



Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation (CEMF) Announces 2009 Scholarship Winners

For immediate release

(Renfrew, Ontario): The criteria for the CEMF engineering scholarships, at first glance, may not seem overly stringent. Canadian women applying must be leaders, volunteers, involved in numerous community activities and willing to go out of their way to inspire others. And yet, the combination of these characteristics results in remarkable women who shine among their peers.

Kerry Black of Vancouver, British Columbia is one of this year's CEMF scholarship recipients. She has been selected as the winner of the \$10,000 2009 AMEC Masters Scholarship in Engineering which also includes the opportunity for a summer job at an AMEC office in Canada.

Ms. Black is currently enrolled at the University of British Columbia in the Master's of Applied Science Program and is studying with the Faculty of Civil Engineering in the Department of Pollution Control and Water Management.

At the university, she has played an instrumental role in a revitalization project for the Faculty of Engineering, Women In Engineering program by assessing the current program and coming forward with recommendations to increase student involvement. She also coordinates the university's outreach efforts through an on-going campus conference for female high school students. She has been selected as a volunteer for the upcoming 2010 Olympics and in her free time plays the piano and is a ballet dancer.

“Kerry is an outstanding woman and we are lucky to have her representing the Foundation and the profession of engineering as a whole,” says Suzelle Barrington, ing., CEMF president. “She is bright, and hardworking and committed to her profession. Our goal is to attract more women to engineering; Kerry is a role model for other young women and she is already serving as an inspiration to others.”

Along with the \$10,000 scholarship, Ms. Black will receive an AMEC expense-paid trip to the CEMF Annual Awards Luncheon being held in Montreal at the Annual General Meeting of Engineers Canada being held on May 22, 2009.

“At AMEC our goal is to engage and encourage a new generation of engineers,” says PJ Healey, Human Resources Director with AMEC. “The AMEC scholarships are a way for us to show our continued commitment to the education and development of young Canadian engineering talent. AMEC is proud to join with CEMF in celebrating and supporting women engineers of the future. The AMEC scholarships create opportunities – it’s about investing in people’s future and helping them fulfill their aspirations to become leaders in their field. Ms. Black’s dream of utilizing her engineering knowledge to help communities around the world achieve a higher standard of living and access to safe drinking water is to be admired, and I hope that with the help of this scholarship she continues to aspire to excellence in all that she does.”

The Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation was founded in 1990 and honours the memory of the 14 women from École Polytechnique in Montreal who lost their lives on December 6, 1989.

CEMF is committed to creating a world where engineering meets the needs and challenges of Canadians by utilizing the skills and talents of men and women alike, promoting engineering as a career choice with the generous support of Canadian corporations and many individual engineers from coast to coast.

The Foundation provides a total of 13 scholarships at the undergraduate, Masters and PhD levels of study and promotes engineering as a career choice for women through their website, press releases, Annual Awards Luncheon and scholarship winner presentations to high school students.

AMEC formed a partnership with the Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation in 2006 to encourage more women and Aboriginians to pursue a career in engineering.

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Backgrounder attached.

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