeting, Certificate Presentation Ceremony and Engineering Project of the Year Award. Through our fundraising efforts and financial management, the Chapter was able to subsidize and cover the balance of the costs remaining after PEO Head Office's funding allotment.

The Chapter also paid for the hosting of our education events such as Engineering Week and Mathletics. Another great Chapter Event was the Toronto Harbour Cruise that was held in the summer of 2013; again the Chapter subsidized for this social event which brought together the friends and family of Chapter members and as well as those from neighbouring Chapters.

Financially, we did relatively well at the Chapter's Fall Certificate and Scholarship Presentation Ceremony in September; the Tee-for-Scholarship Golf Tournament in the late summer brought in a good amount of scholarship funding. Further, our Program Director hosted over 40 seminars, tours and technical talks for our members. Despite all of the above financial subsidies and hosting costs, the Chapter has managed to maintain a good financial credit balance in our bank account.

The main reason for highlighting the various events we've held this year is to recognize the tireless planning involved in the use of our Chapter's annual allotment and the funds obtained through our team's fundraising efforts. Your active participation in various Chapter activities and events is the greatest endorsement of our executive team's efforts to make York Chapter the envy of other Chapters within the PEO!

Finally, PEO York Chapter will be pleased to accept sponsor's cheques payable to the Chapter. Please make out the payee name to read as "PEO York Chapter", or "Professional Engineers Ontario York Chapter".

Patrick Yeung, M.Sc., P.Eng.
Treasurer, PEO York Chapter

