

PAN Meeting with MPP Laura Albanese (York South-Weston)

On Friday, December 11, 2015, PAN representative Anita Eisakhani and Parvin Marzban, P.Eng., Professional Engineers Ontario's (PEO) Government Liaison Program representative (GLP), met with MPP Laura Albanese (York South-Weston). As Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Finance, MPP Albanese is focused on policy issues related to finance.

The first topic that was addressed was climate change. The Government of Ontario recognizes climate change as a key problem, has developed a Climate Change Strategy, and has committed to a greenhouse gas reduction target of 80% below 1990 levels by 2050. Anita noted that in order to effectively tackle this goal, Ontario needs a clean and environmentally sustainable energy grid that is less dependent on fossil fuels.

The second topic that was discussed was Ontario's long-term energy plan and the challenges facing the province's electrical grid. Anita proposed that, rather than focusing on the large, electrical grid, the Government of Ontario could consider supporting community-owned renewable energy projects to reduce the carbon footprint of communities. This was an idea that MPP Albanese welcomed.

Anita also mentioned that OSPE believes that engineers need to be included on panels tasked with advising government officials on policy issues of relevance to engineers and the profession, such as energy policies in Ontario.

Thank you to MPP Albanese for meeting with OSPE and thank you to Anita and Parvin for their continued dedication to the profession!