

MEA MEMBER SERVICES QUARTERLY UPDATE

MUNICIPAL
ENGINEERS
ASSOCIATION



NEWS

MEA Wishes for Good Health during the COVID-19 Pandemic

The MEA sincerely wishes its members and families/friends are during well during this unusual time. We also would like to thank all our members who continue to provide critical services to Ontarians. Stay safe!

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61st MEA Annual Conference & AGM

In collaboration between the MEA Board of Directors and City of Toronto staff organizing the Conference, unfortunately, the MEA has decided to cancel the 2020 event due to current and ongoing circumstances regarding the COVID19 pandemic and the concern for public health.

There are too many unknowns over the next several months which is making conference planning extremely challenging. Organizing committee members are not able to meet as regularly as they need to; there is concern regarding discretionary spending levels by municipalities (will municipalities approve funding for delegates this autumn?); status of travel restrictions for delegates over the next several months; and the level of corporate commitment from vendors/suppliers for the trade show part of the conference.

The City of Toronto has advised the MEA they would be pleased to host the Conference in 2021. The MEA and Toronto are working on a plan to reschedule this year's Conference to November of 2021.

The cancellation of the Conference also impacts the MEA's Annual General Meeting (AGM). The MEA Board will be looking into alternative options at hosting this year's AGM. We will report back on this before the autumn.

Click on the flickr icon to view the photo gallery

Click on the "click" icon to view the presentations from the previous conferences



CLICK!





2020 MEA Bursary Program

For the 13th consecutive year, the MEA is offering its Bursary Program for dependents of municipal employees and elected municipal Councillors who will be enrolling in an engineering program at the university level in September 2020. Since the inception of its bursary program, the MEA has awarded over 100 bursaries totaling \$121,500 to prospective engineering students.

Up to 10 Bursaries will be awarded. The highest scoring bursary application will be awarded the John Hammer Memorial Bursary valued at \$2,000; the balance of the bursaries are valued at \$1,500 each.

Application deadline is **May 8**. To apply or to find more information, visit our website www.municipalengineers.on.ca/bursary.

APPLY NOW!

APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR THIS YEAR'S BURSARY IS

MAY-8th



CLICK!



Minimum Maintenance Standards in the Time of COVID-19

During the COVID-19 Pandemic, members have been inquiring about level of service requirements regarding Ontario Regulation 239/02 Minimum Maintenance Standards (MMS).

Recently, a blog by PM Law Paterson MacDougall was posted on March 18, 2020 which outlines a potential solution to the issue as it relates to the Closure of a Highway clause in Section 16.8 1) & 2) of the Regulation. We refer you to the blog via the following link:

<http://www.pmlaw.com/?p=1223#.XnKuc9v1dPk.linkedin>



The OGRA hosted a free webinar for its members on March 26 at 2 pm – it featured Legal Charles Painter (Paterson MacDougall) and Cheryl Clarke (Manager – Passenger Transportation Office, MTO). Information on the webinar can be found via the following link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gDRTHbL2_GA



While the Province has declared an emergency, it falls short of relieving municipalities of their levels of service with respect to the Regulation.

1. Municipalities will need to determine what “reasonable” levels of maintenance they can provide during the pandemic.
2. it will be prudent to mitigate municipal exposure to liability by prioritizing resources to the roads with the higher level of classification.
3. Municipalities can also declare an emergency if they cannot meet their responsibilities and clearly note what the service levels it may be able to provide during the pandemic and to alert the public of same

As the Regulation is required to be reviewed every 5 years (next amendment in around 2023), the MEA will work to determine if the Regulation may be amended to provide relief to municipalities for situations like the current pandemic.

**MUNICIPAL
ENGINEERS
ASSOCIATION**



THANK YOU FOR BEING A MEMBER

WE APPRECIATE YOU!

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP
NOW TO MAINTAIN ACCESS
TO OUR SERVICES

INDIVIDUAL:

[click here!](#)

and select

Renew My Membership

CORPORATE:

through invoice (sent!).

Construction Projects Still Considered an Essential Service During the Pandemic?

The Ontario government has recently expanded the list of non-essential workplaces with the introduction of **Ontario Regulation 119/20: Order under Subsection 7.0.2(4) - Closure of Places of Non-Essential Businesses**. It is important to note that construction projects and services are still considered essential if they are required to ensure safe and reliable operations of, or to provide new capacity in, critical provincial infrastructure, including transit, transportation, energy and justice sectors beyond the day-to-day maintenance.

