



## 2015 Chapter Executive Nominations

Calling for volunteers to join the executive board!

This is an opportunity to serve on the Chapter's executive board for a period of one year. The Past Chair position is the only position that is reserved for the previous Chair; all other positions are open to Chapter members. The only exception is that an EIT cannot serve as Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer or Secretary.

### Who is eligible to run for election?

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

- Be a member of good standing with PEO and have no criminal record;
- Recommendations via email by two professional engineers that you are a member of good standing. The email to be sent to: [pastchair@peoyork.com](mailto:pastchair@peoyork.com);
- A short description why you want to run for election and which position you intend to run for. Please send this via email to [pastchair@peoyork.com](mailto:pastchair@peoyork.com).

### 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 weeks before the AGM. The last day for candidacy submission is **January 23, 2015**.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sarah Jin, P.Eng.  
Past-Chair  
[pastchair@peoyork.com](mailto:pastchair@peoyork.com)

## Mentorship and EIT News

The Mentorship and EIT Committee serves both engineers and EITs by providing mentorship opportunities and assisting with the P.Eng. licensing process.

We have over 30 P.Eng. guides and EITs participating in the Licensure Assistance Program (LAP). A P.Eng. guide is matched with an EIT to advise them through the licensing process. An appreciation event was held for the last round of participants and a new round began in the spring.

A "Road to P.Eng." seminar was held in October to explain the steps of the licensing process. This was followed by a networking lunch and a fun event where we took on midway, video and arcade games.

Our Accelerated Mentoring event was successfully held in November (similar to speed dating), where attendees rotated between mentors, allowing them to benefit from a wide variety of advice and experience in a short period of time. We were honoured to have Michael Branch, P.Eng., winner of the 2013 PEO Young Engineer Award, share his inspiring story of career and entrepreneurial success.

Mentorship begins with the building of relationships. To that end, the committee is also organizing events to bring P.Engs and EITs together through informal and fun events. Watch for our upcoming (friendly) EITs vs Engineers challenges!

Elmer Ting, P.Eng.  
Mentorship & EIT Director  
[mentorship@peoyork.com](mailto:mentorship@peoyork.com)


## Communications News


This year has been a very active year for the chapter where we held a record number of seminars and technical tours for members and the effective communications of these events to you is one of the key priorities of the chapter.


If you are not receiving emails from us, check your SPAM box and add us onto the safe list. Also verify your email address on file is correct by logging into the "Licence Holder" section at [www.peo.on.ca](http://www.peo.on.ca).

The chapter will also be introducing a new look to the website, so be sure to check out [www.peoyork.com](http://www.peoyork.com) in the near future.

Annabelle Lee, P.Eng.  
Communications Director  
[communications@peoyork.com](mailto:communications@peoyork.com)

 [www.linkedin.com/company/peo-york-chapter](http://www.linkedin.com/company/peo-york-chapter)

 @peoyork

 [www.facebook.com/PEO.York.Chapter](http://www.facebook.com/PEO.York.Chapter)

## 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](mailto:communications@peoyork.com)



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# Annual Chapter Newsletter

Fall 2014



## Chair's Message

Dear fellow engineers,

We had another great year. The objectives of the Chapter are: to build a link between members-at-large and PEO council; to promote the value of engineering to local communities; to organize key functions such as certificate presentation ceremonies, to deliver technical, soft skills seminars and social events; a forum for members to exchange knowledge and ideas; professional networking; and engage youth in discovering the joys of math, science and engineering.

We accomplished these objectives by way of the events we organized throughout the year. When I reviewed the calendar of events, I can easily find four to five events every month. In other words, we had an event every week. Committees such as awards, certificate, education, government liaison, mentorship, program, and women in engineering were actively organizing events for our members. I am very grateful for the hard work of the directors and their committee members. Kudos to all of you!

Beside these directors, the communications director and the officers of PEO York Chapter manages the day-to-day operations of the chapter and supports various events. Kudos also to our communications director, past chair, treasurer, secretary, and vice chair.

With so many events throughout the year, there isn't enough room to write about all of them. But here are some notable ones because of their scale as well as the nature of the events. Our design challenge has attracted over a hundred students to participate. Our Education Committee had come up with a crumple zone design project for this competition. Our Women In Engineering Committee organized an inaugural event that attracted over 50 people. Our boat cruise event was attended by over 350 people and included members of our neighbouring chapters from the Oakville Chapter to the west, Simcoe-Muskoka to the North and Lake Ontario Chapter to the east. Our Mentorship Committee has organized three events since March to connect our EITs to potential mentors, employment matching and other similar events. In the summer time, we organized charity fundraising activities for the Heart and Stroke Foundation as well as a BBQ event in appreciation of our volunteers.

