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Message From the Chair and CEO

The year 2020 has been a test for us all. Few of us would have foreseen in March the extent to which the COVID-19 pandemic would challenge the global economy, our health care infrastructure, our local businesses, and our own personal lives.

In order to help minimize the risk of spread and keep each other safe, we have also had to modify much of how we go about our daily lives. The requirement for physical distancing has been a stressor for many. The approaching holiday season will be different for most of us this year. We have been asked to limit our interactions at the time when we are most accustomed to gathering together.

We have also seen many changes in the way that we do our work, with the emphasis on virtual rather than face-to-face meetings and the restrictions on travel. For some of our colleagues, the pandemic has introduced more drastic change to their work. At the November 25th [Speaking of Engineering](#) event, we learned about how engineers at Memorial University put their time and expertise to work in the fight against the pandemic. From the fabrication and testing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), to advising on industrial disinfection techniques, to developing robotic nursing assistants to privacy and security of contact tracing apps.

While health care professionals are truly bearing the brunt of the work around COVID-19, engineering and geoscience are also “helping” professions that work to find solutions to real and far-reaching challenges. The contributions of engineers and geoscientists to initiatives such as these is one way that we protect the public interest and contribute to society.

While not all us work in fields or industries that easily enable such direct contributions, the pandemic has heightened the need for engineers and geoscientists to consider the local and global community in the work that we do. One such consideration is accessibility and inclusivity in our work. In the renewals article on page 2, we introduce a new Diversity & Inclusion module. The module is not only a way to meet PD requirements but also provides insight into how we can all contribute to the well-being of the public by considering diversity.

We have all seen jokes and memes about how great it will be to bid adieu to 2020. It has been a rough one in many ways, but let's not forget the important lessons this year has taught us; not the least of which is the value of our own personal relationships. As we say goodbye to 2020, we can be thankful for the vaccine that is coming and be hopeful for a healthy and prosperous 2021.



Natalie Hallett,
P. Eng., FEC
Chair



Janet Bradshaw
P. Eng., FEC
CEO & Registrar

Annual Renewals Underway

The license and membership renewal period for PEGNL members and permit holders is now underway.

To complete the renewal process, members and company administrators are asked to log in to the PEGNL member portal at <https://www.members.pegnl.ca>.

All steps of the renewal process must be completed by December 31 to avoid suspension of license or permit. (A timeline of important dates is outlined below).

Step-by-step instructional videos on completing the member and permit renewal processes are available. (Member video [HERE](#). Permit Holder video [HERE](#)).

For 2020, members filing professional development must log a minimum of 2 Professional Development Hours (PDH) in the Ethical Practice category.

PEGNL has [three free ethics courses](#) that members can avail of in order to satisfy this requirement.

New this year is a Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) module.

This module provides an overview of D&I and its applicability to the professions.

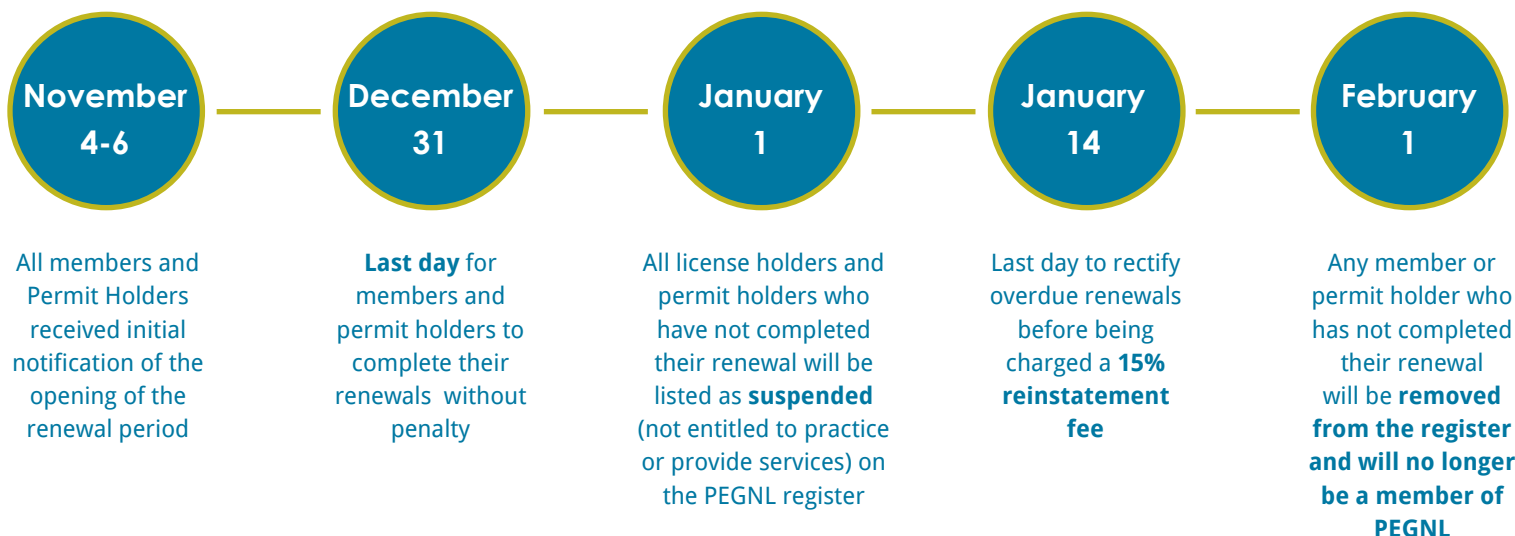
Members who have not been able to fulfill the PD requirement, or who are unable to pay their full renewal fee due to loss of employment or other approved reason, may seek deferral or abatement.

