

PAN Meeting with MPP Catherine Fife (Kitchener-Waterloo)

On August 19, 2016, OSPE PAN member Paul Chiocchio, Gabriel Tse, P. Eng., Professional Engineers Ontario Government Liaison Program (GLP) representative, and Patrick Sackville, OSPE Lead, Policy and Government Relations, met with MPP Catherine Fife (Kitchener—Waterloo). MPP Fife is the NDP's Finance and Treasury Board Critic.



From left to right: Gabriel Tse, P.Eng., MPP Catherine Fife, Paul Chiocchio, and Patrick Sackville.

During the meeting, Paul and Patrick shared OSPE's most recent reports, including *Ontario's Energy Dilemma:*

Reducing Emissions at an Affordable Cost and *Crisis in Ontario's Engineering Labour Market: Underemployment Among Ontario's Engineering Degree Holders*.

MPP Fife took interest in OSPE's proposal, specifically that the government make surplus clean-generated energy available for sale at its marginal (or fuel) cost to consumers on a voluntary basis, as well as the statistic that roughly one-third of Ontario's engineering degree-holders are employed in jobs that do not require a post-secondary degree. During the discussion on the labour market conditions facing engineering degree holders, Gabriel suggested that MPP Fife consider PEO's position on the Industrial Exception.

MPP Fife agreed with Paul and Patrick that the province should do more to consult with Ontario's engineering community, and engage with the profession during all phases of policy formulation, development, and implementation.

Having met with OSPE and PEO in the past, MPP Fife has strong knowledge of each organization's mandate as well as the differences between their respective advocacy and regulatory responsibilities.

MPP Fife participated in several engineering events in the Kitchener-Waterloo region – working closely with students and professors at the University of Waterloo. At Queen's Park, MPP Fife agreed to speak up for Ontario's engineers in government decision-making and connect OSPE with MPP Peter Tabuns to further discuss Ontario's energy system.

Thank you to MPP Fife for meeting with OSPE, and thank you to Paul and Gabriel for volunteering their time and effort to the profession!