

Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation

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Fondation commémorative du génie canadien

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CEMF Fact Sheet

The Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation

- Formed in 1990 by visionary and well-known engineer Claudette MacKay-Lassonde, P.Eng. and several colleagues in response to the tragedy at École Polytechnique on December 6, 1989.
- “CEMF is committed to creating a world where engineering meets the needs and challenges of society by engaging the skills and talents of both women and men alike. To that end, we are dedicated to attracting women to the engineering profession so they may fully contribute to the development of our society. In doing so, they also honour the memory of the 14 women from École Polytechnique whose contributions to Canada ended on December 6, 1989.”
- CEMF is led by a volunteer board comprised of prominent member’s of Canada’s engineering communities.
- CEMF is a charitable organization funded entirely through donations and partnerships with corporations and universities, including Vale, Zayo and Dillon Consulting Limited.
- Other supporters include: Engineers Canada, professional engineering associations, provincial associations, faculties of engineering and student-engineering organizations.

What Does CEMF Do?

- Supports women in engineering in Canada through scholarships and networking opportunities.
- Gives scholarships at undergraduate and graduate levels.
- Promotes women in engineering through its extensive bilingual website which attracts 220,000 hits a month.
- Promotes winners through press releases, website profiles, at the Annual Networking and Award Event, posters, and features each in a Faces of the Future booklet.

Scholarships

- Scholarships range from \$5,000 to \$10,000 each.
- Currently award 14 scholarships.
- Scholarship winners are ambassadors for the profession and are selected based on leadership, volunteerism, and ability to service as a role model for others.
- Over 200 women in Canada have received a CEMF scholarship.
- Winners give at least one presentation about engineering to a high school level audience.
- An average of 500 students a year will hear a presentation about engineering as a career choice by a CEMF winner.
- Over 100,000 students have heard a presentation about engineering as a career choice since CEMF was established.

Networking

- All recipients and donors are recognized at the Annual Networking and Award Event hosted by Engineers Canada and attended by prominent engineers from across the country.
- Recipients connect with the Board, each other and CEMF partners through the invite-only CEMF Winners Facebook page.
- Recipients are celebrated through their university, provincial association and by CEMF enabling them to make important career connections.

Why is CEMF's Work Important

- Despite the constant and ever-growing need for professional engineers in Canada, over half the population of potential future engineers aren't being engaged.
- By providing scholarship and networking opportunities, CEMF gives women in Canada the support they need to successfully pursue a career in engineering.
- CEMF uses youth to reach out to youth – our scholarship winners are proven leaders and role models with diverse backgrounds and a passion for engineering.
- High school students hear from a recent graduate about why they chose to study engineering at university and the exciting career options a degree in engineering provides.