

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation: Western University Student Receives \$15,000 Top Award

(Renfrew, ON): Elena Uchiteleva, a dedicated volunteer in multiple communities and a big supporter of women in STEM. The Foundation is extremely proud to announce Ms. Uchiteleva as the 2017 Claudette MacKay-Lassonde PhD Award recipient.

Elena Uchiteleva is a third year Ph.D. student at Western University. Ms. Uchiteleva graduated from the Israel Institute of Technology and is an enthusiastic and curious engineer committed to life-long learning and excellence in her work. Her passion for wireless communications motivated her to pursue graduate degrees in Canada to acquire the highest standard of expertise in this field.

From numerous candidates across the country, she has been chosen for her personal success as well as her contributions to the engineering profession and her commitment towards engineering and serving others. She will be recognized for winning the \$15,000 award this September in Ottawa at the CEMF Awards dinner.

Elena is the Chair of the IEEE Canada Women in Engineering (WIE Canada) affinity group. Outside of IEEE, Elena also contributes to other diverse community outreach programs. She is participating as a judge at the annual Western Engineering FIRST LEGO League Tournaments and helping at the annual Engineering Day at local Scouts Canada.

Elena strives to communicate the role of engineers in improving quality of life, boosting economies and protecting our environment.

Since 1990, the Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation has been promoting engineering as a career choice for young Canadian women through its extensive scholarship program, a website that attracts thousands of new visitors a month, social media programming, and presentations to high school students.

"It is heartening to see so many qualified and capable applicants. This makes our job to choose just one, very hard," says Julie Lassonde, CEMF President. "Ms. Uchiteleva is a worthy award winner and we look forward to watching her continue to help connect young Canadians, through her passionate volunteerism, with engineering and its vast possibilities as a viable career choice for other young ladies. We're delighted to see that her infectious enthusiasm for engineering, and are thrilled to be supporting her in her future endeavours."

For more information or for interviews with any of the scholarship recipients, please contact CEMF at 1-866-883-2363, info@cemf.ca, <u>www.cemf.ca</u>.