



Engineers' Foundation Needs Your Help

The Ontario Professional Engineers Foundation for Education (FFE) wants engineers to get out their chequebooks and make a donation. Currently, only 4% of us include the FFE in the list of charities we support annually. Our goal is to increase this target to 16% and we are asking members to make a minimum contribution of \$35.

The Foundation has been around for forty-four years and has been quietly going about its business of assisting in the education of professional engineers primarily through providing scholarships to engineering students in Ontario. The funding for these scholarships comes entirely from member donations. The low level of support is no longer sufficient to meet the Foundation's current and forecast commitments.

3 reasons why your help is needed now.

Unless you've been out of the country for the last 10 years, you're probably aware of the skyrocketing costs of an engineering education in Ontario. Tuition costs at U of T have risen by 290% since 1994 and are now just under \$8000. Accordingly, the Foundation scholarship awards for undergraduates have been increased to \$1000. This is the first increase in a decade and is needed to maintain a meaningful awards program.

A second and less well-known role of the Foundation is to administer the Professional Engineers Benevolent Fund. This Fund was established to help needy engineers by providing temporary financial assistance. Since its inception in 1986 the Fund has contributed to improving the lives of over 75 engineers in their time of need. Donations to the Foundation will help ensure the Benevolent Fund can meet future demand.

The third reason to donate is for a new scholarship for an outstanding engineering student volunteer with Engineers Without Borders. EWB is a young organization started by two recent Ontario engineering graduates that helps people in developing countries gain access to the technology they need to improve their lives. EWB relies on senior engineering students as unpaid volunteers for overseas assignments. This scholarship recognizes the contribution made by Ontario engineering students in helping to improve life in countries most in need.

We need your support today. Donations are tax deductible and can be made by the Donation Form on the Foundation website www.penged.on.ca

Stephen Jack, P.Eng.
Secretary,
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