Outside of event organization, we continued to offer scholarships to high school students entering engineering programs. In fact, we have raised our own funds to offer double the amount of scholarships for eligible students in our region. Moreover, we have also expanded our scholarship to university students in 2014.

Finally, I would like to thank our volunteers who have participated in the organization of our events. This year, we have created deputy director positions in order to offer our volunteers opportunities to take more active roles. If you are interested to become a deputy director, your first step is to join a committee and express your interest to the director.

This has been a great year and I thank everyone in my team for their hard work and their support.

Dennis Woo, PhD, P.Eng.  
Chair  
[chair@peoyork.com](mailto:chair@peoyork.com)

## Chapter Board 2014/2015

### 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)

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



## Program News

This has been the busiest year for the Program Committee with 60 events completed. These events included many technical presentations, tours of interesting facilities and presentations around management, personal management and soft skills. I believe that there is a lot more to being an engineer than just engineering so I have tried to bring in speakers that would interest our members in dealing with life and career issues.

In January, we presented a one day Mentor Training workshop given by a Canadian expert in the area to a diversified group of 20 attendees. The folks I surveyed indicated that overall, it was useful for their careers. Research shows that more and more, employers are looking for employees with a good blend of technical and soft skills so having this training would certainly help one's career. Many of the other soft skill presentations we have provided would certainly look good on one's resume.

In mid April, we brought in a PMP instructor to deliver a four hour presentation on "Titanic, a Project Management Disaster" an interesting case study in great detail.

We had the 3rd annual Rocking Toronto Harbour Boat Cruise which attracted more than 350 members and their significant others in early June. Although there were initial issues with the volume of people getting on the vessel, after a little while, these were resolved and people enjoyed the beautiful scenery, food and the live music and dancing to the award winning Jack de Keyser Blues Band.

We will be following the same course in 2015 and if you have any suggestions for future presentations and events, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Rick Vender, P.Eng.  
Program Director  
program@peoyork.com

### Important Dates!

**Dec 6, 2014** - Application deadline for Engineering Project of the Year Award

**Jan 23, 2015** - Last day to stand as a candidate for executive election

**Feb 7, 2015** - Annual General Meeting

## Awards and Recognition News

The Awards Committee has been busy this year, website, and recognizing several dedicated volunteers from the York Chapter Education Committee. We formally thanked these individuals at the fall Certificate Presentation Ceremony by presenting them with Certificates of Appreciation to honour their significant contributions to the Mathletics and Design Challenge events.

We are also gearing up for the third annual Engineering Project of the Year Award. 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. Last year's first place winner was York Region Rapid Transit Corporation's VivaNext Bus Rapid Transit project, for the design and construction of rapidways along Highway 7. I'd like to congratulate YRRTC and all of the finalists for their excellent work, and thank you all for participating in this competition. Last year's contest provided a fantastic platform for learning, sharing and networking, and we are looking to make this year even better!

The deadline for abstract submissions for the 2014 award is **December 6, 2014**, so there is still time to apply! The prizes will be presented at the Awards Gala on February 7th, 2015. Please visit [www.peoyork.com/poty](http://www.peoyork.com/poty) for all of the contest details, or contact me directly at [awards@peoyork.com](mailto:awards@peoyork.com). We look forward to celebrating your successes!

Liz Daher, P.Eng.  
Awards & Recognition Director  
[awards@peoyork.com](mailto:awards@peoyork.com)

## Education News

### Design Challenge – Vehicle Occupant Safety

The PEO York Chapter 2014 National Engineering Month Design Challenge was to complete a vehicle structure by designing and building an impact absorption system. Students were informed about the science of crumple zone and its role in providing safety to vehicle occupants by absorbing the vehicle kinetic energy during a crash.

Students worked in groups of four to design and assemble their crumple zone prototypes before taking them to the test track for evaluation testing. Each team's prototype was evaluated by measuring the vehicle speed and deceleration rate followed by a slow-motion video showing the crumple zone deformation at the time of impact. Students used this information for analysis, modifications and making improvements to the design of their prototypes.



