



# IN THE TRENCHES

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## From the President's Desk

Greetings LICO Members,

The weather in the last few months of the season is making it challenging for us to meet the demands after corn harvest. Hopefully, everyone can make a good run at it!

At the upcoming convention, we will have Melisa Luymes giving us an update on the progress of the Huronview project which compares conventional vs. contoured drainage. We will also hear from Merrin Macrae on water quality. Our own Jim Tait will be speaking about his experience with drainage in India and the challenges this presented. The 2020 program is sure to meet the mark set by conferences past in providing valuable information to all attendees and I encourage you to register if you haven't done so already.

More participants are currently required for the Primary and Advanced Drainage courses. If these courses are of interest to you, please act quickly before they are cancelled or postponed to a later date. You can register on-line for these courses through the Ridgetown College website: [bdc.ridgetownc.com/takecourse/](http://bdc.ridgetownc.com/takecourse/).

I send you all the best for the holidays and I will look forward to seeing you at the 2020 LICO convention.

Jason Van Gorp

**LICO would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family all the best for the holiday season and the year to come.**



## A 2020 VISION FOR DRAINAGE

January 21 -23, 2020

Lamplighter Inn, London

The Year "2020" stimulates a discussion about our vision for drainage. Where is it going? What, potentially, are the new issues? What are the new opportunities? While our visioning may not have 20/20 accuracy, what do we see?

Where is drainage going? A mere 30 years ago, we would not have envisioned tile drainage installed by GPS or without endcaps. To glimpse some potential changes in agricultural drainage, we'll hear talks on:



Contour drainage



**Huronview Innovative Drainage Demo occurred June 15, 2019 and was sponsored in part by LICO – Find out about the status and success of this event.**

### What's the vision for private ditch cleanouts?

Hear a speaker from Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

### What's your vision for good pipe?

A representative of ASTM will be speaking about pipe standards. When buying pipe, what should contractors should be looking for?

### Pre-Conference events on Tuesday

**The Red Cross Recertification Course** will run all day Tuesday. At the same time, there will be the **Soil Erosion Control Contractors Certificate Renewal Workshop**.

The **conference tour** this year will run **Tuesday afternoon**. It will be to **Hensall Co-op** in Hensall.

### Banquet on Wednesday

The banquet is a highlight of the conference with great food, conversation and an opportunity to come together with your fellow members in a less formal setting. Don't forget to order your tickets!

### In 2020, the LICO has other visions that include:

- Updating the LICO website
- Updating the list of contractor members
- Making improvements to the registration process.

LICO 2020

# COMPANION PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2020

9 AM

**Mindfulness for Everyday Life**  
 finding peace, calm + balance in a busy world  
 with Diane Yeo

Join us and learn how mindfulness will help you to quiet the mind and calm your body. Learn practical tools you can use from morning to night to let go of stress, be more present, handle the pressures of your daily life and feel empowered. Also, enjoy a guided meditation and experience it for yourself!

**Custom Wooden Sign Workshop**  
 with Dani Vallis

All you need is your creativity at this workshop. Dani provides you with a design stencil, paint, 12 in. x 16 in. wood board and the guidance needed to create a masterpiece you will be proud to hang on a wall in your home. Upon registration you will be provided with an electronic registration link to select your preferred design.

10 AM

12 PM

**Healthy Lunch Buffet**

Southwest chopped salad with cilantro-lime dressing.  
 Build your own burritos, fajitas or tacos: flour tortillas, corn taco shells, grilled chicken and beef, sauteed bell peppers and onions, Mexican-style rice, shaved iceberg lettuce, diced tomatoes, shredded cheese, salsa, sour cream and guacamole.  
 Sweet selection with seasonal fresh fruit. Coffee, tea and soft drinks.

Pre-registration required, sign up by selecting "Companion Program Registration" on the official convention registration form.

**\$75.00** + tax  
 space is limited



# LICO 2020 | COMPANION PROGRAM PRESENTERS



## Diane Yeo

Owner: Diane Yeo Mindfulness

Diane Yeo takes a real-life approach to teaching mindfulness. She is known and loved for her calm presence, passion for self-discovery and her ability to connect with people from all walks of life. After spending fifteen years in a sales and marketing career, Diane left it all behind in pursuit of her passion. Diane has been practicing mindfulness for over twenty years and teaching mindfulness since 2006. Diane inspires people in personal and workplace settings and is available for private coaching, courses, speaking engagements and retreats.

## Dani Vallis

Owner: Invited by Dani

In 2016, Dani began using her skills as a graphic designer to help friends make custom, yet affordable invitations for upcoming weddings. After realizing she could expand her services to help other brides with an eye for beauty and clean, elegant design outside of her social circle, she started Invited by Dani. As the business has grown the services offered have expanded and now include complete wedding day stationary packages, home decor, gifts and custom wood signs.



