

# **Top 10 Professional Development Webinar Topics**

***(Grouped from June 6, 2026 AGM Poll Results - full data is available in the Appendix starting on page 5)***

## **1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) & Emerging Technologies**

- AI basics, generative AI, and agentic systems
- Practical AI applications in engineering and construction
- AI in automation, predictive maintenance, QA
- Responsible AI use, risks, and data privacy
- Industry 4.0, digital transformation, smart technologies

 **Most requested topic across responses**

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## **2. Project Management, Construction & Contract Administration**

- Project and construction management best practices
  - Contract law, contract administration, liability
  - Real-world project case studies and lessons learned
  - Estimating, scheduling, and project pitfalls
  - Quality assurance and process improvement (Lean/Six Sigma)
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## **3. Leadership, Communication & Interpersonal Skills**

- Leadership development for CETs/C.Techs
  - Communication, conflict resolution, and teamwork
  - Emotional intelligence and multi-generational workplaces
  - Client management and stakeholder communication
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## **4. Career Development, Certification & Mentorship**

- Career progression and transitions
  - Resume writing, interviewing, salary negotiation
  - Certification pathways (C.Tech, C.E.T., P.Eng., LET)
  - Mentorship programs and networking opportunities
  - Support for new grads and internationally trained professionals
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## 5. Codes, Standards, Regulations & Compliance

- Ontario Building Code, Fire Code, Electrical Code updates
  - Regulatory compliance and inspections
  - Health & safety standards and PSRs
  - Technical documentation and reporting standards
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## 6. Discipline-Specific Technical Topics

*(Grouped across multiple engineering fields)*

- Electrical, power systems, and utilities
  - Civil engineering (stormwater, transportation, land development)
  - Environmental engineering (remediation, sustainability)
  - Fire protection and inspection
  - Nuclear, mining, rail, and infrastructure
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## 7. Automation, Robotics & Industrial Systems

- Industrial automation, PLC programming, and controls
  - Robotics and cobots in manufacturing
  - IT/OT convergence and industrial networking (Ethernet/IP, Modbus)
  - IIoT applications in manufacturing and operations
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## 8. Digital Tools, Software & Data Skills

- BIM, digital twins, and 3D scanning

- Data analysis, reporting, and visualization
  - New engineering software and automated testing tools
  - Technical report writing and documentation tools
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## 9. Sustainability, Energy & Environmental Topics

- Sustainable design and green technologies
  - Climate change and building performance
  - Energy systems (BESS, efficiency, electrification)
  - Wastewater, environmental protection, and remediation
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## 10. Practical, Field-Based & Applied Learning

- Construction inspection and site experience
  - Hands-on, real-world case studies
  - Product demonstrations (new materials/technologies)
  - Safety practices and workplace behavior
  - Industry expert sessions and deeper technical dives
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## Bonus Cross-Cutting Themes

### Accessibility & Delivery Preferences

- More **affordable or free webinars**
  - More **frequent sessions (bi-monthly)**
  - Combination of **virtual + in-person training**
  - Desire for **longer/deeper versions of conference topics**
  - More **interactive, hands-on learning**
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# Key Takeaways

- **AI + Emerging Tech dominates again**, but with strong demand for *practical application* (not just theory)
- Clear balance between:
  - **Technical expertise**
  - **Career and leadership skills**
- High demand for:
  - **Real-world case studies**
  - **Code/regulation updates**
  - **Career navigation support**
- Members want **practical, applicable learning tied to their day-to-day work**

