MEA QUARTERLY UPDATE





MEA CONFERENCE 2025

MEA 2025 Conference & AGM- London

The MEA is pleased to announce that the 2025 MEA Conference will be hosted by the City of London at RBC Place from November 11 – 14, 2025.

CLICK HERE to visit the Conference webpage.

The London Organizing Committee develop the full conference program, including a Call for Presentations later in the Spring. Registration will be launched during the summer months once the technical program has been finalized.

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2025 MEA Bursary Program - Now Accepting Applications!

The MEA is pleased to offer its 2025 Bursary Program, now in its 18th year, supporting students entering the first year of a university engineering program. Up to ten bursaries will be awarded to children or dependents of municipal employees and elected councilors. 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.

Applications are due by midnight on May 16, 2025.

For complete details on the 2025 Bursary Program, including eligibility criteria and online application, please **CLICK HERE**.

DFO Releases FFHPP Risk Management Framework Overview

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada's (DFO) Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program (FFHPP) has released its Risk Management Framework Overview for informational purposes, on the Talk Fish Habitat website.

This document:

- provides information about FFHPP's risk management approach
- serves as a foundation for future engagement on policies, guidance and tools related to how DFO manages risks to fish and fish habitat.

This overview document will also be posted on DFO's Projects Near Water website in the coming weeks. CLICK HERE to visit the website. Questions about this document, can be directed to DFO.FFHPP-PPH.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

Volunteering Opportunity with Ministry of Natural Resources

The Ministry of Natural Resources is establishing a new Working Group to support updates to Chapter 7 of the Great Lakes St. Lawrence River System Natural Hazard Technical Guide. This chapter focuses on applying policy to development and site alterations in hazard-prone areas. While technical updates are being led by engineering consultants, the Ministry is seeking input from municipal planning practitioners to help ensure practical, on-the-ground implementation. The group will meet approximately every 6-8 weeks from Winter 2025 to Summer 2026, with some time needed between meetings for review and feedback. The Ministry is looking for 2-3 municipal staff from Great Lakes shoreline municipalities to participate. For more information, please contact Craig Reed at creideamo.on.ca.

Good Roads Product Guide

The GR Product Guide is transforming infrastructure product pre-qualification by tackling key challenges from the 2024 NCHRP Synthesis Report limited resources, lack of centralization, adoption of new materials, and supply chain risks. With automation, a centralized database, and API capabilities, it streamlines product evaluation, reduces administrative effort, and ensures compliance with high safety and quality standards. Featuring over 4,000 preapproved products, it helps municipalities make faster, smarter decisions fostering innovation and resilience in infrastructure development.

<u>CLICK HERE</u> to view the full article.

MEA and OMAA Agree to Work Together

The MEA and Ontario Municipal Administrators Association (OMAA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to foster collaboration on policy, advocacy, and shared services. The agreement supports informed consultation, improved information sharing, and potential joint initiatives such as educational events and cross-promotion.

The OMAA was formed in 1958 for Chief Administrative Officers to assist in the promotion of better local government. OMAA provides professional development, advocacy, networking opportunities, services, and additional support for Ontario CAOs and Aspiring CAOs.

The MEA Board of Directors looks forward to this working relationship with OMAA.

CLICK HERE to view full article.

MEA Participates in Provincial Pre Budget Consultation Event with Ministry of Finance

The MEA participated in the Provincial Pre Budget Consultation Event with the Ministry of Finance on January 27, 2025 in Oldcastle, Ontario.

The MEA's President, Taylor Crinklaw, P. Eng, attended the event on behalf of MEA and provided a short presentation regarding the MEA's thoughts on the direction of the Provincial Budget.

CLICK HERE to view the full article.

Call for Feedback: SWM Working Group Presentation on Manufactured Treatment Devices

The ACEC-Ontario London Chapter's Stormwater Management Working Group recently shared its findings on the impacts of the MECP's CLI-ECA language regarding Manufactured Treatment Devices (MTDs) during a session with MECP. The group also presented proposed solutions, now available in the attached slide deck. Feedback is being requested to help refine these recommendations and ensure they reflect the broader engineering community's needs. Members are encouraged to review the slide deck and share their insights with Laurence Murray (Imurray@deveng.net) or Doug DeRabbie (dderabbie@acecontario.ca).

