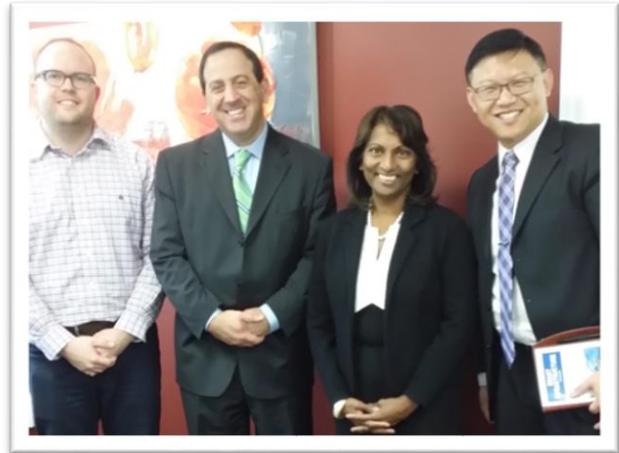


PAN Meeting with the Honourable Indira Naidoo-Harris (Halton)

On November 25, 2016, PAN representative Ryan Doyle, EIT, OSPE CEO Sandro Perruzza, and Jeffrey Lee, P.Eng., a representative of Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO) Government Liaison Program (GLP), met with the Honourable Indira Naidoo-Harris (Halton).



From left to right: Ryan Doyle, EIT, Sandro Perruzza, Minister Naidoo-Harris, and Jeffrey Lee, P.Eng.

Minister Naidoo-Harris is currently the Associate Minister of Education (Early Years and Child Care). Minister Naidoo-Harris has strong knowledge of PEO's Government Liaison Program, having participated in meetings with the PEO Oakville Chapter. OSPE's CEO provided the Minister with information on OSPE's mandate and recent initiatives.

The meeting focused on Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) and OSPE's latest study, [*Excess Soil Management: Ontario is Wasting a Precious Resource*](#). Ryan communicated to Minister Naidoo-Harris the importance of QBS for future provincial infrastructure projects. OSPE is concerned that, under current procurement systems, projects are awarded to those with the lowest bid. This approach has the potential to compromise the quality of the engineering, which impacts life cycle and maintenance costs.

Ryan and Sandro also shared highlights from the abovementioned 2016 study OSPE published in partnership with the Greater Toronto Sewer and Watermain Construction Association (GTSWCA) and the Residential and Civil Construction Alliance of Ontario (RCCAO). The report focused on the handling and disposal of soil across 24 infrastructure projects in Ontario. As the report explains, it is important that soil be considered a resource rather than waste for environmental and economic reasons. The transportation of excess soils for these 24 projects generated 300 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions and cost \$30 million, not to mention the resultant wear and tear of roads and traffic congestion from the transportation of excess soils.

Given Ontario's \$160 billion investment in infrastructure, Ryan and Sandro asked Minister Naidoo-Harris to share OSPE's position and report findings with her colleagues at Queen's Park.

Thank you to Ryan and Jeffrey for their dedication to the engineering profession, and thank you Minister Naidoo-Harris for meeting with OSPE!