



Women in Science and Engineering - Atlantic Region

JANUARY 2022 / ISSUE 34



WHATS COMING UP:

CCWESTT 2022 - Registration

The national CCWESTT Conference will be taking place in Halifax, May 12-14, 2022 at the Marriott Harbourfront Hotel. Conference registration will open end of January at ccwestt.org/registration/ WISEatlantic has limited sponsorship funds for graduate students, postdocs, and early career faculty in STEM fields to attend, please visit wiseatlantic.ca/news/ for full details on how to apply. The NSERC Chairs Network will also have some travel funding available, more information to come at STEM-Inclusion-STIM.ca

Coded Bias - Film Screening & Discussion

We're hosting a virtual screening of the Coded Bias film by director Shalini Kantayya on **Friday, February 11, 2023 at 6:30pm (AST)** to celebrate International Day of Women and Girls in Science. Coded Bias explores the fallout of MIT Media Lab researcher Joy Buolamwini's startling discovery that facial recognition does not see dark-skinned faces and women accurately, and follows her journey to push for legislation to govern against bias in the algorithms that impact us all. Watch the trailer at codedbias.com/about. A Q&A with Director Shalini Kantayya and NSERC CWSE - Ontario Region, Dr. Shohini Ghose, will follow the screening. For full details and the registration link, please visit wiseatlantic.ca/events

CODED
BIAS

A SHALINI KANTAYYA FILM

sundance



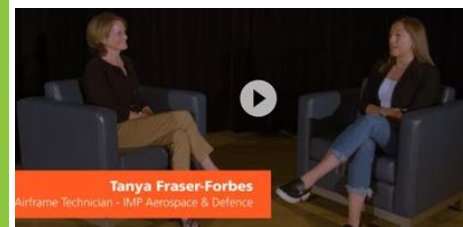
WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO:

Skilled Futures for Women Video Series

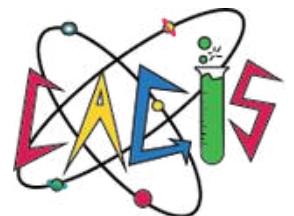
Our partner Skills Canada Nova Scotia released three more video interviews in their Skilled Futures for Women Video Series, that we were happy to sponsor. The aim of this series is to share the stories of successful women working in a variety of skilled trades industries with the hope that their stories will inspire the next generation of young women who are thinking of their own future careers in skilled trades and technologies. You can view the series at: wiseatlantic.ca/resources/?subject=career-exploration

CAGIS Virtual Event

On November 22 the Halifax chapter of Canadian Association for Girls in Science (CAGIS) hosted a virtual event for our chapter pod. Mathematician Dr. Danielle Cox led participants through a few entertaining math puzzles and discussed the Fibonacci sequence. You can become a CAGIS member at any time, visit girlsinscience.ca/join/ for full details.



Interview with Aircraft Technician
Tanya Fraser-Forbes



FEATURES:

Partnerships Program

We've decided to add another intake period for our Partnerships Program funding for 2022! This 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 retention of under-represented individuals in science, technology, engineering or math (STEM). We will be accepting abstract submissions between Jan. 14 - Feb. 28, 2022. Full details on the program can be found at wiseatlantic.ca/partnerships-program/

BE-STEMM Conference & Black-In-STEMM Survey

The Canadian Black Scientists Network is hosting the first annual conference for Black Excellence in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine/Health (BE-STEMM) from January 30 - February 2, 2022. This virtual, interdisciplinary conference will highlight established and rising star Black Canadians in STEM fields. This bilingual, accessible conference invites all to attend, register at blackscientists.ca/events-media/#BESTEMM

Dr. Franz-Odenaal and several colleagues from the Canadian Black Scientists Network are running a survey for Black identifying Canadian STEM grad students and postdocs. Take the survey at blackscientists.ca/membership/#black-in-stem



2021 Partnerships recipients Fundy Geo Museum with their Paleontologist for a Weekend participants!



BE-STEMM 2022
2022 EN-STIMM

WISEATLANTIC BLOG

The Impact of Role Models on Girls+ Choosing STEM Careers

BY SALLY MARCHAND

I've been the Program Manager for the WISEatlantic program since 2013 and during this time I've had the privilege of observing hundreds of girls interacting with role models who look like them and who work in all kinds of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) careers. All our signature Girls Get WISE Events, one-day retreats and summer camps, feature a round-robin style mentoring session where small groups of participants meet and chat with women working in various STEM careers. Upon reviewing the evaluations from these events, where we ask participants to rank all the sessions on a scale from 1-5, our role model sessions average a 4.3. This isn't surprising to me as the participants often leave this session very excited, and this is above hands-on STEM sessions like coding or extracting DNA from fruit!

The importance of exposing girls to women STEM role models cannot be understated. In Canada only 20% of STEM jobs are occupied by women (Perreault et al, 2018), even though women make up nearly half of the Canadian workforce (47.4%). Diversity breeds innovation, it allows for different perspectives and 'out-of-the-box' thinking, just what we need to help tackle the important issues of our time, such as climate change. As the effects of climate change disproportionately impact women around the world, we need more women in STEM to be part of the solution.

This story continues online at
[WISEatlantic .ca/blog/](http://WISEatlantic.ca/blog/)

interested in contributing a blog post? Contact us at WISEatlantic@msvu.ca with your idea!