

**MUNICIPAL
ENGINEERS
ASSOCIATION**



MEA UPDATE WHAT'S GOING ON?

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Executive Director

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Overcoming the Pandemic



- ▶ Board moved to combination in-person + virtual meetings in 2022 (50/50)
- ▶ MEA Courses continued to be virtual in 2022
 - ▶ Looking to return to some in classroom, or hybrid, in 2023
- ▶ First in-person conference since 2019
 - ▶ Congrats to Toronto for an incredible, record-breaking conference!
- ▶ MEA financials are in very good shape
 - ▶ Membership, training and employment ads doing better than expected

Membership Growth

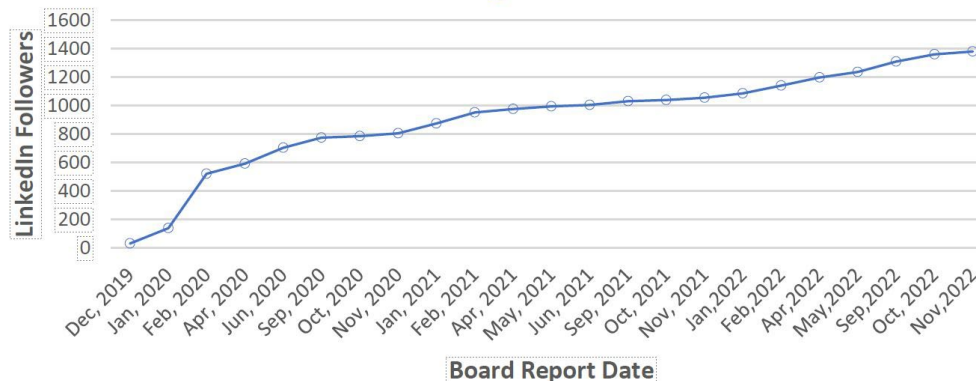


- ▶ MEA membership growth over the past few years has been nothing short of incredible:
 - ▶ Today MEA is at nearly 1,100 members strong!
 - ▶ Larger membership = commitment to relevancy
- ▶ MEA represents over 100 municipalities and agencies today:
 - ▶ Comparing to total # of Ontario municipalities (442), MEA covers 25% of the province
 - ▶ Is this a reasonable measure?
 - ▶ Many municipalities are very small and may not employ a P. Eng.
 - ▶ We will verify what percentage of the Ontario population our membership represents– this might be a better measure
 - ▶ Need to reach out to underserved areas of the province and seek associate members at provincial agencies
 - ▶ Working with ACEC-Ontario to see how we might get more consultant members
- ▶ MEA workload is increasing as a result membership growth.
 - ▶ MEA is run by a part-time ED and shared resource (50%) with Good Roads
 - ▶ How do we compare to other Associations of similar size?

Member Communication



- ▶ Quarterly Newsletter
- ▶ Coming soon:
 - ▶ president@municipalengineers.on.ca
- ▶ News items posted on MEA website (56 to date in 2022)
- ▶ E-blasts (60 to date in 2022)
- ▶ LinkedIn has become MEA's preferred social media platform (1379 Followers)
- ▶ LinkedIn Growth since December 2019:



2022 MEA Strategic Plan - Update



- ▶ Complete a Volunteer Recognition Policy – *Complete, Launches January 1, 2023*
- ▶ Review sister association administration models and costs - *Ongoing*
- ▶ Develop a broader range of MEA webinar-based training programs - *Underway*
- ▶ Review additional staffing options for MEA - *2023*
- ▶ Develop plan to ensure MEA maintains its leading status in the municipal engineering industry regarding the MCEA and also to ensure the MEA's financial sustainability in this business enterprise
- ▶ Monitor success of MEA's Municipal Professional Engineers Advocacy Committee
- ▶ Develop an Optional Business Plan for the management of OPS MUNI - *Ongoing*
- ▶ Develop a New Corporate Membership Model/Structure for Consideration by the Board for Implementation - *Ongoing*
- ▶ The 2023 Strategic Plan Update is being finalized and will be posted to the website soon

MEA Employment Ad Service

- ▶ MEA has become the platform of choice for municipalities, and other employers to advertise engineering positions
- ▶ In the fiscal year ending Aug. 31, 2022, over 260 employment ads were placed on our website
- ▶ MEA has over 450 weekly subscribers who receive a weekly email notice to view these employment opportunities.
- ▶ Become a major business enterprise for MEA



Committees



- ▶ MEA launched the Excess Soils Working Group in 2022 as a result of O. Reg. 406/19: On-Site and Excess Soil Regulation
 - ▶ Mandate: Act as a forum/platform for information exchange and discussion between MEA members; share best practices and implementation strategies; build a lesson learned registry/document; provide practical tools, guides and resources; monitoring the development of how excess soil regulation is affecting implementation; raise municipal concerns with excess soils regulation to the MECP; build communication with municipalities and MECP with regards to excess soils
- ▶ If you are interested in volunteering for any MEA Committee – let us know
 - ▶ Also go to “**Polls**” button on the Conference App and provide your info

MEA Active Transportation Committee



- ▶ Developed and recently released:

Active Transportation Implementation Manual: Getting Started with Active Transportation.