### University Scholarship Awards

PEO York Chapter was proud to recognize the academic and extracurricular activities of seven students entering first year engineering programs at a Canadian university this year. The scholarship funds were provided by PEO, The McClelland Financial Group and Matthew Xie. The Education Committee reviewed 44 applications to select the seven candidates, each scholarship recipient was awarded \$500 to \$1000 towards their education expenses. The scholarship recipients are:

Name	University	Program
Janice Look	Waterloo	Civil
Emily Filion	Queen's	Engineering 1
Natalie Leung	Queen's	Engineering 1
Austin Tripp	Waterloo	Chemical
Eric Tran	McMaster	Mechanical
Pai Kevin Liu	McMaster	Engineering 1
Gregory Koncan	Toronto	Civil

### 2014 AMD Mathletics Competition

Mathletics competition is about having fun by applying math skills to solve everyday engineering problems. The questions reflect Grades 5 to 8 Ontario elementary school math curriculum. Due to the popularity of Mathletics, we have grown the event to accommodate 120 students. Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) continues to be our title sponsor in 2014.

Paymon Sani, P.Eng.  
Education Director  
[education@peoyork.com](mailto:education@peoyork.com)



## Certificates News

The fall 2014 Certificate Presentation Ceremony was held on September 27th, at the Hilton Toronto-Markham Suites. This ceremony celebrated the success of 47 newly licenced engineers and the contributions of seven distinguished York Chapter volunteers. Seven bright first year engineering students were awarded scholarships from York Chapter.

The next Certificate Presentation Ceremony, along with our Annual General Meeting (AGM), is scheduled for Saturday February 7th, 2015. At the AGM, a summary of the chapter's fiscal year will be reviewed and the elections for the 2015-2016 Chapter Board will take place. I encourage you to come out to meet the candidates and take part in deciding who will represent you in York Chapter!

In closing, I would like to give my warm congratulations to our new licence and scholarship recipients, and say a big THANK YOU to all of the volunteers in York Chapter who make our activities possible. I look forward to meeting you at our events and new volunteers are always welcome!

Fiona Leong, EIT  
Certificate Director  
[certificate@peoyork.com](mailto:certificate@peoyork.com)

## Government Liaison News

### 2014 Winter Certificate Presentation Ceremony with MPP Helena Jazcek

MPP Helena Jazcek was very pleased to get acquainted again with our Chapter at our Winter certificate event this year. She also presented our Engineering Project of Year award to the winner, York Region Rapid Transit Corporation.

### 2014 Fall Certificate Presentation Ceremony with MPP Gila Martow

MPP Gila Martow attended our 2014 Fall CPC event. This is the first time MPP Martow met with our PEO York Chapter executive team. She would like to support more of our events such as the Transportation Symposium in the new year.

### 2014 Chinese New Year Banquet with Premier Kathleen Wynn

York Chapter is one of two Chapters along with PEO Past-President Annette Bergeron, P.Eng., and PEO Registrar Gerard McDonald, P.Eng., to represent PEO at this event.

Premier Kathleen Wynne MPP (Don Valley West) celebrated the event and greeted guests on stage.



### 2014 East Central and West Central Region GLP Academy and Congress

The Simcoe-Muskoka Chapter and the Brampton Chapter will be co-hosting this year's East Central Region and West Central Region GLP Academy and Congress.

Date: Saturday, December 6th, 2014

Time: 8:30am – 3:45pm

Location: Professional Engineers Ontario

The agenda will include new GLP training, guest speakers, and chapter GLP planning.

Ed Fung, P.Eng.  
Government & Business Liaison Director  
[liaison@peoyork.com](mailto:liaison@peoyork.com)

## Women in Engineering News

2014 is the first year that York Chapter has a dedicated Women in Engineering Committee. Our focus has been and will continue to be in celebration of successful female professionals and also to provide a support network and information sessions to help develop and educate our existing female members.

We hope that you enjoyed our various networking events and especially our feature event, "Teamwork for Success" where we had three professional women share their experiences and provide some tips on teamwork and how to best leverage the different personality types in a Team environment. Two time Olympic Gold Medalist, Sami Jo Small even shared her gold medal with everyone up close.

We welcome different ideas and suggestions for future events and partnerships. As we continue to expand the presence of Women in Engineering and encourage more young women to explore this field, we hope you can participate and join us in this journey in the years to come.

Maricon Aquino, P.Eng.  
Women in Engineering  
[wie@peoyork.com](mailto:wie@peoyork.com)

## Treasurer's Message

2014 marks the year that York Chapter received the largest financial allotment from PEO Head Office in the Chapter's history. As a result of detailed business planning effort from our Chapter Executives, we have convinced our Regional Councillors and PEO Council that the Chapter would be able to deliver good events that benefit our PEO members.

Another Chapter achievement worth mentioning was the fact that we have obtained good donations from various sources during 2014, thus enabling us to offer a number of Scholarships to first year University Students.

Patrick Yeung, M.Sc., P.Eng.  
Treasurer  
[treasurer@peoyork.com](mailto:treasurer@peoyork.com)