To apply for a deferral of PD or an abatement of fees, please begin the renewal process online as normal and apply when the applicable prompts arise. (This information is covered in the step-by-step instructional videos - Member video [HERE](#). Permit Holder video [HERE](#)).

While the PEGNL Board of Directors has approved annual fee increases to keep pace with inflation, they have decided to defer any increase for the 2021 renewal to 2022.

If you do not plan to renew, you must complete a voluntary resignation form (License Holders [HERE](#). Permit Holders [HERE](#)).

Important Dates in the PEGNL Renewal Process



Discipline Case Study

The Complaints Authorization Committee (CAC) considered an allegation against a professional engineer (the “Respondent”) related to consulting work for a municipal building. In the events leading up to the allegation, the Respondent met with a Municipality’s Public Works Committee to discuss alternatives to a proposed new build as the new build would be over budget based on an estimate prepared by the Complainant. The Complainant in the case was the consultant hired by the Municipality for the preliminary design of the new build.

The CAC dealt with three separate allegations against the Respondent and made the following determinations:

Allegation 1 – *The Respondent solicited a meeting with the Municipality to secure a project for his firm while being aware that the Complainant was actively engaged on the project.*

The CAC found, based on the municipal council’s minutes, the Municipality intended to abandon the original project of constructing a new building due to budget constraints and to instead extend and renovate the existing building. The CAC was of the view that the extension and renovation of an existing building is a fundamentally different project than the construction of a new facility. The CAC determined that the Respondent was under no obligation to notify the Complainant or any other party that they made a presentation to the Municipality on this revised project.

Allegation 2 – *The Respondent conducted a meeting (which included the Respondent and a co-worker) with the Municipality’s Public Works Committee directly related to the project and did not notify the Complainant or other employees of the Complainant’s company of the meeting or of their intentions, and they exploited their co-worker’s relationship with the Municipality to undermine the Complainant’s relationship with the Municipality.*

The CAC found that the municipal council had, at a council meeting prior to the Public Works meeting with the Respondent and their co-worker, agreed to move forward with the original plan of a building extension and discussed using a different consultant to further reduce costs as confirmed by the council meeting minutes. The Complainant agreed that their contract was for preliminary design of a new building and not renovation of an existing building.

The CAC also determined that it would be unreasonable to expect the Respondent’s co-worker, based on his relationship with the Municipality, not to be involved in discussions on the project since there was no suggestion that the information was confidential.

In addition, the Respondent notified the Municipality of the co-worker’s relationship to their company well in advance of the meeting with Public Works. The CAC did not view this to be an exercise of inappropriate influence on the Municipality. The CAC also determined that the awarding of the rescope contract after such presentation is not sufficient grounds to suggest inappropriate conduct by the Respondent.

Allegation 3 – *The Respondent made a representation, during the above noted meeting, that they and their company could complete the project much more economically than the Complainant’s company.*

The CAC found that there was no evidence presented that indicated who the consultant was or where the estimate for the building extension project came from. The CAC was of the view that even if the reference to a “different consultant” by council was a reference to the Respondent’s company or if the referenced estimate for the renovation/extension costs came from the Respondent’s company, this would not constitute evidence of inappropriate influence by the Respondent on the Municipality’s decision to proceed with the new building or to consider other consultants for the re-scoped project.

The Complaints Authorization Committee decided that there were not reasonable grounds to believe that the Respondent engaged in conduct deserving of sanction on either of the three allegations.

Special Feature: *PEGNL Endowment Fund*

Presented by Frank Davis, P. Eng. (Retired), FEC - Chair of the PEGNL Endowment Committee

To the members of PEGNL,

You are probably aware that PEGNL has an Endowment Fund which is used to provide scholarships and bursaries to deserving students. In the fall of each year, MUN Engineering and Earth Sciences students apply for these awards. All money awarded is paid from the Endowment Fund.

