LAKESHORE ONTARIO CHAPTER

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Meet your Board of Directors
Beaula Prashanth, Mohamed Ksaibati, Alison Munro, Cherry Di Gregorio, Angelo Baratta, Jennifer Oxley-Weekes, Roshini Ranjan, Abiola Lovell, Michael Ghobros

A New Team, A New Initiative!

The PMI Lakeshore Ontario Chapter Newsletter Team would like to introduce its first quarterly newsletter of 2017-2018. An initiative to spread project management related news, tips, tricks, events, and more!

The Newsletter contains a a lot of important content which includes message from the Newsletter Team, information on upcoming and past events, a Project management professional article of interest, useful information and updates on PMP exams from PMI® and Fun Facts for our readers.

We (The Newsletter Team) would also like to Acknowledge Mr. Haresh Desai for contributing wonderful article on "Project Management – Context driving the process" for this newsletter issue.

Also, Thanks to those of you who contributed to this newsletter as these contributions are essential to the newsletter 's success.

We hope to learn from this first issue and continue to publish insightful and meaningful content in pursuit of the perfect newsletter for you!

Happy reading!
The PMI Lakeshore Ontario Chapter Newsletter Team.

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."

- *Henry Ford*

Project Management:
Context driving the process

*- Haresh Desai,*VP, Enterprise Program Office – Symcor
PMO and IT Executive , Enterprise Risk Management and Governance Professional

How many times in the last few months have we heard the following?
- The process is not working
- This process is too hard to follow
- I don't know why this process exists to begin with and so on

It is surprising on how quick we are to blame everything on process.
If anything goes wrong, on a project or otherwise, the first thing which is said is "It's a process issue… we need to change the process".

I think there are elements people miss which go beyond process related issues. They are related to performance management, risk tolerance, contractual obligations, organizational maturity, client maturity, engagement models with vendors and clients, to name a few.

It is common for a PMO's to institute within their PMM methodology, processes as compensating controls when an issue is encountered on a project to avoid future occurrences . Though it may be a valid thing to do, in most instances, the thought process which gets skipped is a simple one.
For Example:
- Is it a one-off instance we are dealing with or a pattern?
- Is this a performance management issue which needs to be dealt with?
- Are we now introducing/changing a process to address this one-off instance rather than dealing with the actual problem which may be performance related?

Lot of processes are dictated within an organization by its risk tolerance and contractual obligations. If the organizational risk tolerance is low, the process tend to be heavy and in arduous. In this case, instead of blaming the process, it may be more appropriate to revisit organizational risk appetite prior to revisiting processes.

If the organizational culture allows for higher risk tolerance,
one should look for way to make the processes lighter or more flexible to allow for higher agility. What also drives risk tolerance/appetite are contractual obligations with clients or external stakeholders.

In today's' environment of cyber and information security, processes are at times heavily influenced by those factors.

Maturity levels of organizations interacting with each other for projects also influences processes. If either one of the parties engaged on a project do not have the desired maturity level to manage outcomes of a project engagement, it typically gets compensated by additional controls and processes, in absence of which the engagement, be it a project or otherwise, would fail.

Processes can also be kept lighter if an organization has clear engagement models defined with its vendors, including statement of works (SOW's) which reduces stress on process which no longer need to act as a compensating control for poor engagement models.

A good example of this would be defect management related to vendor engagement, which if clearly defined within a SOW with a vendor limits risk associated with a project engagement and thereby making the processes lighter.

On the flip side though, it is also very important to bear in mind that before you go and start changing a process, one needs to look at the drivers of why the process was put in place to begin

with. Disregarding standards and processes just because they seem arduous or lengthy may not be the best option.

We generally preach that we need to focus on the process and not the outcome. In present times however, it is equally important to focus on outcome as well while using process as a guideline and not the rule of law.

"I'M A STRONG BELIEVER IN CAD STANDARDS - THAT'S WHY I USE THIS EXCELLENT SET OF MY OWN"

Past Events

Past events were driven by leadership, Business & Strategy and opened up new vistas for holistic learning opportunities. Topics ranging from cyber security, stakeholder management, emotional intelligence, data, integration, life beyond project management, agile and risk were discussed.

The chapter also organized training for PMP, PMI Agile, Lean Yellow Belt certification as well as a course in Business Process Design Thinking.

 New Board of Directors were elected (April 2017-March 2018) and they continue to deliver the mandate.

For the new members, the chapter organized orientation sessions and also provided much-needed Mentorship to upcoming Project Managers.

Congrats to Symposium team for the success of Symposium 2017 - "Change to Progress".

Tip: Do you know that PMILOC members can earn 8 PDU's per month by participating in strategically planned events on a Monday, Wednesday and Saturday evening each month? These events are organized from January to May and then from September onward for professional development of members as well as non-members.

