

PEOPLE & PROJECTS



ONTARIO VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO) recommended that **Jim Breschuk** (Windsor office), receive the Ontario Volunteer Service Award from the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration - Ontario Honours and Awards Secretariat. Jim has been honoured for his years of commitment and dedicated service to PEO.

In 1982, while Jim was the chair of the Border Cities Branch of the Engineering Institute of Canada, he convinced the local chapter of the Professional Engineers of Ontario and the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Windsor, that there was a need to find a suitable means to promote the contributions that engineers make to the well-being of the public at large. This was the beginning of the first Engineering Week program, which included exhibits at the local shopping mall, tours of local engineering projects, appearances on local media outlets and a closing luncheon with a guest speaker.

The Engineering Week program has continued to evolve over the years as the engineer's business world has gone through dramatic changes. St. Clair College of Applied Arts and Technology, and the local chapter of the Ontario Association of Technologists and Technicians, became active program partners as a result of the significant contribution they made to support engineers and their work. The 2007 program included awards to the Engineer of the Year; Technologist of the Year; the High School Design competition sponsored by the University of Windsor Engineering Faculty Student Society; the Engineering Week poster competition sponsored by the Technology Department at St. Clair College; the elementary school essay competition focusing on engineering as a career and last, bursaries to deserving engineering and technology students.

When asked about this award, Jim humbly said: "I have continued my involvement over the years to ensure that the Engineering Week Organizing Committee is able to continue its important mission ... to demonstrate to the public how engineers and technologists work together to make our lives better." An understatement for sure!

CONGRATULATIONS JIM