What suggestions do you have for professional development webinar topics?
welding specifics and procedures
Environmental Engineering
relate management topic
Shoring, specialty work like roof raising
topics from conference were great choice. perhaps have a longer version of each of the sessions on a dedicated cpd
Drone and how they are effecting or improving the industry
more employment focused mentorship
More on cybersecurity.
For a professional development webinar, I would suggest topics that help members grow both personally and professionally while providing practical skills that can be applied in everyday life and the workplace. Some valuable topics include:
Leadership and effective communication skills
Project management fundamentals and best practices
Time management and productivity strategies
Financial literacy, budgeting, and retirement planning
Career development, resume writing, and interview preparation
The professional development webinar topics supports the career growth.
Mentorship focused speakers, OPSS/OPSD education, general PM/CA topics, Technical Report Writing (new members/student geared).
Latest Underwater Technology for inspections, presented by myself and my Colleague
N/A
I would be interested in webinars on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and emerging technologies in engineering and construction, including practical applications, automation, BIM integration, digital twins, drones, and data analytics.
Transmission and Distribution Power Systems topics.
I suggest to have more virtual meetings letting young professional to retired members to express their situations to fit with the OACETT program s. [
more technical and project management topics
Contract and AI engineering related topics
Adaptation of AI
engineering projects in detail around the world
none
Have industry experts to collaborate more often from our member lists. I am sure people would like to pour their experience and share real world insights happening in current evolving industries.
emerging technologies in manufacturing
Covering all fields that OACETT provides certifications, not just building & construction.
Understanding scaffolding and shoring dedign.
Artificial Intelligence in Industrial Automation
Digital Twin Technology
Industry 4.0 Applications
Machine Learning for Predictive Maintenance
Smart Mining Technologies
Autonomous Mobile Equipment
Should be cheap
not at present time
AECO industry-related topics; building science; thermal performance of buildings in cold climate; sustainable development. In-line with BCIN effort, how does Canada solve housing problem.
NA
Practical experience from the site, to have a better understanding of what is going on site construction related
AI training topics and ways to incorporate it in CET and C. Tech affiliate jobs.
Nothing at the moment
focus more on automation field by connecting with local companies to introduce their latest product such as when peel region invited schnider and province electric to introduce their new cobot robot in brampton
Water resources
Keep more new technical subject and problem solving matters in the future CPD seminars.
software new technologies AI related or new technologies obtaining to automated testing tools webinars
TSSA Regitration of Pressure Vessels.
I would like to see webinars on emerging technologies (AI, automation, and smart buildings), project management best practices, leadership and communication skills, asset and facilities management, sustainability and energy efficiency, cybersecurity for technical professionals, career development and certification pathways, entrepreneurship and consulting, and practical case studies from industry professionals. Sessions on networking, mentorship, and transitioning into leadership roles would al
Self education, by books and web resources.

