



Professional Engineers  
Ontario

**TWO SIDES**  
- OF THE -  
**SAME COIN**



ONTARIO  
SOCIETY  
OF PROFESSIONAL  
ENGINEERS

### **Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO) regulates**

PEO's mission is to regulate and advance the practice of engineering to protect the public interest.

- Licensing individuals who have met the rigorous qualifications
- Disciplining licence holders who fail to maintain the profession's technical and ethical standards
- Ensuring that only licence holders practise professional engineering

### **The Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE) advocates**

OSPE is the advocacy association and voice of the engineering profession in Ontario, representing the entire engineering community.

- Influencing public policy
- Building awareness of the many ways engineering enhances Ontario's economy and quality of life

### **This division of mandates is used by several professions**

Law has the Law Society of Upper Canada for regulation and the Ontario Bar Association for advocacy.

Medicine has the College of Physicians and Surgeons for regulation and the Ontario Medical Association for advocacy.

Engineers have PEO for regulation and OSPE for advocacy.

### What is OSPE's mission?

- To get more engineers talking and amplify their voice in government policy and planning discussions, as well as in the media
- To promote the employment of engineers and support them at every stage of their careers
- To prepare members for new demands and expectations with competitive professional development

### Why should engineers become OSPE members?

#### To support their advocacy organization

- OSPE keeps engineers in-the-know on issues that matter to the profession through its magazine *the Voice* and *Society Notes* blog ([blog.ospe.on.ca](http://blog.ospe.on.ca)).
- OSPE prepares reports to provide government with engineering input and expertise on issues occurring in Ontario.
- OSPE meets with governments regularly to keep the critical work and knowledge of engineers top of mind.

#### To contribute their expertise for the betterment of society

- Fewer than 10 per cent of engineers in Ontario join OSPE, so the Society is limited in what it can do. OSPE needs more input and participation to adequately represent the profession.
  - The engineering community can volunteer with OSPE to contribute to a working group, task force or committee in their areas of expertise, or become subject matter experts to contribute to an OSPE report or speak to the media.

### **To enhance their careers**

- OSPE's job board and Engineering Employment Events (E3s) provide access to top companies and jobs in Ontario and across Canada.
- OSPE's professional development courses are designed for and taught by engineers, and can help engineers reach the next level of their careers.

### **What does PEO do?**

#### **PEO governs practitioners and regulates engineering practice**

For the purpose of carrying out its principal object, PEO has additional objects, set out in section 2(4) of the *Professional Engineers Act*:

- 1.** To establish, maintain and develop standards of knowledge and skill among its members,
- 2.** To establish, maintain and develop standards of qualifications and standards of practice for professional engineering,
- 3.** To establish, maintain and develop standards of professional ethics among its members,
- 4.** To promote public awareness of the role of the Association, and
- 5.** To perform such other duties and exercise such other powers as are imposed or conferred on the Association by or under any Act.

#### **PEO chapters**

PEO chapters – 36 in total, organized into five regions – link members and PEO Council, and are a local presence for PEO in communities across the province. PEO chapters organize licence certificate ceremonies, host technical seminars and social events, provide a forum for members to exchange knowledge and ideas, and offer professional networking opportunities.

## **PEO and OSPE work together for the future of engineering in Ontario**

OSPE and PEO minimize overlap within our distinct mandates. However, at times, our messages to government are complementary.

For example, OSPE advocated for a predictable infrastructure investment strategy in relation to the *Construction Lien Act* and qualification-based procurement. PEO's role in the matter was to ensure infrastructure is designed by a PEO licence holder. Together with Consulting Engineers of Ontario, the organizations created a joint submission to recognize the importance of professional engineers in the *Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act*.

OSPE and PEO also partner to celebrate National Engineering Month every March and co-host the annual Ontario Professional Engineers Awards (OPEA) gala.

We work together with accredited engineering schools in Ontario to promote licensure, and both have developed programs to help international engineering graduates (IEGs) pursue licensure.

PEO and OSPE also partner at the PEO chapter level to co-host events across the province.





**Professional Engineers Ontario**

[www.peo.on.ca](http://www.peo.on.ca)



@PEO\_HQ



**Ontario Society of Professional Engineers**

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