

MEA QUARTERLY UPDATE



MEA CONFERENCE 2026

MEA 2026 Conference & AGM- Vaughan

The MEA is pleased to announce that the 2026 MEA Conference will be hosted by the City of Vaughan at Universal Eventspace from November 10 - 13, 2026.

This year's conference theme is: ***Building a World Class City.*** Hotel reservations is currently live on the conference homepage on the MEA website.

The Vaughan Organizing Committee is developing the conference program. A Call for Presentations is currently live on the MEA website until June 5. Registration will be launched in July once the technical program has been finalized.

[CLICK HERE](#) to visit the Conference webpage.

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MEA Executive Director Announcement

The MEA is pleased to announce that Reg Russwurm, P.Eng., MBA, will be taking on the role as its Executive Director later this June.

Our current Executive Director, Dan Cozzi, P. Eng., who has held this role for the last 8 years, will be retiring at the end of June of this year.

Reg brings a wealth of municipal engineering experience/leadership to the role. He received his engineering degree at the University of Waterloo and followed up with a master's in business administration at Wilfred Laurier University.

Please join us in congratulating Reg. He currently can be reached at reg.russwurm@guelph.ca . An update on his MEA email address will be provided later in June.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the full article.

MEA Provides Comments and Significant Concerns to MTO re: OPS Harmonization

The MEA recently provided comments to the Province's plan to Harmonize Ontario Provincial Standards (OPS). The MEA's comments included:

- Response dated March 29, 2026 to Ontario Regulatory Registry 26-MTO003 - Harmonization of Municipal Road Construction Standards.
- Letter to the Ministry of Transportation dated March 29, 2026 re: Harmonization of Municipal Road Construction Standards and Associated Governance Model.
- Delegation to MTO senior staff during the Good Roads Conference on March 31, 2026 (attached briefing note summarizes MEA's concerns).

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

DFO session: Operating Safely in & Around Water: Navigating Legislation and Protecting Fish and Fish Habitat

Fisheries and Oceans Canada's (DFO) Partnerships team from the Ontario & Prairie region will be offering two sessions for Heavy Equipment Operators and Site Managers who work in or near water.

These sessions will provide an overview of DFO's key legislations, with a focus on responsibilities and regulatory requirements related to the protection of fish and fish habitat, including Critical Habitat, and on project sites. Participants will learn common threats that fish and fish habitat face due to construction and excavation activities, as well as best practices to avoid impacts and promote compliance with the Fisheries Act and Species at Risk Act.

[**CLICK HERE**](#) for more information.

Call for Presentations - 2026 MEA Conference

Are you interested in presenting at the 2026 MEA Conference?

This year's conference will be held in Vaughan at Universal Event Space from November 10 - 13, and will include technical presentations, tradeshow, tours, the annual East vs. West Hockey Classic, MEA Awards Luncheon, President's Gala and several hospitality/networking events.

If you are interested in making a technical presentation at this year's conference, please [**CLICK HERE**](#) to complete and submit an online application form and someone from the Vaughan Organizing Committee will contact you if your application is accepted.

The deadline for presentation applications is June 5, 2026.

2026 MEA Bursary Program - Now Accepting Applications

The MEA is pleased to advise that it will once again be offering its Bursary Program in 2026 to assist students enrolling in the first year of an engineering program at the University level for the upcoming 2026/2027 academic year. This is the 19th consecutive year the MEA will be awarding bursaries to prospective engineering students; the MEA has awarded over \$216,000 in bursaries since the inception of the program.

The two (2) highest scoring applications will receive the John Hammer Memorial Bursary and the William Robinson Memorial Bursary valued at \$2,000 each; the balance valued at \$1,500 each.

[**CLICK HERE**](#) for more information.

Deadline for applications: May 15, 2026

New and Amending Regulations Under the Planning Act and the City of Toronto Act, 2006 - Certified Professionals

The Province has provided an update regarding the Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025 (Bill 17) which received Royal Assent on June 5, 2025. Bill 17 made changes to the Planning Act and the City of Toronto Act, 2006 to create regulation-making authority for the Minister to scope complete application requirements by, among other things, providing greater recognition of planning studies and reports prepared by certified professionals. New and amending regulations under the Planning Act and City of Toronto Act, 2006 have been filed to specify professional engineers as "certified professionals" for the purposes of a complete application.

[**CLICK HERE**](#) for more information.

RPRAs Circular Economy Learning Series webinar on Billing and Payment Process Enhancements

RPRAs Webinar Highlights: Billing and Payment Process Enhancements
Members who attended the recent webinar hosted by the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRAs) on February 10, 2026, can access the resources from the link below.

As part of RPRAs Circular Economy Learning Series, the session focused on new features designed to simplify administrative procedures, improve efficiency, and enhance the overall registrant experience. Participants were guided through system updates and had the opportunity to ask questions directly to RPRAs representatives

[**CLICK HERE**](#) for more details.

MEA Comments to MECP ERO 019-7891 Posting

The MEAs Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) Modernization Working Group has been reviewing the MECPs recent ERO 019-7891 posting regarding an updated amendment to modernize and streamline the MCEA process. They have finalized their comments on behalf of MEA.

The MEA provided comments to the ERO posting by the February 3, 2026 deadline. To view the comments, [**CLICK HERE**](#).



