



# Women in Science and Engineering Atlantic Region Newsletter



Fall 2014 Issue 8

The NSERC Atlantic Chair's program for Women in Science and Engineering, WISEatlantic, aims to provide junior and senior high school girls access to role models active in the sciences and engineering fields through mentorships, webinars, science workshops and camps. We network with women from industry and academia, from science, engineering and technology disciplines at various stages in their careers.

## WISEatlantic Upcoming Events

### Unique Opportunity - Don't Miss Out!

#### Step-Up: A Promotion Workshop for Female Faculty

**October 3, 2014 - The Westin Nova Scotian, Halifax, NS**

Join other female Associate Professors in Science and Engineering fields in Atlantic Canada to explore how to take the next step to becoming a full Professor. Visit our website for more details or to register.

Sponsored by NSERC Chairs for Women in Science and Engineering Network.



Chairs for Women in Science and Engineering  
Chaires pour les femmes en sciences & génie

Réseau National Network



**The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Canadian Science Policy Conference** will take place at the Scotiabank Centre, Halifax, NS on October 15-17, 2014.

**WISEatlantic** will be hosting a **Girls Get WISE Science Retreat for Pathfinders** on Saturday, November 8, 2014 at Cape Breton University, in partnership with Girl Guides Nova Scotia.

**A Wine and Cheese for Teachers and Guidance Counsellors** - November 17, 2014 - Learn about the new face of Engineering and take home engineering lesson plans, in partnership with Engineers Nova Scotia.

## Regional Connections Conference for Women in STEM - June 4-5, 2015 Mount Allison University - New Brunswick

This conference is an opportunity for like-minded individuals and organizations, from across the Atlantic Region, who are working to increase the participation of women in Science, Engineering, Trades and Technology (SETT) fields to share strategies, ideas and to network. If you are interested in being on the Steering Committee or want to keep in the loop, please contact [WISEatlantic@msvu.ca](mailto:WISEatlantic@msvu.ca). This conference needs participation from all STEM sectors, including non-profit organizations.



### Our Sponsors:



## WISEatlantic Past Events

- ◆ Dr. Franz-Odendaal attended the **CCWESTT Conference, "Open Opportunities: Mentoring the Future"** from May 22-24 in Regina, Saskatchewan. She was part of the Youth Panel and discussed WISEatlantic's major events. Other highlights included keynotes from Roberta Bondar, former Astronaut and Hayley Wickenheiser, four time Olympic gold medalist. Dr. Franz-Odendaal was also part of a panel with the other NSERC CWSE's "Call to Action NSERC".
- ◆ The WinSETT workshop, "**Effective Communications**" was held on May 15<sup>th</sup> at the Mount, co-sponsored by Digital Nova Scotia. Twenty-One women in STEM participated. This workshop is part of WinSETT's Leadership Program Series. A report can be found on our website on the Role Model page.
- ◆ **Girls Get Wise Science Retreat** was held on May 17<sup>th</sup> at the Mount for girls in grades 7-12. Forty girls and seven role models participated in Technology and Engineering sessions.
- ◆ WISEatlantic held their third annual **Girls Get WISE Science Camp** from July 7-11 at the Mount. The 21 girls had fun studying zebrafish, doing chemistry and engineering experiments, inventing android phone apps and much more! The camp was featured on Global's Morning News and Dr. Tamara Franz-Odendaal was interviewed by Eastlink TV. To view photos from the camp, visit [facebook.com/WISEatlantic](https://facebook.com/WISEatlantic).
- ◆ WISEatlantic assisted Women in STEM in PEI to hold their first **Girls Get WISE Science Retreat** on May 2, 2014.



Sally Burke, WISEatlantic Program Coordinator at CCWESTT: May 2014



WinSETT Workshop: Effective Communications, May 15



Girls Get WISE Science Retreat: May 17

**4 Girls Get WISE Science Retreats took place in 2014**

**173 Girls interacted with 28 Role Models**

**Average Ranking of the Role Model Sessions was 4.1/5**

THANK YOU



TECHSPLOATION

nscc



Girl Guides of Canada  
Guides du Canada



## Research News!

WISEatlantic is gearing up for Phase 2 of its Girls in STEM Career Choices Survey in September. Visit our website for more information about Phase 1.

