



# Women in Science and Engineering Atlantic Region

Spring 2018/Issue 19

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:

### Be Curious! Explore Careers with Impact

*NSCC Lunenburg Campus*

*May 14, 2018 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.*

Have you ever wondered what an Engineer does and how their job can positively impact society or what high-earning & rewarding careers there are besides a Medical doctor or Lawyer? Then this workshop is for you! Explore exciting careers from women who work or study in Science, Technology, Engineering & Math. This is a FREE event for girls in grades 9-12. Parents & Teachers are also welcome! Light refreshments will be served.

To register, contact Sally Marchand at [WISEatlantic@msvu.ca](mailto:WISEatlantic@msvu.ca)

This event is part of Science Odyssey Week. To find out more about Science Odyssey and what other events may be taking place in your area, visit <http://www.sciod.ca/>



*Role Model Rita Orji, Dalhousie, Computer Science - Inspiring Girls*



### Two Girls Get WISE Science Summer Camps - July & August!

*Mount Saint Vincent University*

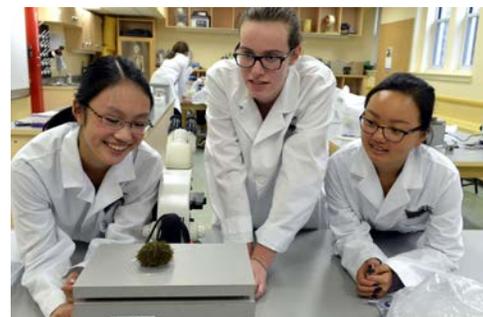


Two Girls Get WISE Science Summer Camps will be held this summer and the **Junior Camp** is already **FULL!**

The Girls Get WISE Science Summer Camps are exciting day-camps where girls have the opportunity to engage in STEM through hands-on activities and labs, explore scientific research by listening to presentations by local researchers, and discover rewarding careers in STEM by meeting and chatting with local women working in these fields!

The senior camp for girls age 15 & 16 will run **August 20-23, 2018** from

**10:00 am-3:00 pm** daily. Registration is now open and space is limited so register soon. Cost is \$100 per camper. Registration is available at: <https://seniorggwcamp.eventbrite.ca>



## What We've Been Up To:

### Girls Get WISE Science Retreat held at MSVU - The Largest One Ever!

On April 7, 2018 WISEatlantic hosted their largest Girls Get WISE Science Retreat to-date with 80 girls participating! This year featured three hands-on activities, Nifty Neuroscience, Electrifying Chemistry, and the Mathematics of Winning. We were also fortunate to have El Jones, the Mount's Nancy's Chair in Women's Studies, join us to



perform an inspiring spoken word poem. The girls also had a chance to talk to role models in various STEM fields about their careers. As always, thank you to our sponsors, partners, volunteers, and role models for making this event a success!

### Women in Science Group at Mount Allison University host their first Girls Get WISE Science Retreat

WISEatlantic co-hosted the first Girls Get WISE Retreat with the Women in Science group at Mount Allison University on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 20 girls participated in hands-on activities including Electrifying Chemistry and an Engineering challenge called Loop to Loop. The girls also had the opportunity to speak with five role models in STEM fields about their careers. Kudos to Sarah and Emma for taking the lead on organizing this event.



Organizers/Volunteers front row - Kat, Emily, Sally, Sarah, Emma

### Diversity in STEM: Why it Matters

WISEatlantic Chair, Dr. Tamara Franz-Odendaal, was invited to participate in the "Diversity in STEM: Why It Matters" panel discussion at Acadia University on March 6th, 2018. Other panelists included Ulrike Bahr-Gedalia, CEO of Digital Nova Scotia, Dr. Imogen Coe, Dean of Faculty of Science at Ryerson, and Denise Pothier, Vice President of Practice Services at Stantec.

Special thanks to Dr. Randy Newman at Acadia for organizing this event.

Sponsorship was provided by WISEatlantic through our SSTAR sponsorship program. For more information on the SSTAR program, go to <http://wiseatlantic.ca/sstar/>



Ulrike, Denise, Randy, Tamara, Imogen Coe

## New Report: Analysis of the distribution of gender in STEM fields in Canada

The NSERC Chairs for Women in Science and Engineering released a new report entitled “Analysis of the Distribution of Gender in STEM Fields in Canada”. The report, focuses on the percentages of women and minority groups in the STEM professions in all regions of Canada. For the full report, visit our website at [www.wiseatlantic.ca/resources](http://www.wiseatlantic.ca/resources).



## UNESCO Chair Dr. Liette Vasseur holds round table at the Mount to talk about barriers for Mature Students



Ulrike Bahr-Gedalia, Liette Vasseur, Tamara Franz-Odendaal

Dr. Liette Vasseur, Biological Science Professor at Brock University and UNESCO Chair in Community Sustainability, visited Mount Saint Vincent University on March 20, 2018 to co-host a round-table discussion with Dr. Tamara Franz-Odendaal on the topic of non-linear career paths of women in

STEM. Thirteen women in various STEM careers attended the round-table. We

want to thank the Mount Saint Vincent University Research Office and the Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women for sponsoring this event. Also, thanks to Jo Napier who featured her art of “Great women of STEM” portraits.

