



Women in Science and Engineering Atlantic Region

Spring 2019/Issue 22

The Women in Science and Engineering – Atlantic Region (WISEatlantic) program aims to shift gendered STEM stereotypes. We empower girls to consider Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)-based careers by raising their awareness of the diversity of jobs within these fields, and enabling them to visualize themselves working in these fields. WISEatlantic also supports early career women in STEM through professional development and networking opportunities.

What's Coming Up:

Atlantic Connections Conference - May 30-31, 2019 at UPEI

Join us **May 30 & 31** at the Faculty of Sustainable Design Engineering at the University of Prince Edward Island for the 3rd biennial **Atlantic Connections Conference!** The Atlantic Connections Conference provides an opportunity for individuals and organizations from Atlantic Canada to work together to tackle the advancement and retention of women and gender minorities in the Science, Engineering, Technology and Trades (SETT) workforce within industry and academia. Women, gender minorities, and their allies from a cross-section of industry, education, government, and not-for-profit organizations are invited to participate in the conference. The theme of this year's conference is **Sustaining Women in SETT.**



For more information on the ACT conference, please visit atlanticconnections.ca



During the conference, on **May 30, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m.** the award winning documentary “The Woman Who Loves Giraffes” will be aired for all Atlantic Connections Conference participants. Its the story of Canadian scientist Dr. Anne Dagg as she retraces her 1956 journey to South Africa to study giraffes in the wild. Please RSVP at <https://giraffemovie.eventbrite.ca>

Also, on **May 30th at 2:00 p.m.**, there will also be a WinSETT Special Topics Workshop, “**Making Your Communication Style Work for You.**” Cost is \$15/person (+HST). Please register here: <https://actcommunication.eventbrite.ca>. Hosted by a WinSETT facilitator, this 90 minute workshop is beneficial for women in SETT, and provides valuable insight into how to navigate common workplace situations.

Girls Get WISE Science Summer Camps - July & August

The Science Summer Camps are exciting day-camps where girls have the opportunity to engage in STEM through hands-on activities and labs, and discover rewarding careers in STEM by chatting with local women working in these fields!

Junior Camp (girls 12-14 yrs) - July 15-19, 2019 from 9:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Senior Camp (girls 15 & 16 yrs) - August 12-15, 2019 from 10:00-3:00 p.m.

Registration for both camps opens May 6, 2019. Cost is \$100. per camper. If

cost is a hindrance, please contact our office at WISEatlantic@msvu.ca. For more information and to register go to <http://wiseatlantic.ca/ggwcamps/> Register early as space is limited!



What We've Been Up To:

Girls Get WISE Retreat - MSVU - April 13, 2019

For the 8th year in a row, WISEatlantic hosted the Girls Get WISE Science Retreat on Saturday, April 13, 2019 at Mount Saint Vincent University where we had 52 girls in grades 7-10 participate in fun and engaging STEM activities. We were fortunate this year to have guest speaker Janani Venkat, a pre-IB student at CPA, avid competitor in Science Fairs, and recipient of the Discovery Awards Youth Award in 2017!

Before the girls went to their hands-on sessions, they worked in teams to build a small catapult that would launch a marshmallow, the winning team received a prize! The two hands-on sessions this year were exploring Lego robotics with Heather and Jenna from Acadia Robotics, and learning about osmosis with onion cells in the biology lab.

Our role model session featured 7 women in various STEM careers such as Environmental Engineer, Analytical Chemist, and Biologist. The girls enjoyed the opportunity to chat with the female role models in various SETT careers.

Visit our News page, wiseatlantic.ca/news to view pictures of the event.



Skilled Futures for Women in Technology Event

The Nova Scotia division of Skills Canada, through a collaboration with WISEatlantic organized a **Skilled Futures for Women in Technology** event April 26 at Acadia University. Seventy (70) female students from Grade 8 to 10 had the opportunity to explore technology career options by participating in hands-on workshops like virtual reality, boatbuilding, tidal energy and robotics. The event also aimed to introduce students to careers they didn't know existed, such as a videogame designer. The girls also had the chance to chat with seven role models from various tech fields about their careers. This session was organized by WISEatlantic.



Antigonish Area Girls Participate in Girls Get WISE Retreat

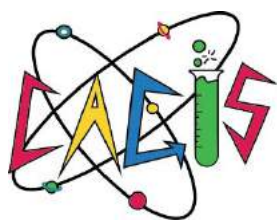
Girls from Antigonish had a fantastic time at the first-ever Girls Get WISE Science Retreat at St. FX University on March 23, 2019. The 11 girls who participated in the event learned the physics behind roller coasters and used that knowledge to build their own roller coasters using foam pipe insulation and marbles. X-Chem Outreach coordinator Jennifer Fraser led the other hands-on session using various methods to test the pH of household chemicals.

Thanks to our role models, Kelsey Sampson – Primary Care Paramedic, Dr. Genice Hallett-Tapley – Chemist, Brittany MacDonald – Chemical Engineer, and Dr. Tara Taylor – Mathematician, for chatting to the girls about their careers and broadening their knowledge of STEM careers.



A special thanks also goes out to the Women in Science group at St. FX who had seven members volunteer with us!

