

PAN Meeting with MPP Norm Miller (Parry Sound – Muskoka)

On Friday, November 27, 2015, PAN representative Jim McConnach, P.Eng. met with MPP Norm Miller (Parry Sound – Muskoka) to discuss three topics. MPP Miller has in-depth knowledge of OSPE's advocacy efforts as he has met with Jim in the past and receives OSPE reports and correspondence.

The first topic discussed was Ontario's cap and trade system and design options. Jim presented MPP Miller with OSPE's 2015 report, *Engineering a Cleaner Economy: Examining Ontario's Carbon Pricing Program and the Role of Innovation*. MPP Miller expressed concerns about the complexity of Ontario's cap and trade system and potential difficulties the province will have with implementing this system. MPP Miller explained that British Columbia's carbon tax program is, from his perspective, simpler to implement and revenue neutral.

The second topic that Jim brought up with his MPP was hybrid electric vehicles. MPP Miller was impressed with the smoothness, low-fuel consumption, and extended range of these vehicles. MPP Miller has particular interest in climate change, carbon pricing, and clean technology.

Finally, Jim closed the meeting with a discussion on the Ring of Fire. As the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario's Critic for both Aboriginal Issues and Northern Development and Mines (Ring of Fire Issues), MPP Miller is knowledgeable about Northern Ontario's mining sector and has visited the Ring of Fire and other mining sites in the area. MPP Miller noted that the large development costs, weak economy, and risks involved for mining companies are major challenges for this project.

Thank you to MPP Miller for meeting with OSPE and thank you to Jim for his continued dedication to the profession!