Many members donate to the fund during the renewal process. As well, major donations are occasionally received from corporations or through legacy gifts from the estates of PEGNL members.

The PEGNL CEO ensures the fund is properly administered through a professional investment manager, while abiding by an investment policy statement that meets the requirements set out by the Board of Directors. As part of this process, a committee of volunteers (The Endowment Committee) helps select recipients, receives financial updates and helps deal with any issues that arise.

Funds such as this one are perpetual. In theory, it will go on forever. These funds are designed so that existing capital in the fund earns dividends which are paid out each year for the intended purpose - in this case scholarships or bursaries. The principal capital amount of the fund remains intact.

The more the fund earns, the more PEGNL is able to provide students in need of educational support. And the needs continue to rise. In recent years there have been so many bursary applicants that a prioritization has been placed on awarding funds to only those of greatest need. In 2020 there were 59 applicants for bursaries which were valued at \$1,500 each. The proceeds of the fund could only support 15 students.

The committee does its best to deal with the difficult job of awarding those most in need. We do this by working in conjunction with representatives at MUN who receive and conduct initial assessments of applications. From there, the committee reviews the list of students based on those assessments and makes decisions on who will receive funding.

These bursaries are very highly valued by the students in MUN Engineering and Earth Sciences programs. Applicants share many stories of personal and financial hardship. Upon disbursement of the awards, we often receive letters of thanks from students about how important the money was to them.

We would like to support many more students but the current earnings from the fund will support a maximum disbursement of about \$22,000 annually. Approximately \$37,500 is required in the fund to support just one \$1,500 annual bursary.

The committee is investigating options to increase the fund and is asking members like you to help. The easiest way is to make a donation during the renewal process, which is currently underway. All donations are tax deductible.

Individuals or organizations may prefer to donate a bursary in the name of the donor or person of their choosing, to be awarded directly to a student in need.

This year's awards included one such bursary in memory of Don Tarrant. Don was a long-standing P. Eng. member of PEGNL, and his wife Sandra generously donated a bursary in his honour.

We thank you for your support. If you have any questions regarding the fund, please contact me through PEGNL by writing to main@pegnl.ca.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Davis, P. Eng. (Retired), FEC
Chair of PEGNL Endowment Committee

Along with Frank, PEGNL acknowledges the other members of the Endowment Committee:

Peter Dimmel, P. Geo, FGC
Don Finch, P. Eng. (Retired), FEC
Dr. Glyn George (Honorary Member)



in the news

Our news section brings highlights of what is happening across the country in engineering and geoscience. As well, it provides an opportunity to recognize the contributions and achievements of members and students.

Local News

Geoff Emberley, P. Eng., FEC, former CEO of PEGNL was recently honoured with the J. D. Eaton Award for his volunteer contributions to Memorial University.

Read more [here](#).

Dr. John Quicoe, P. Eng., FEC has been bestowed the honour of professor emeritus by Memorial University.

Story can be found [here](#).

Dr. Brian Veitch, P. Eng., has received the William H. Webb Medal for his contributions to education in naval architecture and ocean engineering.

Read more [here](#).

Dr. Greg Naterer, P. Eng., Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science at Memorial University has been named among the top 2% of scientists by Stanford University.

Read more [here](#).

The two occasions of the Quebec Bridge collapsing is often cited as the impetus for engineering regulation in Canada. A PEGNL member has written a book chronicling the issues with the bridge's construction.

Learn more [here](#).

National News

Engineers Canada has released its National Membership Report. The report analyzes and compares registration data across the country.

Read more [here](#).

Six provincial engineering regulators are celebrating their centennial anniversary this year.

Learn more about how they're marking the occasion [here](#).

A newly released Heritage Minute showcases Elsie MacGill, Canada's first practicing woman engineer and the first woman in the world to practice aeronautical engineering.

Watch the video [here](#).

A Canadian Engineering professor was awarded the \$1 million Gerhard Herzberg Canada Gold Medal for her work designing gels that mimic human tissues.

Find the story [here](#).

A student in Alberta has become the first Canadian to win the \$500,000 International Junior Breakthrough prize.

Learn more [here](#).

