



# Women in Science and Engineering Atlantic Region

Winter 2020/Issue 24

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:

### Step-Up to Professorship and Beyond Academic Advancement Workshop



This workshop is for female Assistant & Associate Professors in the Natural Sciences, Engineering, and Computer Science fields and will be held **February 19 and 20, 2020 at the Hampton Inn & Suites, Dartmouth**. This workshop provides an opportunity for participants to get advice, support, and information on applying for tenure and promotion or considering a move to leadership, in a supportive, non-judgmental environment. A session on Professional Resiliency with Registered Psychologist Dr. Dayna Lee-Baggley is included, as well as ample opportunities to network with colleagues.

Registration/Cost: \$25 per person +HST. Register at [WISEatlantic.ca/events](https://wiseatlantic.ca/events)

A discounted accommodation rate of \$149.00 is being offered at the Hampton Inn & Suites which will be available to book until midnight on January 20, 2020. Phone 902-406-7700. **NOTE:** One night accommodation reimbursement is available for participants traveling from outside of HRM. Please contact Sally at [WISEatlantic@msvu.ca](mailto:WISEatlantic@msvu.ca) for more details.



### International Women's Day Event

Join Us! We are partnering with Women in Aerospace Canada Atlantic (WIA-Canada.org) to celebrate #IWD2020 with a special screening of *Pioneers in Skirts*, a movie about ambition and the ongoing effort to achieve gender parity in the workforce. This film is a social impact documentary about the erosion of women's career ambitions and what can be done about it to ensure ambitious girls and women can pursue their careers, without having to combat bias in their lives.

This event is open to all and will be held on **Wednesday, March 4, 2020 from 6:00-9:00 p.m.**, in the Rosaria Student Centre Multi-Purpose Room, at Mount Saint Vincent University. Following the screening, we will lead an impactful discussion about diversity, inclusion and women's life and career challenges.

Advance registration required and can be found at <https://pioneersinskirts.eventbrite.ca>



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## What's Coming up:

### Girls Get WISE Science Retreat - April 18, 2020

Registration opens **February 18th** for the **2020 Girls Get WISE Science Retreat**. The retreat will be on Saturday, April 18, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room, Rosaria Student Centre at Mount Saint Vincent University.

Participants from grades 7-10 will have the opportunity to participate in fun and engaging STEM activities in addition to chatting with female role models who work in various SETT careers. This is a great opportunity for girls to explore careers that they may never have heard of!

Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Spots are limited so register early! Register at [WISEatlantic.ca/events](https://WISEatlantic.ca/events)



## What We've Been Up To:



### STEMaware

Another Successful STEMaware event took place on November. 5th, 2019 at Mount Saint Vincent University.

WISEatlantic hosted our third annual STEMaware event, which aims to connect High School girls and current Mount Saint Vincent University science students with past Bachelor of Science alumni. Many students are not aware of what they can do with their education, post-graduation. Nineteen students, ranging from grade nine to fourth year university, got to chat with Mount Bachelor of Science graduates about their career paths and how they are using their degrees. Among our graduates were Nicole Snow, a **genetic counsellor**, Jessica Romo, an **environmental scientist**, Courtney Masey, a **registered dietician**, Holly Cook, a **Chemistry and Physics laboratory technician**, and Giovanni Johnson, a **microbiologist and entrepreneur**.

### WISEatlantic Partnership Program - Congratulations to the Successful Applicants

The WISEatlantic Partnerships Program is an opportunity for community organizations and individuals in Atlantic Canada to apply for one-year sponsorships for new activities and/or projects that promote the outreach, recruitment, and retention for girls, young women, and industry professionals in science, technology, engineering or math (STEM). Visit [WISEatlantic/getinvolved](https://WISEatlantic.ca/getinvolved) for more information.

We are pleased to announce the following three applicants were successful in receiving funds for innovative programs in 2020: Soapbox Science Halifax, Veith House Math Club, and the Terranaut Club STEMInists Leadership Development Program.

## What's New:

### ★ SSTAR Sponsorship



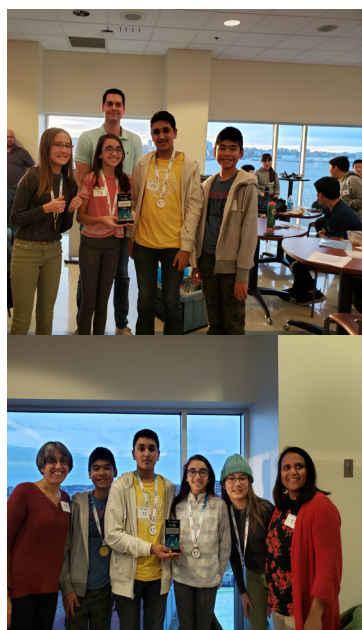
#### Shifting Systems Today for the Advancement and Retention of Women in Science (SSTAR) Sponsorship

