



QUALIFIED PERSONS
COMMUNITY OF ONTARIO

The QPCO Quarterly

Dear QPCO Members,

The QPCO Leadership Team has prepared the following to highlight the achievements of QPCO in the second quarter of 2026.

★ Deliverable / Presentation / Survey / Document

Record of Site Condition Committee

- ⊕ Held a meeting with the MECP to discuss focus areas for collaboration to improve RSC/CSM process/preparation.
- ⊕ Working on updates to the Lawyer's Letter and Plan of Survey guidance documents based on information garnered from the meeting with the MECP. This document will be released to the QPCO membership in the future.
- ⊕ Initiated preparation of a PCA guidance document.

Excess Soil Committee

- ⊕ Prepared a draft Soil Characterization Report Executive Summary. We have received initial comments. Once revised, it will be distributed to some select stakeholders for review and comment (greater QPCO community, contractors, municipal staff, etc.).
- ⊕ Finalizing the revised version of the Best Practices for Excess Soil Reuse Sites Document which was previously reviewed by the MECP. The finalized version of the document will be made available on the QPCO Website.
- ⊕ Developing an Excess Soil lunch and learn series that is proposed for the Fall.

Risk Assessment Committee

- ⊕ Prepared a summary of the March 2026 QPCO workshop for distribution to the QPCO membership and MECP.
- ⊕ During the workshop, two presentations were delivered by members of the QPRA Working Group, followed by a breakout session where participants divided into six groups and discussed challenges and solutions related to various topics affecting risk assessment work in Ontario.
- ⊕ The summary document was distributed to the MECP and will be distributed with the Q2 2026 QPCO Quarterly. ★
- ⊕ Worked with the Communications Committee to include a repository of Toxicological Reference Values (TRVs) on the QPCO Website.

Education and Programming Committee

- ⊕ Delivered a half-day workshop organized by QPCO as part of RemTech East in Ottawa on April 8, 2026. The presentation was focused on naturally occurring contaminants in soil and rock. QPCO will now be looking at the information and feedback to come up with next steps on this issue. ★
- ⊕ Started planning for the 2027 QPCO Workshop. Stay tuned for save the date communications later in the year.
- ⊕ Provided an update on how changes to the Protected Species in Ontario List (O. Reg 60/26) will affect Phase One ESAs under O. Reg. 153/04.
- ⊕ Rolled out the three-part lunch and learn sessions on Schedule E of Ontario Regulation 153/04 - Phase Two ESAs. The sessions covered practical experience in the interpretation of the regulation.
- ⊕ Planning for a monthly roster of lunch and learn sessions to start up again in September. ★ you have ideas or requests, please submit them to Carolyn Adams (carolyn@unitedsoils.ca) and/or Tom Li (tom.li@parsons.com).
- ⊕ The content of the lunch and learns may qualify for continuing education hours to support professional designations. If you need documentation of your attendance, please reach out to info@oneia.ca.

Communications Committee

- ⊕ Conducted numerous updates to the QPCO Website, including:
 - Addition of risk assessment repository for Toxicological Reference Values (TRVs);
 - Added links to excess soil documents prepared by QPCO and provide to ONEIA; and
 - Added a calendar of events to the website.
- ⊕ If you would like to request and/or provide resources for inclusion on the QPCO Website, please reach out to info@oneia.ca.
- ⊕ Worked with industry partners to develop a campaign to celebrate QPCO's 5th anniversary.
- ⊕ Continued to keep members informed of upcoming environmental webinars and events.
- ⊕ Highlighted member contributions at recent environmental events.
- ⊕ Continued to deliver *Members Musings* on the state of the geo-environmental industry. All members are welcome to submit their commentary to the Communications Committee for consideration in future versions of the QPCO Quarterly. Please see our third issue attached!

🍁 QPCO's Fifth Anniversary – July 1st 🍁

As QPCO approaches its 5th anniversary, we would like to take a moment to reflect on the achievements of the organization and its membership. When we started, we were a small group of individuals who were focused on pushing the industry forward. Since then, our membership has grown to over 250 members and we have made invaluable contributions to the environmental industry that positions us as leaders in an ever-changing technical and regulatory landscape. We have established technical committees, developed technical documentation, advised the MECP on regulatory changes, provided educational opportunities for our membership, acted as thought leaders, and so much more. We know this would not be possible without the contributions of our members, and with that, we would like to say thank you for being a part of this incredible organization. We wish everyone a happy Canada Day and look forward to working with you all in the latter half of 2026.

The QPCO Leadership Team



Changes at the Top!

We'd also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge that QPCO is embarking on a new period. When we developed the current governance structure, the intention was always to provide time and opportunities for others to provide leadership and a voice for how we do things.

I am extremely proud to announce that Freesia Waxman of Grounded Engineering will be taking the Chair role for the QPCO Council. Freesia has been with me from the start as we developed and built our community to what it is today. I am truly excited to see what QPCO will become under Freesia's leadership and guidance. This does not mean that I am going anywhere. The Past-Chair role was designed for this moment and will allow me to continue to provide input, ideas, and guidance for special projects and the continued growth that we will most certainly see under Freesia's tutelage.

Under the governance structure that we designed back in early 2023, this also opens a spot up on the Council. We are fortunate that we have a Council that are committed to stay with us and continue to serve. As such, we will be holding off on any elections until mid-2027, where we anticipate some changes from Council member retirements. As one of my last duties as Chair, I have appointed Paula Shuster of Alexana Engineering (and one of our RSC-Advocacy Committee co-leaders) to join the Council. Paula has been a great co-chair for the RSC committee and was instrumental in developing and delivering the CSM and RSC training webinar series that we delivered in late 2025 into early 2026.

With Freesia taking on the Council Chair role, we have promoted Jake Whittamore of TTC to the leader of the Communications Committee. Jake has been a driving force behind much of our communications over the past number of years and will continue to provide great leadership to all the messaging we do with this community. Jake will also be part of the Council as we move forward.

So, as we enter the summer of 2026, please join me in Congratulating Freesia, Paula and Jake!

We have several 5th Anniversary initiatives in the planning stages, so stay tuned. Thanks for a great 5 years. Let's see where the next 5 years takes us!

Sincerely,

D. Grant Walsom, P.Eng., QP
Founder of QPCO

QP-IT and Mentorship Programs coming!

By request, QPCO will be implementing an "in-training" program for those future engineers, geoscientists and risk-assessors who are on track to be future QPs and could benefit from QPCO membership and our educational offerings. The QPCO Council voted unanimously in favour of this initiative earlier this year and a team of members are building out the program. Membership requests will require accompanying proof of education and a reference from an existing QPCO member who can attest to the path to professional licensure or risk assessment experience. Also, a formalized mentorship program is also being developed to accompany the QP-IT program. Stay tuned for further announcements on these exciting developments.