**Are you a teacher of a grade 7 or 9 class? Interested in having your students take part in our research study?** Participation letters to principals in select Atlantic Canadian schools are being sent out this month. Check with your principal to see if you can be involved in this important research!

## Watch Our New Role Model Video

A new career role model video featuring, **Monique Guilderson**, Medical Illustrator and owner of Maritime Medical Design has been recently added to the WISEatlantic website.

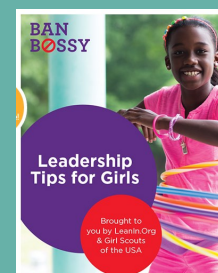
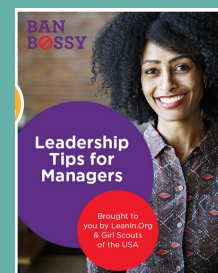
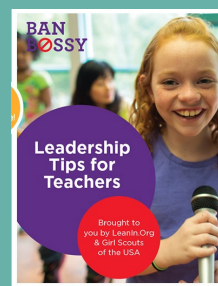
If you are interested in participating in a role model video, please contact us.



## News from Across the Region

- ♦ **A Bold Vision Conference - September 24-26, 2014**, Charlottetown, PEI. Twenty-three visionary women will share their vision for Canada for the next 150 years. Visit their website at [www.aboldvision.ca](http://www.aboldvision.ca)
- ♦ **CyberGirlz** - UNB offered a Computer Science Summer Camp for girls in middle school that included a hands-on learning experience about computer science and explored the fun and exciting world of internet security.
- ♦ **Explore Dal** - Dalhousie University hosted a 2 week Engineering Summer Camp for girls in Grade 12 in August, with university credits.
- ♦ **Digital Nova Scotia and the Discovery Centre** led two, two week-long Digital Discovery Camps. Catering to youth ages 10-15, the camp encourages curiosity in technology and innovation, while increasing confidence in technology skills.
- ♦ **WISEatlantic** continues to support FLL Robotics. Our own team, led by Dr. Karen Smyth and Andrew Carr (MSVU), with support from Dr. Tamara Franz-Odendaal has been practicing all summer.

## WISEatlantic Chair Book Picks!



**Visit**  
[www.banbossy.com](http://www.banbossy.com)  
to obtain your free  
PDF copies

for your ongoing support...



- ♦ Are you wondering why less than 1 in 5 women are advancing to senior roles and even less into positions of leadership? Read the **"Women of Influence Solutions to Women's Advancement White Paper"**. The White Paper includes 5 themes of career success, the greatest barriers women face in advancing their careers, the 7 pitfalls of women in business and what organizations can do to advance women. Read the paper on our website at [www.wiseatlantic.ca/rolemodel.asp](http://www.wiseatlantic.ca/rolemodel.asp)
- ♦ The Council of Canadian Academies Expert Panel issued their report on **Science Culture: Where Canada Stands** on August 28, 2014. Dr. Franz-Odendaal was a member of the Expert Panel. Visit [www.scienceadvice.ca](http://www.scienceadvice.ca) to read the full report.

## WISEatlantic Resources

Our website has lots of resources for parents, students, teachers and role models including:

- \* Links to science and math classroom activities;
- \* Videos of STEM related careers;
- \* Online Webinars linking STEM role models directly to classrooms;
- \* Information about STEM upcoming camps and retreats across Atlantic Canada;
- \* Documents on gender equity in STEM fields in Canada.



Girls Get WISE Science Camp Participants 2014

The program of activities for the NSERC Atlantic Chair for Women in Science and Engineering includes:

- Establishing a network for junior and senior high school girls to meet female role models working in science and engineering fields.
- Developing and launching webinars across Atlantic Canada for teachers, school guidance counselors and students to broaden their knowledge of careers in science and engineering.
- Holding community seminars for parents, teachers and students.
- Conducting surveys to assess how girls perceive careers in science and engineering and how they make their career decisions.
- Launching science camps and retreats for girls.
- Developing role model videos as a resource for students, parents, and teachers.

## Feedback

We value your comments on this newsletter and the activities of our WISEatlantic Team. Please contact us with your feedback and suggestions on how we can help you.

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