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 or groups so they may host an event or workshop targeted towards post secondary students and/or post-docs in Science Programs in Atlantic Canada. A recent example of an eligible SSTAR program was a Women in Science book club. Twelve (12) Graduate students participated, meeting monthly. They read 3 different books and engaged in dialogue regarding the disparities that women in STEM face and ways to combat them. More information can be found at [WISEatlantic.ca/SSTAR](https://wiseatlantic.ca/SSTAR)

### FLL Team Wins Award

Congratulations to the Portland Gopher First Lego League team who won the best robotic design award at qualifying competition held at NSCC in November. They have been invited to join the championship competition at Acadia University in February 2020. Their theme was "City Shaper". They choose to work on cleaning local lakes and did intensive research on causes and solution of Cyanobacteria (type of algae) in our lake.



### WISEatlantic Reading Picks

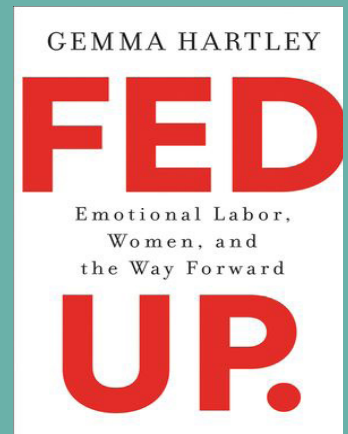


#### Come Back to Earth Esther! by Josee Bisailon

A full-hearted celebration of a fun-loving, space-obsessed girl who wishes, more than anything, to build her own spaceship, liftoff into the sky, and explore the galaxy. Featuring lively, accessible text and an exceptional protagonist with a supportive, diverse family, this STEM-friendly book is a celebration of imagination and making your own dreams come true.

#### Fed Up: Emotional Labour, Women, and the Way Forward by Gemma Hartley

From Gemma Hartley, the journalist who ignited a national conversation on emotional labor, comes **Fed Up**, a bold dive into the unpaid, invisible work women have shouldered for too long—and an impassioned vision for creating a better future for us all.





## Nova Scotia

Congratulations to **Techsploration** who marked its 22nd anniversary and Annual Program Launch December 12, 2019 with two major announcements: a national expansion pilot and a fund-raising partnership with the Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC) Foundation. Both initiatives will enable the non-profit to increase its organizational capacity and impact in Nova Scotia and, now, across the country.

The **Dr. Elizabeth Cannon WISE Awards** were announced in October 2019. Dr. Cannon is an Acadia University Engineering graduate and the President Emerita of the University of Calgary. These awards are granted, on the recommendation of the Dean of Science or designate, to female students majoring in science in recognition of academic excellence, financial need, and involvement in Acadia's WISE program. We are excited that three \$1,000 awards will be available for deserving students for the 2019-2020 academic year. For more details <https://wise.acadiau.ca/home.html>

This winter **Skills Canada - Nova Scotia** will be hitting the road offering In-Class Presentations and Essential Skills Challenges at schools across the province; presenting the Nova Scotia Skills Competition; and hosting a variety of Skilled Futures events for students in grades 8-10, including Skilled Futures for Women in partnership with WISE Atlantic! To see when we will be in your area and for more info please visit [www.skillsns.ca](http://www.skillsns.ca)

## WinSETT Leadership Workshops Coming to St. John's and Halifax

The full series of the WinSETT Leadership workshops will be held in St. John's, NL and Halifax this year. These professional workshops were developed by the WinSETT Centre and are tailored to early and mid-career women working in science, engineering, trades and technology.

Workshop Titles	St. John's NL	Halifax (Dalhousie Faculty Computer Science)
Becoming Leaders	Thursday, January 16, 2020	Thursday, April 2, 2020
Effective Communication	Thursday, February 20, 2020	Friday, April 3, 2020
Emotional Intelligence	Thursday, March 12, 2020	Thursday, May 7, 2020
Negotiating for Success	Thursday, April 23, 2020	Friday, May 8, 2020
Navigating Politics in the Workplace	Thursday, May 28, 2020	Thursday, June 4, 2020
Networks, Mentors & Sponsors	Thursday, June 18, 2020	

To learn more about these workshops and to register, visit [winsett.ca/programs/leadership-program](http://winsett.ca/programs/leadership-program)

## National

The 18th Biennial **CCWEST Conference 2020** will be held in Winnipeg on **May 21-23, 2020** at the RBC Convention Centre. For more information visit [www.cctestt.org](http://www.cctestt.org).

*If you have an event you would like featured in our next newsletter, e-mail [WISEatlantic@msvu.ca](mailto:WISEatlantic@msvu.ca) with your submission*

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### Contact Us



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For resources, videos, and info about upcoming events visit: [www.WISEatlantic.ca](http://www.WISEatlantic.ca)



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