New License Holders

Since our last issue of *illuminate*, the people below have gained or upgraded licensure with PEGNL

Sharfaraz Ahmed, E.I.T.
Olubunmi Aidomojie, E.I.T.
Kazeem Akindele, P. Eng.
Abdulla Faud Al Massri, P. Eng.
Katie Baggs, E.I.T.
Sheldon Baikie, P. Eng.
Kristine Baillieul, P. Eng.
Cordell Barron, P. Eng.
Mark Bennett, E.I.T.
Emily Bishop, P. Eng.
Armin Bodaghkhani, P. Eng.
Joshua Bouchie, P. Eng.
Carly Boyle, E.I.T.
Michael Brushett P. Eng.
Kevin Bullock, P. Eng.
Yiqian Bu, P. Eng.
Christian Burns, E.I.T.
George Butt, E.I.T.
Hugo Cea Canas, P. Eng.
Michael Chafe, P. Eng.
Michael Cho, P. Eng.
Zea Cline, P. Eng.
Scott Coles, P. Eng.
Steven Collins, P. Eng.
Jarrett Coombs, E.I.T.
Nathan Corcoran, P. Geo.
Grant Corey, P. Eng.
Jenny Cuellar, P. Eng.
Hesam Davachi, P. Eng.
Carl Dawson, P. Eng.
Gaurav Dewan, E.I.T.
Mithun Dey, P. Eng.
Thien Phuc Dinh, P. Eng.
Daniel Doiron, P. Eng.
Dylan Drake, P. Eng.
Justin Elliott, E.I.T.
Kelechi Ezeji, P. Eng.
Emre Fidan, P. Eng.
Donald Fleury, P. Eng.
Cajetan Gilbert, E.I.T.
Coady Gosse, P. Eng.
Benjamin Grandy, E.I.T.
Aaron Grin, P. Eng.
Nicholas Groves, E.I.T.

Katherine Hanlon-Wadman, E.I.T.
Eduardo Galindo Hernandez, P. Eng.
Kristin Holland, P. Eng.
David Ho, P. Eng.
Catherine Hooper, G.I.T.
Adrian Hudson, E.I.T.
Trevor Humby, P. Eng.
Joshua Hussey, E.I.T.
Kevin Jackman, P. Eng.
Richard Jacobs, P. Eng.
Mohsin Jamil, P. Eng.
Jay Johnson, P. Eng.
Guillaume Kenny, P. Eng.
Paul Kocsis, P. Eng.
Delice Sorel Magne Kowa, E.I.T.
Swe-Liang Lam, P. Eng.
Mehdi Razi Lavasani, P. Eng.
Nicholas Leonard-Power, E.I.T.
Roman Levicek, P. Eng.
Sarah LeDrew, E.I.T.
Ryan Lewis, E.I.T.
Andreina Lopez, E.I.T.
Skyler Loveless, E.I.T.
Gregory MacPherson, P. Eng.
Sahel Mahdavi, P. Eng.
Sylvie Marceau, P. Eng.
Liam Martin, E.I.T.
Aaron McBrearty, G.I.T.
Timothy McErlean, E.I.T.
Tristian McKeever, E.I.T.
Taylor McLean, E.I.T.
Andrew Melanson, P. Eng.
Joseph Mihelcic, P. Eng./P. Geo.
Kelcie Mitchelmore, E.I.T.
Naznin Mongha, E.I.T.
Alicia Moning, G.I.T.
Jared Mullett, P. Eng.
Lauren Murphy, P. Eng.
Dastia Joachard Ndoki, G.I.T.
Shane Nugent, P. Eng.
Anna Ogbemi-Ifediora, E.I.T.
Pierre Paquette, P. Eng.
Daniel Parks, P. Eng.
Yves Pelletier, P. Eng.

Christian Pelley, E.I.T.
Shaun Penney, P. Eng.
Matthew Power, E.I.T.
Kyle Prowse, P. Eng.
Rebayetur Rahman, P. Eng.
Shuvanon Rajit, E.I.T.
Rabbani Rasha, E.I.T.
Evan Rice, P. Eng.
Matthew Roberts, P. Eng.
Daniel Robbins, G.I.T.
Brittany Rose, E.I.T.
Nicholas Ryan, P. Geo.
Terrence Ryan, P. Eng.
Yohan Santerre, P. Eng.
Adnan Sarwar, P. Eng.
Andrew Savage, G.I.T.
Matthew Schumacher P. Geo.
Karim Amgad Saad Selim, E.I.T.
Chad Seymour, G.I.T.
Syed Shah, E.I.T.
Sarah Shannon, P. Eng.
Marcus Sheppard, P. Eng.
Taha Shiekh, P. Eng.
Connor Simmonds, E.I.T.
Nathan Sooley, P. Eng.
Erica Soucy, P. Eng.
Colby Spencer, E.I.T.
Alexandra Squires, G.I.T.
Nicholas Strum, P. Eng.
Michelle Sutton, P. Eng.
Idris Sule, P. Eng.
Felix Therrien, P. Eng.
Emily Trenholm, E.I.T.
Morgan Walsh, P. Eng.
Ryan Walsh, E.I.T.
Mitchell Warren, E.I.T.
Mark Winsor, G.I.T.
Gregory Woodland, G.I.T.
Neil Woolfrey, E.I.T.
Angela Xue, E.I.T.