FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation: Queen’s University Student Receives $15,000 Top Award

(Renfrew, ON): The Foundation is extremely proud to announce Erica Treflik-Body as the 2022 Claudette MacKay-Lassonde PhD Award recipient.

Ms. Treflik-Body is a Civil Engineering (Coastal & Geotechnical Engineering) Ph.D. student at Queen’s University who is highly motivated to continue to make strides and lead the way for future female engineers. She was chosen amongst a very competitive field of numerous candidates from across the country, to win the $15,000 award Claudette Mackay-Lassonde Award, for her personal success as well as her contributions to the engineering profession and her commitment towards engineering and serving others.

Ms. Treflik-Body says that her “research focus is on physical modelling of coastal slope hazards and tsunami wave generation”. As part of her work, she hopes to further her abilities to predict the magnitude of waves formed as a result of landslides and submerged failures to better protect coastal communities. “I continuously put myself in leadership roles within my community to make space and be a role model for women. This started during my undergraduate degree at Queen’s University through my extra curricular involvement” states Erica.

At Queen’s University, Ms. Treflik-Body is the Treasurer and Events Coordinator for Queen’s Graduate Executive and serves as the Canadian Geotechnical Society Kingston Student Chapter president. Her role as a Science Formal Construction Manager during her fourth year of engineering, was to oversee and delegate construction tasks to all her fellow fourth year engineering students to construct a 2-storey main stage within one of the banquet halls on campus.

In the fall of 2021, Ms. Treflik-Body had the honour of teaching the Civil Professional Skills course at Queen’s University where she led a weeklong intensive course for 115 students in Civil Engineering where students were challenged to design construct and race cardboard canoes. Through this role, she taught lessons on leadership, developed her presentation skills, and focused on teamwork and inclusivity in engineering.

“It is incredibly encouraging to see so many qualified applicants in this field. It made our job as judges challenging, but Ms. Treflik-Body’s genuine motivation to help women find and pursue their passions makes her a worthy winner” says Julie Lassonde, CEMF President. “We're delighted to see her infectious enthusiasm for engineering and are thrilled to be supporting her in her future endeavors.”
Since 1990, the Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation has been promoting engineering as a career choice for young Canadian women through its extensive award and networking program.

For more information about any scholarship recipients or to arrange an interview, please contact CEMF at 1-866-883-2363, info@cemf.ca, www.cemf.ca.