

# Annual General Meeting of Members May 28, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

## PEO Head Office, 40 Sheppard Avenue West, 8th floor, Toronto, ON M2N 6K9

## **Board of Directors:**

Marisa Sterling, P.Eng.

Sue Tessier, P.Eng.

Maria lannone

Secretary

Shelly Deitner, P.Eng.

Bob Dony, P.Eng.

Jane Huang, P.Eng.

President and Chair

Vice President

Director

Director

Director

Director

Matthew Jelavic, P.Eng. Director Arthur Sinclair, P.Eng. Director

## **Regrets:**

Marta Ecsedi, P.Eng. Treasurer

Boris Martin CEO, Engineers without Borders Molly Gorman Undergraduate Award Winner

Tracey Caruana Member

#### Staff:

Andrea Bussinger Administrative Coordinator

Saima Ali Website Assistant

#### **Members:**

Karen Chan, P.Eng. Corneliu Chisu, P.Eng. Santosh Gupta, P.Eng.

Catherine Karakatsanis, P.Eng.

Asif Khan, P.Eng.

Andre Lodhar, P.Eng.

Sucha Mann, P.Eng.

Stephen Wall, P.Eng.

Leon Wasser, P.Eng.

#### **Guests:**

David Brown, P.Eng. President, Professional Engineers Ontario
Michael Chan, P.Eng. Council, Professional Engineers Ontario

Gary Elfstrom, P.Eng. Donor

Shokoh Fatahi, P.Eng. Mother of Awardee

Donald Grandy, P.Eng. Donor

Jonathan Hack, P.Eng. Ontario Society of Professional Engineers

Tiffany Joseph ESSCO

Nanda Lwin, P.Eng. PEO Willowdale-Thornhill Michael Mastromatteo Engineering Dimensions

Bob Radenovic, P.Eng. PEO Algonquin

Rana Tehrani Yekta, P.Eng. PEO Willowdale-Thornhill

Susana Toma, P.Eng. Donor

Tony Tsui, P.Eng. City of Toronto

Tibor Turi, P.Eng. Ontario Society of Professional Engineers Warren Turnbull, P.Eng. Council, Professional Engineers Ontario

Melissa Woo University of Guelph

Mark Woodhouse Ontario Society of Professional Engineers

## **Student Award Winners:**

Edwin Philippe Alegre Undergraduate Award, Ryerson University

Ruth Arunachalam Leaders for the Future Award, Ryerson University

Lowell Bower Gold Medal, UOIT

David De Sa Undergraduate Award, Ryerson University

Chris Lansdale Entrance Award, Ryerson University

Shi Ting (Selena) Lu Undergraduate Award, University of Toronto

Austin Martins-Robalino Undergraduate Award, York University

Jacqueline McLean Entrance Award, University of Toronto

Shiva Motamedi Gold Medal, Ryerson University

Alireza Nickooie Undergraduate Award, University of Toronto Mahan Salehi Undergraduate Award, University of Toronto

Selenne Verastegui Undergraduate Award, UOIT

Shellen Wang Entrance Award, University of Toronto

#### 1. Call to Order

The President called the meeting to order at 6:44 p.m.

#### 2. Approval of the Agenda

**MOTION:** To approve the agenda

Moved by: J. Huang

Seconded by: S. Tessier ..... approved

## 3. Opening Remarks/Introduction of Guests

M. Sterling opened the meeting with a land acknowledgment.

We recognize that many Indigenous nations have longstanding relationships with the territories upon which PEO's office is located that precede the establishment of this building. The Ontario Professional Engineers Foundation for Education acknowledges its presence on the traditional territory of many Indigenous Nations. The area known as Tkaronto has been care taken by the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Wendat, and the Métis. It is now home to many Indigenous Peoples. We acknowledge the current treaty holders and the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation. This territory is subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement to peaceably share and care for the Great Lakes region.

M. Sterling then welcomed guests and provided an introduction to the Ontario Professional Engineers Foundation for Education. As the Foundation's values include accessibility and diversity, M. Sterling summarized efforts that were made to make the meeting accessible to all, including through building access, as well as through the live stream, through which Chapter members Asif Khan, Sucha Mann, and Stephen Wall were participating.

#### 4. Approval of the Minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting

**MOTION**: To approve the minutes of the previous AGM held June 29, 2017 as circulated.

Moved by: S. Gupta

Seconded by: R. Dony ..... approved

## 5. Greetings

As Boris Martin was unable to attend, M. Sterling spoke about the Foundation's partnership with EWB, and the Leaders for the Future Award which is awarded annually to a high-achieving student completing an overseas volunteer assignment. Ruth Arunachalam, the 2018 recipient of the award, spoke about her experience working with Numida Technologies and the importance of innovation and cooperation to the future of the engineering profession and the world.

David Brown, President of Professional Engineers Ontario, spoke about PEO's support of the Foundation, and congratulated the award winners, speaking to the importance of ingenuity to face greater challenges in the engineering field today. M. Sterling added that the Foundation is actively promoting engineering licensure through various endeavors such as student award letters and mentoring.

Jonathan Hack, Chair of Ontario Society of Professional Engineers, spoke about the engineering profession as a whole, emphasizing how it is a community, not just a profession. He acknowledged how the Foundation contributes to students being able to achieve their professional goals and how it gives students the opportunity to enhance their academic and professional success. M. Sterling noted OSPE's contribution of designing the Foundation's official brochure which was distributed to all attendees.