- ▶ To view the manual:

[https://municipalengineers.on.ca/files/Resources/99%20-%20Getting Started AT Guide V1a%20September%202022.pdf](https://municipalengineers.on.ca/files/Resources/99%20-%20Getting%20Started%20AT%20Guide%20V1a%20September%202022.pdf)

Municipal Professional Engineers Advocacy Committee



- ▶ Renamed from Municipal Infrastructure Enhancement Committee
 - ▶ Goal is to promote Professional Engineers in Municipal Administration through advocacy and relationship building
 - ▶ Meets 5 times per year + strategic planning session this week during Conference
 - ▶ This work of this committee is a key initiative strongly supported by the Board
- ▶ Letter to all municipalities sent earlier this year promoting the benefits of retaining professional engineers at Ontario municipalities
- ▶ Moving Forward - key messages for PR campaign:
 - ▶ Fiscal responsibility, risk reduction, public safety, long term planning, reputation
 - ▶ Protects decision making, responsibilities through Acts and Regulations, consistent advice
- ▶ Committee wants to ask MEA Members 2 questions:
 - ▶ Please go to **“Polls”** button on Conference App and consider responding

MEA Volunteer Recognition



- ▶ Board approved Volunteer Recognition Program
- ▶ Long time in the making
- ▶ Takes effect January 1, 2023
- ▶ 3-year + 5-year recognition frequencies for all MEA committee volunteers
 - ▶ 3-year: Gift Cards
 - ▶ 5-year: Appreciation Plaques – to be presented at Awards Gala annually
- ▶ First step is to develop a database of current volunteer start dates/tenure – Amin will be in touch with committee chairs

MCEA Amendment



- ▶ Are Getting Close?
 - ▶ Cooperating with MECP since the Spring of 2019!
 - ▶ MCEA Advisor and MCEA Monitoring Committee has spent considerable time and effort on this over the last 3+ years
 - ▶ Struggling with MECP and the Minister's Office on final approval of the amendments
 - ▶ Impression we are getting is they don't see a real priority on this
 - ▶ We are in contact with the Minister's Office, seeking to meet with his key staff to see how we may get the cooperation we need
 - ▶ Senior MEA Board members will be participating in the Good Roads Advocacy Day at Queens Park on November 22, 2022
 - ▶ In the meantime, MEA is considering to issue a revised *MCEA User Guide* to assist with clarification for MCEA users.
 - ▶ We will publish a new MCEA Manual as soon as Minister approves amendments
 - ▶ Ready with a series of webinar workshops to advise on changes
 - ▶ Plan is also to revamp MCEA website once amendment is approved.

OPS Update



- ▶ OPS Website Upgrade/Revamp
 - ▶ MTO/MEA has approved capital cost to develop new website
 - ▶ Annual budget to maintain website has also been approved by MTO/MEA
- ▶ OPS User Guide
 - ▶ Will be updated shortly
 - ▶ Includes more clear governance language for Advisory Board
- ▶ OPS 201 Course Development Underway
 - ▶ Targeting an Autumn 2023 launch

MEA/ACEC-Ontario Std Engineering Agreement



- ▶ MEA has been working with ACEC-Ontario to streamline and update the language in the current agreement
- ▶ Expect to have a new version ready in 2023

PEO Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Program



- ▶ Mandatory January 1, 2023
- ▶ Replaces current optional PEAK Program
- ▶ Significant opportunity for MEA to become a leading professional development provider for its members
 - ▶ Ties in well with MEA's plans to develop a broader training program
 - ▶ We have many, well qualified, experienced members who could serve as course facilitators
 - ▶ Do you have any ideas of relevant/practical courses we could develop to assist our members in meeting CPD requirements?
 - ▶ Let us know!

MEA Conference 2023 +



- ▶ MEA Conference has become a hot commodity!
- ▶ Sarnia will be hosting in 2023
- ▶ Ottawa has agreed to host in 2024!
- ▶ London has agreed to host in 2025!
- ▶ Is your municipality interested in hosting?
 - ▶ Let us know
 - ▶ Great way to showcase your municipality and it comes with some economic spin-off benefits
- ▶ Anything you would like to suggest about improving our conference? Let us know



Thank-you

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