The MEA recently hosted a conference call with our colleagues at Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA), Ontario Road Builders Association (ORBA) and Ontario Sewer and Watermain Construction Association (OSWCA) to discuss the interpretation of the regulation.

Recently, OGRA posted a Heads Up Alert to its members as to its interpretation of the Regulation - the MEA supports the view of the OGRA. You can view this by clicking below.



CLICK!

OSWCA has received a legal interpretation of the regulation through the firm of Norton Rose Fulbright. It is quite a detailed explanation of about what each construction sector can/cannot do. They have authorized the MEA to share this document with you. You can view it by clicking below.



CLICK!

If a municipality has declared an emergency, it would increase the flexibility of their interpretation. The regulation essentially puts the onus on a municipality to determine the criticality of an existing or proposed construction project during the pandemic.





Erosion & Sediment Control Guide

The new Erosion and Sediment Control Guide for Urban Construction (2019) is now complete and publicly available. Here are the links to the webpage and the document itself:



CLICK!



CLICK!

Since the release of the 2006 GGHA Conservation Authorities Erosion and Sediment Control Guideline for Urban Construction, there have been many significant changes related to the practice of erosion and sediment control (ESC), including more training programs, new policies for the protection of species at risk, legislative changes, emergence of new products and techniques, and advancements in our knowledge of optimal application of best practices. To address this evolution, the updated Guide has been developed to include a qualitative erosion risk assessment framework, updated information on best practices for in water projects, recommendations low impact development protection during construction, and guidance on ESC performance monitoring and turbidity targets



Municipal Concrete Paving Guide

The intention of this guide is to provide local examples of concrete pavement opportunities in Ontario. As well as construction methods used to complete projects. The guide is interactive and contains embedded videos to allow the user to be immersed into the projects.

In addition, this guide offers an extensive compilation of documents used in the industry in the United States and Canada to help practitioners have better understanding of concrete pavement design, construction and overall best practices.

Click on the marker to view and download the guide.



ORBA Partners In Quality May 11th

The MEA will be participating at the PIQ webinar on May 11th with a presentation on OPS updates.

Click on the marker for more information and to register.



MEA TRAINING & EVENTS

MCEA Workshops

As a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the MEA has temporarily suspended MCEA classroom workshops. We are currently working on a schedule for 2020 MCEA Workshops for the autumn season. Stay Tuned!

www.municipalengineers.on.ca/events/mceatraining.html

The MEA is providing a free webinar about **Effective MCEA Consultation During COVID19**

April 23th, 2:00-3:00pm EST



REGISTER

OPS-"101" Course

The OPS "101" Course Development Committee is making good progress on developing course objectives and content. However, the COVID-19 Pandemic has pushed the launch of the first course offering to in the autumn of 2020.

Check our website for updates.



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!



ONTARIO PROVINCIAL STANDARDS

OPS Watermains New Standard

The OPS Watermains Committee is in the process of creating a new standard(s) covering the topic of "Table of Restrained Lengths for Ductile Iron and PVC Watermain Pipe". If your municipality has local standards and/or drawings on the topic, please forward them to Paolo.Masaro@Richmondhill.ca



<https://www.municipalengineers.on.ca/resources/ops.html>

OPS - Request for comments

The following OPS Specialty committees are requesting comments and feedback on their upcoming 2019-2020 work plan. The committees will be reviewing and updating OPSS and OPSD at their schedule noted below:

OPS Pavement



OPS Watermains



OPS Drainage

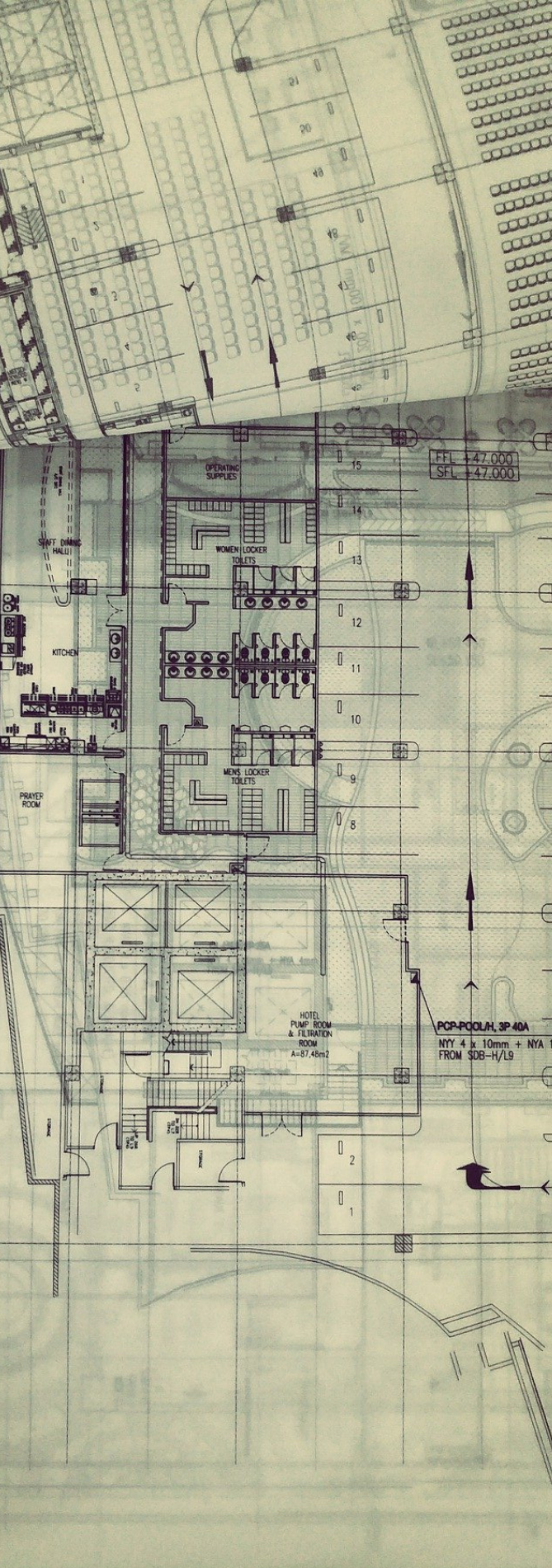


MEA volunteering opportunities can be found in our website under Resources. [CLICK HERE!](#)

If you are interested in any committee, please forward your resume or brief bio to:

Amin.Mneina@municipalengineers.on.ca

and you will be contacted when a vacancy opens up



OPS.MUNI Specifications Update

- OPS.MUNI.351 (351.05.01)

Concrete shall be according to OPSS 1350, with a minimum specified 28-Day compressive strength of 32 MPa, Class C-2 Exposure

- OPS.MUNI.353 (353.05.01)

Concrete shall be according to OPSS 1350, with a minimum specified 28-Day compressive strength of 32 MPa, Class C-2 Exposure

- Submission Requirements (351.04.02) & (353.04.02)

Prior to starting the work, documentation shall be submitted verifying that the contractor's representative of the placing crew shall be on the site and shall have the ACI Flatwork Certification



<https://www.municipalengineers.on.ca/resources/ops.html>

Municipal Class EA

MCEA Reform Amendments

The MEA's MCEA Advisor, Paul Knowles, with the support of the MCEA Monitoring Committee, RCCAO and OGRA, has been working since the spring of 2019 to streamline and develop proposed major amendments to the MCEA process.

The proposed amendment templates were circulated for review/comment by MEA members which generated significant feedback from our membership. The amendments have been submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks (MECP) on September 30, 2019. Support for this amendment will be important during MECP's review and approval process. We are hopeful the MECP will be approving these amendments later this autumn. Check our website for updates

<https://www.municipalclassea.ca/index.html>

To review the submitted amendments, please follow each link below:

[Amendment Template - Roads](#)

[Amendment Template - Water/Wastewater](#)

[Amendment Template - Transit](#)

[Amendment Template - Other Sections](#)

[Roads Table](#)

[Water/Wastewater Table](#)



MCEA New Website

The MEA is actively working to update the current MCEA website by merging it into the main MEA website. Work will be completed in 2020.

MCEA FAQs

If you have questions regarding the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process, please check out the Frequently Asked Question (s) on the MEA website.



If you still couldn't find an answer to your question, feel free to ask us by utilizing the “Ask an Expert” link on the website.



For more information [CLICK HERE!](#)

IF YOU HAVE IDEAS OR
CONTENT

CONTACT US @

Amin Mheina

Amin.mheina@MunicipalEngineers.on.ca