

WHATS COMING UP:

Writing Retreat

We're excited to announce that we are hosting a contest for women grad students, post-docs, and faculty in STEM in Atlantic Canada, to WIN a spot at our upcoming writing retreat at the tranquil Liscombe Lodge! The Writing Retreat will take place from June 14-17, 2023 and limited spots are available.

Contest is open to women academics (grad students, post docs, faculty) in STEM fields located in Atlantic Canada.

What's Included:

- 3 nights stay for one person at Liscombe Lodge
- Shared space for writing with coffee service
- 2 dinners, 2 lunches, 2 breakfasts
- Boat tour (optional)

To enter, email WISEatlantic@msvu.ca with the subject "writing retreat" and include your name, email, and a few sentences about why you are applying. Deadline to apply is April 17, good luck to all who enter!

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO:

2023 Girls Get WISE Science Retreat

On April 1, 2023 we held our annual Girls Get WISE Science Retreat at MSVU, this will also be our last retreat as Dr. Franz-Odendaal's term as NSERC Chair for Women in Science and Engineering - Atlantic comes to an end. 28 girls+ were in attendance and participated in several activities including a team engineering design activity where they had to build towers out of straws and tape so that they would hold a can of pop, a chemistry activity that explored polymers, and a biology activity that had them using clues and microscope slides to guess the object.

We ended the day with our popular role model session, where four role models chatted to the girls about their careers in Water Resource Science, Genetics Counselling, Powerline Technician, Medical Neuroscience. Thanks to all participants, role models, volunteers, session leaders, and sponsors over the years!



FEATURES:

CAGIS Halifax Seeks Co-coordinator

The Canadian Association for Girls in Science (CAGIS) Halifax Chapter is seeking a motivated volunteer to fill a co-coordinator position. CAGIS is a STEM club for girls, nonbinary, and gender nonconforming youth that aims to support interest in STEM by means of hands-on learning and exposure to STEM role models. The Halifax Chapter serves members aged 11-16. Co-coordinator responsibilities include helping to plan and run monthly chapter events, overseeing the volunteer team, and communicating with member families.

If you're interested or would like more information, email halifax@girlsinscience.ca or visit girlsinscience.ca/volunteer. We are also currently recruiting chapter volunteers as well as STEM experts to facilitate events if you would like to be involved with the chapter through another avenue.

A MESSAGE FROM WISEATLANTIC

Dr. Tamara Franz-Odendaal's term as NSERC Atlantic Chair for Women in Science and Engineering is coming to an end in June 2023 and unfortunately this means that we will not be running our Girls Get WISE Science Summer Camps this year. We encourage you to keep an eye out for our final newsletter in June 2023 which will include more information on what next year will look like with the new NSERC Chairs for Inclusion in Science and Engineering (CISE) - Atlantic Region. The CISE is a pilot program that will be replacing the CWSE in the Atlantic Region for the next two years. For more information on the NSERC CISE pilot program you can [click here](#).

The WISEatlantic team would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have made our programming possible over the last twelve years, including our sponsors and partners, role models, session leaders, staff and faculty at MSVU, teachers, parents, and of course our participants! We feel very privileged to have been part of the growing movement in Atlantic Canada to encourage girls+ to consider STEM careers, and to support women and other underrepresented groups working in STEM fields. It is encouraging to look back to where we started and see how much change has happened for the better, and although her term is coming to an end, I say with certainty that Dr. Franz-Odendaal will never stop advocating for girls, women, and other minorities in STEM. THANK YOU!



From Left: Sally Marchand, Program Manager; Tamara Franz-Odendaal, NSERC CWSE - Atlantic; Jeanette McPherson, Program Assistant; Madyn Bourque, Program Assistant; Molly Murray, Communications Assistant.