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TUNNELING

MEA Committee Volunteers Needed

The MEA currently needs to fill vacancies on the following Committees:

- MEA Climate Change Committee (2)
- MEA Connected Cities Committee (2)
- OPS Grading Committee (1)

If you are interested in participating in one of the above committees, please contact rsharma@municipalengineers.on.ca.

If you are interested in volunteering for other MEA committees, [submit an application to MEA](#). (you will need to log-in)

For a complete listing of all MEA Committees, [CLICK HERE](#)



MEA Employment Ads

The Go-To Place for Engineering Career Opportunities

With MEA's membership growing strong to over 1,200 professional engineers province-wide, who are employed by Ontario municipalities and provincial/federal agencies, the MEA's Careers Page has become the go-to resource for technical job advertisement in the public sector in Ontario.

in the 12-month period ending August 31, 2024, MEA had over 32,000+ unique visitors to its Careers Page of the the MEA website who viewed 255 job postings.

You can also join over 450 subscribers to the MEA's week career opportunities email.

To view career opportunities or to subscribe:

[CLICK HERE](#)



MEA TRAINING & EVENTS

OPS 101 (Intro to OPS) October 14-15, 2026



The MEA is offering a OPS 101 course (webinar) on Ontario Provincial Standards (OPS). It will be delivered in 1 session at approximately 3.5-hours. This course/webinar represents 3.5 CPD/CEU hours.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more info.

Introduction to MCEA Webinar June 9-11, 2026

Learn what the Class EA process is all about from an instructor who has conducted many such planning exercises since the inception of the Municipal Class EA over 35 years ago. This course/webinar qualifies for 7.5 CPD/CEU hours. More details about this course will be provided in the winter of 2026 – stay tuned!

OPS 201 (Planning and GC) October 21-22, 2026



The MEA is offering a OPS 201 webinar about Ontario Provincial Standards. It will be delivered in 2 modules over 2 days at approximately 3-hours per day. This course/webinar represents 6 CPD/CEU hours.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more info.

Municipal Infrastructure Training

The **MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE TRAINING** program is a series of courses on the design, construction, maintenance, and inspection of a wide range of infrastructure assets.

MIT program formally recognizes the amalgamated training efforts of individuals in a number of categories which are highly valued by municipal infrastructure professionals.

Certifications are offered for the following specializations:

- **Construction Materials**
- **Inspection**
- **Road Design**
- **Buried Infrastructure**
- **Generalist**

For more information

[CLICK HERE!](#)

**Municipal
Infrastructure Training**
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Municipal Class EA

MCEA REFORM

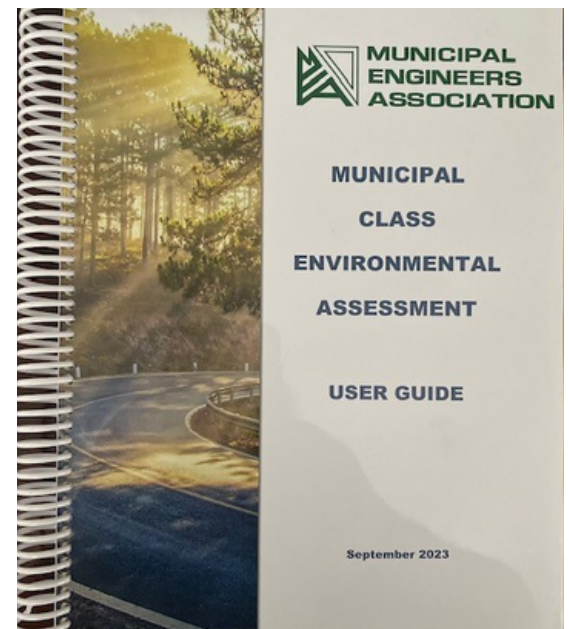
The Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has recently advised the MEA that the Provincial Government is moving forward with legislation to revoke the current Municipal Class EA and replace it with a new regulation (Municipal Project Assessment Process - MPAP). While we do not have a firm schedule, we expect this to occur sometime later this autumn.

MCEA USER GUIDE

While the MECP is planning to revoke the MCEA, until the new MPAP Regulation is approved, the current MCEA process still applies. The MEA continues to offer its *MCEA User Guide* (September 2023) publication for proponents. It is currently available for purchase in hard copy format only.

To order the hardcopy version, [CLICK HERE](#).

Note: Once the MECP finalizes its implementation of the new MPAP Regulation, MEA plans to develop a new publication to replace the current *MCEA User Guide*.



2025 MCEA Monitoring Report

The MEA has submitted its annual Municipal Class EA Monitoring Report to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP).

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the 2024 MCEA Monitoring Report.

OPS Updates

UPDATES FROM OPS SPECIALTY COMMITTEES

OPS Electrical Committee- An update to the Canadian Electrical Safety Code could impact electrical standards. The committee will be conducting a full review of any potentially affected specifications and drawings.

OPS Environmental Committee is currently reviewing OPSS.MUNI 803, 804 and 805 with a publication target for November 2026.

OPS Watermains Committee recently reviewed and published OPSS.MUNI 404, OPSS.MUNI 491 and OPSDs 1100 series in the April 2026 publication.

If you have any questions/ comments/ queries regarding these specifications, please contact rsharma@municipalengineers.on.ca and your query will be directed to the concerned OPS Committee.

**IF YOU HAVE IDEAS OR
CONTENT** OR WOULD LIKE TO ADVERTISE
CONTACT US @
info@municipalengineers.on.ca