Appendix

Ok
Since it is difficult to cover all engineering disciplines, I would like to see topics that can benefit certified members regardless of discipline. I would recommend a speaker who can discuss interpersonal skills, emotional intelligence and leadership as these are critical skills that I often see new hires and even long time employees lacking.
I would appreciate any Fire Prevention/ Inspection topics. Specifically, there is a new Ontario Fire Code that has been in effect for the past few months. Questions arise regularly regarding some new additions. CO alarm installation requirements in retirement homes as an example.
More webinars on AI and climate change
Pre start health and safety reviews-i do have a speaker available.
Canadian Electrical Code topics
SPE 1000 Field evaluations of equipment- I could speak on this.
cpd approved webinars more on technical topics.
Introduction to Machine Learning, Introduction to Artificial Intelligence and Agentic AI, Navigating AI in your Technical Workplace
Include more topics involving IT and Computer Networking as well as Artificial Intelligence as this encompasses technicians and technologists as well. Recently, I haven't seen much webinars about these topics from OACETT.
Good Topic Ai , Nuclear human favor
AI use an training for railway workers an other utility workers
constructions
Up to date AI knowledge to keep you in the job
Focus on Code updatds Navigating emerging updates in provincial building and fire codes, with a focus on cross-referencing NFPA standards for complex installations (e.g., high-ceiling storage, specialized industrial applications, and high-rise systems). A session on avoiding common design and hydraulic calculation errors during rapid regulatory shifts would be highly valuable
Don't have any suggestion right now.
With the startup of the ZEEP reactor at Chalk River Laboratories 80 years ago (Sept. 5, 1945), Canada became the second nation to harness the atom – and immediately launched to the forefront of global nuclear development. We need more CPD topics that cover nuclear technology development in Canada. We can collaborate with Canadian Nuclear Society if necessary.
no suggestions
I would like to suggest webinars focused on integrating network communication protocols (such as EtherNet/IP or Modbus TCP) within industrial automation systems and advanced PLC programming. A specific focus on the convergence between Information Technology (IT) and Operational Technology (OT)
How can AI help with professional development.
City of Toronto Infrastructure discussions
Navigating salary negotiations in a small firm vs large corporations
none
Report Writing
No
I would be interested in webinars about real case studies in construction inspection, common site challenges, quality control mistakes, communication with contractors, and career growth for internationally trained professionals in Ontario.
changing career at 40
Emerging Technology & Innovation
Engineering Ethics
AI
Ontario Building Code. General Knowledge to understand the framework surrounding the various sections of the OBC.
Professional development webinar topics should also include a practical component to ensure participants gain hands-on experience that will enhance their skills and ability to apply the knowledge in real-world situations.
General bus topics
Liability reduction
I'm in the electrical utility industry, so anything with a focus on soil, trenching, cap & lag tunneling, shoring creation and approval. Could also expand that to include anything power distribution related.
Leadership type
Dealing with different generations Gen X , Gen Y etc.
more on municipal infrastructure
More focus on career development
Every chapter should get professional development training from OACETT
The webinar could explore topics such as artificial intelligence, automation, Industry 4.0, and sustainable engineering practices, while also highlighting how these innovations are transforming workplaces across Canada. In addition, the session could provide practical guidance on project management, leadership development, technical communication, and professional certification pathways.
Brownfields/ in-situ & ex-situ remediation
none
More related to licensing, licensing related to CET and PEO
No
Must take care of CET who are no more in work please
Webinar Topics will be all faculty

Appendix

LET details as compared to P-Eng and how they work side by side , where does responsibility ends for LET and starts for Peng
anything related to technologies
How we can use AI in the future in our field as a civil supervisor
More Electrical
aligned with with my skill as electrical in general
Accessibility for jobs for new Associates members
Work experience counts
The Continued development in electronics and its impact on our future
Construction Management
Rail Transit projects. High Speed Rail in Canada
Professional liability insurance
Professional ethics issues
Artificial intelligence use in applied technology work
Reduce-reuse-recycling in industrial settings
More buildings and civil engineering webinars
None at the moment
project Management, construction management
Leadership development is always a good topic
Preparation of needed certificate/licenses that is used in different Industries.
AI implementation in preventive Maintenance
More technical towards the certification and how to opt it.
AI applications in Technolgal problems.
note
Maybe give us a little breakdown on how a proper CET proposal should look like and what respond to expect to get certified from Ctech to CET Certifications?
Dangers of AI
I would like webinars on communication skills, leadership, teamwork, and career growth. These topics will help me improve my professional skill.
Contract law
abstain
Electronics and computer topics
1. Road Construction - issues encountered
2. Building Construction - best practices
More about job opportunities and how to achieve it
Being in the engineering consulting and construction sector, webinars on new advanced construction products or related hi-tech.
More construction and estimating topics
Resume writing. New tech like 3D scanning. Management / leadership training.
Client management education would be useful.
- GNU/Linux
- Geometric Dimensioning and Tolerancing (GD&T)
- Design For Manufacture and Assembly (DFMA)
Have more meetings to make the professional development webinar topics better.
something electrical/automation/robotics related
At least Bi-monthly technical seminars to be conducted if this is possible and more on engineering topics.
More Technical/Practical related courses
How to navigate career progression in the middle of organizational restructuring and downsizing. How can I aspire to progress in an organization that wants me to be grateful for having a job at all?
The BESS Presentation from the conference was cut short, the full presentation would be amazing CPD
AI basics.
None
More into how we progress with ai. Not just what it is. We know about it we need to be more involved.
Behavior and Safety at workplace
Project Management.
construction project management or something about the impact using AI in construction. Building designs
change C.E.T name to P.E.T
AI in technology
Project management, data analysis and reporting, AI tools for engineers, leadership and communication skills, technical documentation, quality management, career development, and industry regulatory updates.
sustainability focussed guidelines on design and more AI connected topics