Visit our Facebook page, facebook.com/WISEatlantic to view pictures of the event.



New CAGIS Program to start in Halifax

Canadian Association for Girls In Science (CAGIS) is an award winning not-for-profit science club for girls age 11-16. CAGIS chapter members meet monthly to explore STEM with fun, hands-on activities led by women and men experts in a variety of STEM fields. These monthly events often occur at the work places of our STEM experts, giving girls a behind-the-scenes view and allowing them to experience the lab and field environment for themselves!

WISEatlantic is starting a Halifax chapter in September 2019. Are you interested in becoming one of the first members of CAGIS Halifax? Register today at girlsinscience.ca/join/

Get Involved:

We are currently recruiting new chapter volunteers. Chapter volunteers help to plan and organize regular STEM events, in addition to helping out at the STEM events. If you're a university, college student in a STEM program or a woman working in a STEM profession and would like to volunteer or find out more, please contact Sally at WISEatlantic@msvu.ca

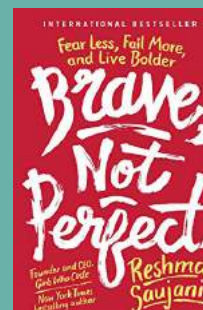


SSTAR Sponsorship

Shifting Systems Today for the Advancement and Retention of Women in Science (SSTAR) Sponsorship

WISEatlantic is committed to the advancement and retention of women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) professions. To foster this commitment, the WISEatlantic program is offering annual sponsorships (maximum \$1,500) to individuals so they may host an event or workshop targeted towards post secondary students and/or post-docs in Science programs in Atlantic Canada. To be eligible, the applicant must be an undergraduate, graduate student, post-doc in a Science field OR a faculty member from an Atlantic Canadian Academic Institution. The event or workshop must have a clear theme for the advancement and/or retention of women in Science. For more information go to WISEatlantic.ca/SSTAR

WISEatlantic Reading Picks

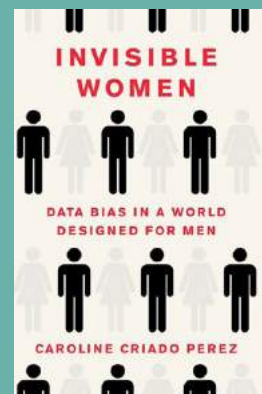


Brave, Not Perfect by Reshma Saujani

In Brave, Not Perfect, Reshma shares powerful insights and practices to help us let go of our need for perfection and make bravery a lifelong habit. By being brave, not perfect, we can all become the authors of our biggest, boldest, and most joyful life.

Invisible Women by Caroline Criado

Perez investigates the shocking root cause of gender inequality and research in Invisible Women?, diving into women's lives at home, the workplace, the public square, the doctor's office, and more.



Nova Scotia

Skills Canada Nova Scotia is hosting the **Skills Canada National Competition** in Halifax this year, **May 28 & 29** at the Halifax Exhibition Centre. The Skills Canada National Competition (SCNC) is the only national, multi-trade and technology competition for students and apprentices in the country. For more info please visit skillscompetencescanada.com

This March, **Engineers Nova Scotia's Women In Engineering Committee** marked the 6th annual Spotlight on local Innovation featuring three unique engineering projects (led by women!) happening right here in Nova Scotia, and was recorded and replayed on Eastlink Community TV for the first time. Engineers Nova Scotia continues to offer opportunities for networking and professional development, including a standing monthly networking event for women

Digital Nova Scotia's Opening Doors Project continues to inspire and educate high school teachers of the opportunities and careers available in our thriving tech sector! Teachers across Halifax and the Annapolis Valley region have met industry members, explored local businesses and been hands-on with tech, thanks to the support of Salesforce.org and the Discovery Centre. Interested in learning more? Email them at info@digitalnovascotia.com

Prince Edward Island

The University of PEI hosted a Girls Get WISE Retreat on May 3, 2019 sponsored by WISEatlantic. Seventy girls tried out experiments in Biology, Chemistry and Engineering and talked to various role models in the STEM field.

New Brunswick

Every summer Huntsman Marine Science Centre offers two **field courses for teens** (ages 15-18), Introduction to Marine Biology and Introduction to Marine Mammals and Seabirds. They also offer **All Things Marine**, a field course for families, once in the spring and once in the summer. For elementary students they have **Young Explorer** day and week programs for ages 5-11 at the Huntsman Fundy Discovery Aquarium. For more information check out their website at www.huntsmanmarine.ca

National

The **NSERC CWSE Network National Conference Grant** is accepting applications from **May 1-15, 2019**. The objective of the NSERC CWSE Network National Conference grant is to support the national conferences that contribute to the advancement of women in Science and Engineering. Applications may be submitted by individual students, professors, professionals outside of academia, or organizations. All applications received will be reviewed for consideration. Visit wiseatlantic.ca/nserc-cwse-grant-policy/ for info on how to apply.

If you have an event you would like featured in our next newsletter (Sept, 2019), email WISEatlantic@msvu.ca with your submission and we'll try to include it.

Contact Us

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For resources, videos, and info about upcoming events visit: www.WISEatlantic.ca



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