#### 6. President and Board Report

M. Sterling reviewed the highlights of the annual report, acknowledging the contributions of the Board and membership in the 2017-18 year, and highlighting how donations were used to provide \$153,000 of scholarship funding to 15 universities across Ontario. She noted that the Foundation has now awarded \$3.1 million since its inception in 1959. Of note, the Foundation has worked to increase its PEO Chapter membership, adding 7 new members in the past year. Also, the Foundation received funding for 3 summer students in 2017, and is grateful to have received an additional Canada Summer Jobs grant this year.

The Board provided reports on the 2-person committees which were formed in 2017-18 to address operational and strategic goals. The Marketing Team (J. Huang and M. Jelavic) advised that marketing materials developed by last year's summer students are being implemented and that this is being done in line with the Foundation's brand strategy and fundraising goals. The Governance Team (A. Sinclair and S. Tessier) advised that officer job descriptions and chapter membership outreach were priorities in the past year. The Student Programs Team (S. Deitner and R. Dony) reported their efforts to implement networking opportunities for students, and plans to create a closed LinkedIn group allowing access to electronic professional development. The Fundraising Team (M. Iannone, on behalf of M. Iannone and M. Ecsedi) reported that efforts have been made toward improved corporate fundraising, donor communications, and donor management software.

M. Sterling announced the special news that starting in the 2019 school year, all awards will be gender balanced. This is an extension of the Foundation's policy of gender balance for entrance

awards, and its acknowledgment of the profession-wide goal to have 30% women in engineering by 2030.

## 7. Entrance and Undergraduate Scholarship Recipients

M. Sterling introduced Shellen Wang, Entrance Award recipient from the University of Toronto. Mahan spoke about the art of balancing extracurricular activities with academic success, and how the scholarship was instrumental in allowing him to pursue his hobbies and volunteering.

M. Sterling introduced Mahan Salehi, Undergraduate Award recipient from the University of Toronto. Mahan spoke about the keys to academic success and how important it is to have support.

M. Sterling introduced Chris Lansdale, Entrance Award recipient from Ryerson University. Chris spoke about his work with a youth mentoring program that uses engineering to promote academic success for underprivileged youth. He highlighted how without this scholarship, he would not have been able to give back in this way.

#### 8. Treasurer's Report of the Audited Financial Statements 2017

As the Treasurer was absent due to illness, the President reviewed the 2017 Audited Financial Statements. Total revenue was \$321,223 in 2017 compared to \$216,991 in 2016, due to a bequest and healthy investment portfolio. Member donations rose from \$102,029 to \$102,996. Expenses rose from \$38,011 in 2016 to \$51,844 in 2017. Scholarships and awards fell slightly from \$166,001 in 2016 to \$162,674 in 2017. There was a surplus of \$106,705 in 2017 versus a surplus of \$12,979 in 2016 due to an increase in investment revenue. The Foundation had a clean audit for 2017.

M. Sterling opened the floor to questions. There were no questions.

**MOTION:** to accept the 2017 Audited Financial Statements.

Moved by: S. Deitner

Seconded by: C. Karakatsanis ..... passed

#### 9. Appointment of the Auditor for 2018

**MOTION**: Be it resolved that Chaplin and Co. Chartered Accountants be appointed as auditor for the Ontario Professional Engineers Foundation for Education for the year 2018.

Moved by: S. Tessier

Seconded by: A. Sinclair ..... passed

## 10. Gold Medal Winners

M. Sterling introduced Shiva Motamedi, Gold Medal recipient from Ryerson University. Shiva shared about her experience as a non-traditional student, and that she decided to go back to school concurrently with having two children. She shared that it was wonderful to be able to end that experience on a high, positive note of receiving the highest marks in her class.

M. Sterling introduced Lowell Bower, Gold Medal recipient from UOIT. Lowell shared about being a non-traditional student, obtaining an engineering degree to further his career in water systems, and that he never expected to do well enough to earn the highest marks in his class. He advised younger students to always seek out networks and mentors and that getting financial support is invaluable.

#### 11. Keynote Speaker

M. Sterling introduced Catherine Karakatsanis, Chief Operating Officer of Morrison Hershfield and past member of the Board of the Foundation.

Catherine talked about the ways that engineering makes a difference in society, and how students should be proud to be joining this profession. She talked about how having a P.Eng. can open many doors in one's career, even doors that one can't imagine until later. She shared stories from her own career illustrating how what is perceived as an obstacle or step backward, can be turned into an opportunity and a step forward. She highlighted the Foundation's value in encouraging students toward licensure and gave advice to students on ways to continue their success.

## 12. Remembering Rhonda Hall / Election of Directors for 2018-2019

M. Sterling shared a few words about Rhonda Hall, who was a Director of the Board in the 2016-17 and 2017-18 years, and who passed away in November 2017. Rhonda's zest for life and her passion for fundraising and assisting students through mentoring programs, was celebrated. A moment of silence was taken by the guests to honor Rhonda's life.

M. Sterling presented the Board slate for 2018-19:

K. Chan	M. lannone
R. Dony	M. Jelavic
S. Deitner	A. Sinclair
M. Ecsedi	M. Sterling
J. Huang	S. Tessier

**MOTION:** That the above Foundation members in good standing be appointed to serve on the Board of Directors for 2018-19 term.

Moved by: M. Sterling

Seconded by: C. Chisu ..... passed

## 13. General Questions

There were no questions.

## 14. Adjournment

On a motion from J. Huang, the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.