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## **Tile Drainage Versus Pipelines: The BATTLE! - Peter Johnson**

What a hassle! We have to cross that dang pipeline. Call "Onecall", and let the site visits, locating and digging for depth begin, not to mention having the plan approved and everybody there on installation day. But hang on a minute: you do want your home warm when you go home, right? Or gas for your car? We need pipelines!

Meanwhile, if you come at it from the pipeline perspective, those darn drainage guys need to go across our pipe again. What do they need drainage for anyway? Any time anything goes near a pipeline, everybody gets really worried. And with good reason! The few mistakes that have occurred have all been bad news....

It has been a bit of an "us versus them" mentality, even though we often we get along reasonably well. Is there a way to help everyone work together? YOU BET! It's called communication, and to that end Amy Robinson from Enbridge asked me to speak at their Joint Pipeline meeting in November.

There were 5 different pipeline companies represented at the meeting, and at times the discussion was challenging. But the end result was excellent, and hopefully there will be some positive outcomes for everyone.

Let's all start at the point that none of us wants to hit that pipeline. But we do need to get that drain across it. So safety always come first, period. For the pipeline group, many of them did not fully understand the value and importance of tile drainage to the farmers of Ontario. Nor did some of them realize that you have to have a license and be trained in order to be a drainage contractor in Ontario. Then they asked what about other jurisdictions, like Manitoba (where there was a recent issue) or Quebec. Spacing of tile and depth, and why that was critical, were other points. All of these topics helped them better understand what we do.

We had great discussion around some other issues. Distance between the tile and the pipeline was discussed, and it was clear that every company had different guidelines, and some had not compared notes. Some companies would allow the tile almost in contact with the pipeline, others wanted a significant soil buffer. One of the most insightful comments of the day was that "if the regulator says we must, we must. Where the regulator does not specify, we can use our discretion". Cool. Some opportunity for improvement.

One potential win for everyone was the discussion around initial site visits to determine pipeline depth. This is an extra visit for both the drainage contractor, and the pipeline company. Given that the pipeline has to be exposed when the tile is installed, could the depth be determined then, and the decision of over or under the pipeline made at that time. Everyone liked that idea, as it would save the initial site visit. But the drainage plan would have to be followed, the crossing installed in the same location, just a variance at installation on tile depth. Hopefully that can turn into a policy change, and save everyone some time moving forward.

Of course, timely turnarounds were another topic. This is always a challenge, but the group was well aware of this issue and were working toward streamlining as they could.

By the end of the meeting, we simply had a GREAT discussion. It did not feel like a battle at all, but rather communication by two groups trying to do what they needed to do, as efficiently and effectively as possible. So thank you, Amy! I hope the discussion and communication continues!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 21 - 23, 2020

January 19 - 21, 2021

LICO Conference

Best Western Lamplighter Inn

591 Wellington Rd,

London, Ontario N6C 4R3



## Passings

### ZAVITZ, Richard D. "Rick"

It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden passing of a wonderful, husband, dad, and friend, who passed away on Saturday, May 11, 2019 at the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance at the age of 59. Son of the late Donald Floyd and Edna (Henderson) Zavitz. Beloved husband and best friend of Michele (Nichols) Zavitz. Loving father of Nick Zavitz (Erin Couture) and Sara Zavitz (Zack Underwood). Dear brother and brother-in-law of Doug Zavitz, Darrell Zavitz (Ann), Mike Nichols. Loving uncle to Matt (Kim), Brent (Katie), Greg, Ian (Lee). Sadly missed by in-laws Alf and Marney Nichols. Rick was the President of Chatham-Kent Ready Mix and Dresden Ready Mix, President of Chatham-Kent Children's Safety Village, he served on the Board of Directors for Concrete Ontario, Vice President of the Dresden Kings, a member of 100 Men who Care, and a former member of the Arkona Lions Club. Rick enjoyed spending his weekends at the trailer with his Wildwood family. The family would appreciate a donation to the Chatham-Kent Children's Safety Village, 21797 Fargo Rd., P.O. Box 68, Blenheim ON. N0P1A0. Online condolences and donations may be left at [www.badderfuneralhome.com](http://www.badderfuneralhome.com).

## Words of Winter Wisdom

We cannot stop the winter or the summer from coming. We cannot stop the spring or the fall or make them other than they are. They are gifts from the universe that we cannot refuse. But we can choose what we will contribute to life when each arrives. *Gary Zukhav*

To appreciate the beauty of a snowflake it is necessary to stand out in the cold. *Aristotle*

When it snows, you have two choices: shovel or make snow angels. *Unknown*

Thank goodness for the first snow, it was a reminder — no matter how old you became and how much you'd seen, things could still be new if you were willing to believe they still mattered. *Candace Bushnell*

The greatest gift that you can give to others is the gift of unconditional love and acceptance. *Bryan Tracy*

For last year's words belong to last year's language. And next year's words await another voice. *T.S. Eliot*

Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year. *Ralph Waldo Emerson*