New to Ontario's Excess Soil Program - Here's what you need to know

The Resource Productivity & Recovery Authority (RPRA) recently advised MEA that it has developed new promotion and education material aimed at municipalities that may have requirements under the Excess Soil Regulation to register and file notices in RPRA's Excess Soil Registry. This resource explains who is required to file, the quick steps for submitting a notice, and other key information to help navigate the process.

CLICK HERE to view the material from RPRA.

CLICK HERE to view the full article.



MEA Meets with the Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation & Parks

During the Good Roads Conference, MEA Board members and staff met with the Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation & Parks.

MEA met with the Honourable Todd McCarthy to discuss the transition from the Municipal Class EA to the new Municipal Project Assessment Process (MPAP). MEA supports its swift implementation and requested advance notice to develop a new User Guide for municipalities.

CLICK HERE for more details.





Thanks to our **Platinum Sponsor** 2025 MEA Conference & AGM





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CONTACT OUR TEAM | 519-666-0604

MEA Committee Volunteers Needed

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

- MEA Climate Change Committee (2)
- MEA-MPEA Committee (1)
- The Road Authority/ Product Management Committee (1)
- OPS Traffic Safety Committee (1)
- MEA Connected Cities Committee (2)

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

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) May 21, 2025



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 and to register.

Introduction to MCEA Webinar June 10-12, 2025

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.

CLICK HERE for more info and to register.

OPS 201 (Planning and GC)June 16-17, 2025



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 and to register.

MEA Offering Ontario Provincial Standards (OPS) for Municipal Infrastructure Course at 2025 Guelph Roads School April 28-30, 2025

The MEA has partnered with Good Roads (GR) and will be offering an OPS General Course at the 2025 Guelph Roads School.

The MEA's OPS for Municipal Infrastructure Course is an intensive, in-person training over three days that provides a thorough understanding of Ontario Provincial Standards (OPS) for Roads and Public Works. This course equips participants with essential knowledge of OPS governance, its benefits, and the critical role OPS plays in municipal and provincial infrastructure projects.

CLICK HERE for more details and to register.



MEA TRAINING & EVENTS

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!



MEA WEBINARS



MEA FREE Webinars | Stay Connected

To see/view recordings of past webinars, CLICK HERE!



Municipal Class EA

MCEA REFORM

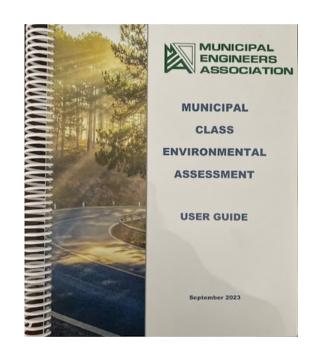
The MECP advised MEA earlier in 2024 that it intends to revoke the current Municipal Class EA and replace it with a new regulation (Municipal Project Assessment Process - MPAP). To date, MECP has not provided any timeline on when this will occur.

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.



Municipal Class EA

MEA Update on the Municipal Class Environment Assessment (MCEA) and the Municipal Project Assessment Process (MPAP)

The MEA and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation & Parks (MECP) have been discussing environmental assessment (EA) reform since 2016, with the intention of ultimately streamlining the MEA's Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA).

Until such time that the MECP revokes the MCEA and replaces it with the MPAP regulation, the February 2024 MCEA version remains in effect. In the meantime, municipalities must continue using the current MCEA process while the MEA prepares for the potential transition to MPAP.

CLICK HERE for more details.

2024 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 180, General Specification for the Management of Excess Materials with a publication target for April 2025.

OPS Traffic Safety Committee is currently reviewing and updating •Several pavement marking specifications under review, including OPSS.MUNI 710, and related material specifications including 1712, 1713, 1716, 1750.

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