Appendix

Project management and how chapters can work together better
Electrical
Have more free webinars
Maybe an opportunity for manufacturers or suppliers of equipment or materials to showcase new or innovative products. I work in the water and wastewater industry so this would be of interest.
Environmental Protection .Artificial Intelligence development.
Webinar on the mining industry
AI related, Interpersonal skills
More in-person, instructor led funded training
Courses to use new technology like AI to help with professional development.
BIM and the ability to complete work when short handed.
* Civil Engineering
* Stormwater management practice
* Pipe Lining technologies
* Land Development Management and Practices
*Mixed use and Density Planning
*Transportation Study break downs and case studies that include pedestrians, vehicles, e-bikes, and other modes of transportation
*** Connectivity between communities including access for transportation, complete streets, complete neighborhoods, and amenities
Conflict management skills and techniques, update to electrical codes , Process improvement, Quality Assurance, Six Sigma lean
C.E.T experience required to get it
Adding more relevant topics related to the field, topics for recent graduates, new members.
Leadership and career growth for CETs and C.Tech.
Mentorship and succession planning for future leaders.
Ethics and Professional Practice case studies.
Women in Technology and diversity in Engineering careers.
Communication and conflict resolution in technical workplace
Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) fire prevention and control.
Appropriateness of CET name change
no suggestions
n/a
Project management
i would like to see courses on mentoring and youth engagement.
Topics like Construction Management, Project Management, Design & Engineering related topics
I would like to see topics on building resilient IT systems, on quantum computing, more on AI. Also, for C.E.T.'s and C.Techs who own small and medium-sized businesses, some topics on best practices related to IT security.
structural
make the explanation and experience on making the cet report clearer and more interactive/interesting.
3d printing or advanced manufacturing technology
Nothing at moment
More standards regarding Codes, Standards, and Regulations including:
Updates to industry standards and codes
Occupational health and safety requirements
Environmental regulations and compliance
Risk assessment methodologies
Technical documentation standards
Regulatory requirements relevant to your discipline
Also would be worth while incorporating how AI can be used more efficiently.
Project Pitfalls and How to Avoid Them - Peter Nicholas
CANDU Reactors at PNGS - Peter Nicholas
Retirement planning
I would like to see additional webinars focused on practical contract administration and construction inspection topics, including real project case studies.
Industrial Internet of Things (IIOT) and how it will affect manufacturing and the jobs of tomorrow.
more intro to sessions

Would be interested in a webinar on how to use AI in a responsible way in the workplace. Obviously, the AI landscape is changing rapidly and has many uses, but knowing more about what uses are appropriate to a professional would be interesting to hear from someone who is knowledgeable about how AI works.
Artificial Intelligence
For OACETT, professional development webinars should focus on both technical skills and career growth. Key topics could include certification pathways (C.E.T./C.Tech. and PPE preparation).
Building envelope and sciences related to climate change and environmental carbon footprint reduction.
I don't have any suggestions
AI
I suggest topics on emerging technology trends, professional certification pathways, and best practices for project management and workplace safety
The future of technical profession
Emerging technologies in engineering and applied science (AI, automation, digital transformation)
Project management and leadership skills for CETs, C.Techs, and P.L.(Eng.)
Regulatory updates, ethics, and professional practice
Sustainable infrastructure and green technologies
Career advancement, mentorship, and pathways to licensure
Effective technical report writing and communication skills
Cybersecurity and data protection in engineering environments
Some kind of AI related topic