



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.

Micha Wallace of Chatham, Ontario has been named the winner of the 2009 Vale Inco Masters Engineering Scholarship by CEMF.

Ms. Wallace received her BSc. in engineering from the University of Guelph and is a candidate for a master's of science in engineering degree from the university. Her area of research is biological engineering; a non-traditional field which includes, along with engineering fare, human kinetics, clinical biomechanics and ergonomics. Ms. Wallace, along with three other students, designed a single-handed bicycle lever to accommodate the needs of a nine-year-old girl with amniotic banding of her left arm. This earned a first place finish in the 2007 National Dyson Canada Design competition. Ms. Wallace has been a teaching assistant, a member of Women in Science and Engineering of Guelph University and is currently their graduate representative.

“Micha 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, CEMF president. “She is bright, and hardworking and committed to her profession. Our goal is to attract more women to engineering; Micha 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. Wallace will receive a Vale Inco expense-paid trip to the CEMF Annual Awards Luncheon in Montreal during the Annual General Meeting of Engineers Canada being held on May 22, 2009.

“Vale Inco Limited is committed to reversing the slowdown in the enrolment of women in engineering as part of a focus on improving diversity in our workforce,” says Katie Fines, Campus Recruitment Manager of Vale Inco. “We are proud to present this scholarship to Ms. Wallace. She encompasses all the traits this scholarship demands and we wish her all the best in

her future endeavors.” Vale Inco is one of the world’s leading nickel mining companies and a leading producer of copper, cobalt, and precious metals. The company employs 12,000 employees worldwide.

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.

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Backgrounder attached.

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