



Women in Science and Engineering - Atlantic Region Newsletter

Spring 2020 / Issue 25

The NSERC Chair for 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 careers 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.

Update on Events:

Girls Get WISE Science Retreat - Update

We have postponed the 2020 Girls Get WISE Science Retreat that was originally scheduled to take place on April 18th at Mount Saint Vincent University. We hope to host this event in the Fall, so make sure to follow us on social media or monitor our website for further updates.

Girls Get WISE Science Summer Camps - Online!

Due to the on-going situation with COVID-19, we have made adjustments to our summer camps. **The Junior and Senior camps will be offered ONLINE this summer!** The **Junior camp will take place July 27-30** and the **Senior camp from August 10-13**. The format is still being developed but we are aiming for online engagement for 1-2 hours each day, with some offline hands-on STEM tasks.

Please email us (wisatlantic@msvu.ca) if you are interested in attending and you will be the first to know more details as we move forward with this plan.



In the Pipeline...

Virtual role model session

We are excited to announce our first Virtual Role Model session taking place **Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 2:00pm AST**. We have three fantastic role models willing to chat to you about their STEM careers. RSVP is required as this is how we will send the link to join the session. If you are interested, **please RSVP to Sally at WISEatlantic@msvu.ca**

Postdoctoral Fellows Advancement Workshop

Plans are in the works to host a virtual workshop aimed at female post-doctoral fellows in STEM fields in Atlantic Canada in the Fall. This workshop will offer sound advice to postdocs from experienced academics in STEM fields. Date TBD, check WISEatlantic.ca periodically for updates.

What We've Been Up To...

Step-Up to Professorship and Beyond - February 19 & 20, 2020

WISEatlantic held its third Step-Up Academic Advancement Workshop for female faculty in STEM in Dartmouth in February. Twenty-one participants and seven invited speakers attended. Participants ranged from Assistant to Full professors and as such, the sessions covered a range of topics such as: 'Finding Success as an Academic', 'Tenure and Promotion File: Tips and Strategies', and Leadership: The Invisible Work'.

Thank you to the NSERC CWSE Network for sponsoring, and to all speakers for making the day a success!



Celebrating International Women's Day with 'Pioneers in Skirts' Screening

WISEatlantic was pleased to partner with [Women in Aerospace Canada Atlantic \(WIA\)](#) for an International Women's Day celebration. The event showcased "Pioneers in Skirts", a 60-minute documentary on achieving gender equity in the workplace and world. The event had a great turn-out with over 80 people in attendance ranging from youth to adults.

Following the film, WISEatlantic Chair Dr. Franz-Odendaal and WIA Atlantic VP Eva Martinez, led a discussion on impactful moments from the film and how employers can change the work climate to support gender equity.

We would like to thank Sponsors CAE and Ultra for helping us make this event a success.

The Mount's Annual Girls Conference

We were pleased to once again participate in the Girls Conference hosted by the Alexa McDonough Institute at the Mount. Pictured right are Madyn, WISEatlantic Program Assistant, and Sally, Program Coordinator, at our WISEatlantic information booth.

WISEatlantic also ran a STEM career-focused session called 'Try your hand at the Game of Life' where participants had the opportunity to explore the realities of the working world and create a realistic budget based on the assigned STEM or non-STEM career given to them. The take-home message of the session is that many STEM careers offer good salary and flexibility. If you are a teacher or parent interested in this activity, please email WISEatlantic@msvu.ca for information on how you can run this activity in your class or home!



In Other News

Applications for our **Team Sponsorship Funding** will be available starting May 4, 2020. This funding supports STEM-based team initiatives for youth, such as FIRST LEGO League or Let's Talk Science Challenge teams.

Teams from any part of Atlantic Canada can apply for funding up to \$300 to support the costs of registration, travel, and other associated expenses. This is a limited offer and funding will be provided on a first-come basis. Priority will be given to NEW teams or teams that have not already been funded by this program. To qualify for funding the team must be comprised of 50% or more girls.

For more information and to apply visit: wiseatlantic.ca/resources

Bingo Card Challenge!

Want a chance to win a spot at our next Girls Get WISE Science Retreat or Summer Science Camp?! Then make sure to participate in our Bingo Card challenge! Visit bingobaker.com/play/3066661 to access the bingo card. Work on completing the activities, and once you are finished copy the URL of your card, and email it to WISEatlantic@msvu.ca, along with what your favorite challenge was and why, and you will be entered to win! You have **until June 5th to enter**.

STEM at Home Activities

In an effort to keep girls engaged in STEM at home, every week we are creating fun and educational science activities that can be done from home!

Each activity provides relevant scientific background, instructions, concept questions, and the opportunity to learn more about science. The activities are available on our website: wiseatlantic.ca/resources

Be sure to post your creations and share with us by tagging [@Wiseatlantic](https://twitter.com/Wiseatlantic) and using [#GirlsGetWISE](https://twitter.com/hashtag/GirlsGetWISE)



WISEatlantic Partnerships Program

The WISEatlantic Partnerships Program is an opportunity for community organizations in Atlantic Canada to apply for small one-year sponsorships for new activities and/or projects that promote the outreach, recruitment, and retentions for girls, young women, and industry professionals in science, technology, engineering, or math (STEM). The intention of the funding is to help establish or expand programs, and it is expected that projects have a plan for continuation after funding ends.

Applications open September 4, 2020.

For more information and to apply visit: wiseatlantic.ca/partnerships-program

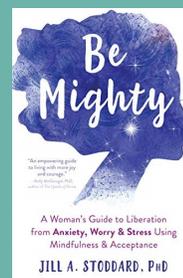
WISEatlantic Reading Picks!



The Doctor with an Eye for Eyes: The Story of Dr. Patricia Bath

By Julia Finley Mosca

The second book in the Amazing Scientists Book Series an educational series about the inspirational lives of amazing scientists!



Be Mighty

By Jill A. Stoddard

Learn how to build personal resilience, conquer anxious thoughts, and navigate your worries and fears in this empowering guide for women.

In Other News Con't

Did you know that many concepts you learn in High School Science and Math classes are essential to research related to the Covid-19 pandemic? Our WISEatlantic Communications Assistant Molly has wrote a wonderful blog piece that discusses the various STEM concepts that are used in the fight against Covid-19. View the blog post here: wiseatlantic.ca/resources/

News from Across the Region

Nova Scotia:

- **Techsploration** launches their new online Alumnae Mentorship Program. This program leverages En Point's digital mentorship platform to provide alumnae with opportunities for personal and professional growth as they navigate career paths post-graduation.
- **Skills Canada Nova Scotia** has started doing some online programming. Catch their Trade and Tech Tuesday's where they chat about a different trade or tech career and why it's so great or their weekly Essential Skills Challenge. For all the info visit: skillsns.ca/blog/
- **The Terranaut Club**, one of our Partnerships Program supported organizations that offers science and nature exploration programs for girls and gender minorities in Nova Scotia, is running a sticker campaign to raise money for their programs, for more info visit: terranautclub.com/stickerfundraiser/

National:

- The **2020 CCWESTT Conference** that was originally scheduled to take place May 21-23, 2020 has been postponed until November 12-14, 2020 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. For the most recent information regarding this conference, please visit ccwesttconference.org/
- The **Canadian Association of Girls in Science (CAGIS)** has started offering online STEM engagement opportunities for all CAGIS members. These include weekly live sessions through Zoom, member videos, and bi-weekly STEM challenges. Visit girlsinscience.ca/cagis-at-home/ for more info!

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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



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