"The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention."

- Oscar Wilde

Volunteer Professional Development and Appreciation Day, May 06, 2017

The PMI Lakeshore Chapter offers a wide range of events, courses, work shops, and opportunities for professional development. To learn more about opportunities presently available, visit our [website](#)!

Be part of the upcoming session and benefit for yourself!!

Since 2009, the PMI Lakeshore Ontario Chapter Mentorship program has been available to its members. It has evolved into a program that supports everyone and is designed to help Mentors and Mentee in working together and building relationships of learning, continuous dialog, and challenge.

This program is an excellent option for those who want to take the lead of their personal and career development by sharing the lessons learned from a more experienced project management role model and for those who wish to support and assist others with their experience and become a mentor.

In addition, the mentorship program comes with many benefits and has been subject to great reviews in the past years. Some of the benefits that you get by joining the mentorship program include satisfaction for mentoring others, networking and recognition at work.

The mentorship also has some of the most positive testimonials to date. Previous members have testified that the program helped them understand their strengths and weaknesses, share their experiences, receive valued insights and have mentioned that there is always someone who can help you in the program.
Mentors have also testified that they learned equally as much from their mentees and it was almost as if they were "co-learners" than simply mentors.

"Goals are dreams with deadlines." ~ Diana Scharf
"The most important thing in communication is hearing what isn't said."
~ Peter Drucker

Don't miss the opportunity. Register now and start mentoring/learning. For further inquiry/questions, please email mentoring@pmiloc.org.

Updates from PMI Global

The PMBOK® Guide – Sixth Edition includes information on how to implement its approaches in agile environments — a first for PMI.

Every Knowledge Area features four new sections:
-Key Concepts
-Trends and Emerging Practices
-Tailoring Considerations
-Considerations for Agile/Adaptive Environments

If you're utilizing the PMBOK Guide® as a study tool for the PMP, you can expect to find the following updates in the PMBOK Guide® – Sixth Edition:

- A new chapter on the role of the project manager has been added to focus on leading projects effectively – competencies, experience and skills that are all necessary.
- Two Knowledge Areas have been re-named to more accurately reflect which elements can

be managed... and which can not:
1. Time Management is now Schedule Management
2. Human Resource Management is now Resource Management

PMP Exam update: PMI will update the PMP exam to harmonize the exam with the Sixth Edition.

Following this, the PMP Exam will be changing on March 26, 2018 to align with the *PMBOK® Guide Sixth Edition*.

Note that PMI will *not* be offering a "grandfather clause" allowing individuals that have taken the 5th edition exam, and failed, to request for the 5th edition exam after the exam changes to the 6th edition.

PMI-ACP Exam update: Along with references to agile in the *PMBOK® Guide*, PMI also released the new *Agile Practice Guide* in September 2017. Following this, the PMI-ACP Exam will be changing on March 26, 2018 to align with the *Agile Practice Guide*.

CAPM Exam update: The CAPM exam is tied very closely to the *PMBOK® Guide*. PMI anticipates making significant changes to the CAPM exam related to the Sixth Edition.

Fun Facts

Myth 1 – Remote collaboration is unproductive.
In fact, remote work makes happy employees and increases performance by 13%.

Myth 2 – Project management certification is a must.
In fact, even at IBM, only 56% of project management specialists hold a certificate.

Myth 3 – Project management is pure paperwork.
In fact, a project manager spends 90% of their time communicating.

Myth 4 – Frequent meetings are necessary to keep everyone in the loop.
In fact, 47% of workers called meetings the #1 time-waster at the office.

Myth 5 – Project failures are fatal.
In fact, if failures are responded to correctly, they may be the link to future successes.
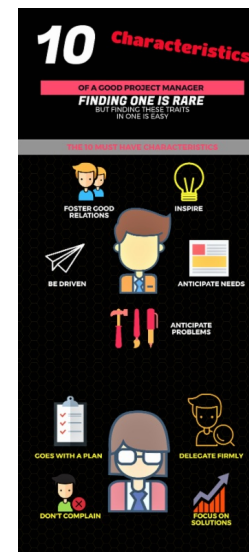
(Source: Wrike via Slideshare)

Welcome New Members

The PMI Lakeshore Ontario Chapter would like to extend a warm welcome to our new members.

Congratulations New PMP's

The PMI Lakeshore Ontario Chapter is proud to congratulate our newly certified members.

Newsletter Team
Beaula Prashanth, PMP
Romeena de Almeida
Mital Patel, B.Eng., PMP
Vikas More, MBA, PMP, LEED GA
Rosana Olaso, PMP, CSM
Abida Bapu Aboobacker

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