## Upcoming WinSETT Leadership Workshops

Check out the following WinSETT Leadership Workshops coming up in Halifax, NS and St. John's, NL:

### Emotional Intelligence & Networking, Mentors, Sponsors

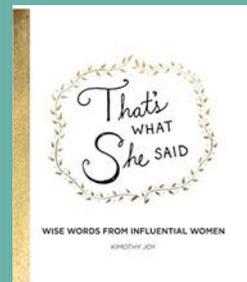
June 7 & 8 from 9:00am -4:00pm  
NSCC IT Campus, Leeds Street, Halifax.

**Networking, Mentors and Sponsors - St. John's, NL -**  
Saturday May 12 from 8:30am -4:00pm - Memorial University

**Emotional Intelligence - St. John's, NL -**  
Friday, June 8 from 8:30am-4:00pm- Memorial University

To register visit [winsett.ca/programs/leadership-program](http://winsett.ca/programs/leadership-program)

## WISEatlantic Reading Picks

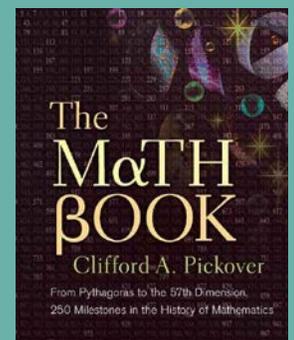


**“That’s What She Said”**  
**Wise Words from Influential Women**  
by Kimothy Joy

An artist and activist committed to the empowerment of women and girls has created a gorgeous illustrated volume, blending watercolor and short biography to showcase the contributions of more than fifty influential female leaders whose words and actions are a passionate call to arms.

**The Math Book**  
by Clifford A. Pickover

Math’s infinite mysteries unfold in this bestselling book. Beginning millions of years ago with ancient “ant odometers” and moving through time to our modern-day quest for new dimensions, prolific polymath Clifford Pickover covers 250 milestones in mathematical history.



# News from Across the Region

## Nova Scotia

**Skilled Futures for Women - Skills Canada Nova Scotia** was held in Truro, May 2, 2018. The event introduced grade 8-10 female students to career opportunities available in skilled trades and technologies, specifically focused on technologies and the exciting careers available in Nova Scotia's ICT sector. WISEatlantic assisted with the speed mentoring session at this event. Check it out at <https://www.skillsns.ca/programs/#skilledfutures>.

Congratulations to **Techsploration** for receiving the 2018 Leadership Excellence Award for Empowerment from the national organization, Women in Communications and Technology (WCT), who recognize individuals and organizations committed to diversity and to closing the gender gap in Canadian communications, media and technology industries.

## Prince Edward Island

A new non-profit group in PEI called **STEAM** is focused on reaching more young students. STEAM offers camps, workshops, and after-school programs. WISEatlantic has partnered with STEAM under the new WISEatlantic Partnerships Program. For more information on Wiseatlantic Partnerships Program, go to <http://wiseatlantic.ca/partnerships-program>. For more information on STEAM, visit [www.steampei.com](http://www.steampei.com)

**Women Scientists in Agriculture and Fisheries**, Faculty of Agriculture, Dalhousie University were funded by WISEatlantic to visit classrooms across Prince Edward Island to promote and educate youth about the exciting opportunities and careers that exist in the agriculture and fishery science sectors. Dr. Miriam Gordon, Dr. Stephanie Collins, Ellen Crane and Dr. Sarah Stewart-Clark shared their research on Climate Change and our Oceans, Aquatic Invasive Species, Shellfish Aquaculture, Career Opportunities in Science, AntiNutrients, Animal Nutrition and Beef and Dairy Science. Over 400 students in 25 different classes were inspired by female mentors conducting science of direct relevance to fishery or agriculture sectors in PEI. Check out the CBC story at <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/pei-science-career-high-school-students-beef-council-1.4549597>

## National

**CCWESTT 2018 - May 31-June 2, 2018** - The Canadian Coalition of Women in Engineering, Science, Trades and Technology is hosting the 16th CCWESTT Conference in Edmonton, Alberta. The Conference theme is **Learn. Grow. Act.** The WISEatlantic team will be presenting in several sessions. Registration is now open. Visit [ccwestt2018.com](http://ccwestt2018.com) for more information.

**CAN-CWIC 2018 - November 2-3rd, 2018** in Halifax, NS. Hosted this year by Dalhousie University, CAN-CWIC is the premiere Canadian computing conference for women in technology, bringing together students, faculty and industry. CAN-CWIC provides attendees with opportunities for networking, sharing and mentoring. Visit <https://www.can-cwic.ca/>

**4th International STEMfest - November 3-10, 2018** Halifax, NS  
STEMFest is a collection of conferences and events exploring social, industry and economic development throughout the world of STEM education and innovation. STEMFest will shine a spotlight on the amazing STEM ventures, accomplishments and opportunities found in our own backyard. Visit [www.STEMfest2018.ca](http://www.STEMfest2018.ca) for more information.

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**To our sponsors & partners, thank you for your on-going support!**



### Contact Us

Program Coordinator:  
Sally Marchand  
902-457-6294  
WISEatlantic@msvu.ca

WISEatlantic Chair:  
Dr. Tamara Franz-Odendaal  
Tamara.Franz-Odendaal@msvu.ca

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

