



The Ontario Network of Women in Engineering (ONWiE) aims to increase the number of girls choosing engineering

TD Bank Group announced as an Innovator Partner of Ontario Network of Women in Engineering (ONWiE).

TORONTO – November 22, 2019 – The Ontario Network of Women in Engineering provides programming that inspires young women to pursue careers in engineering and technology. With the generous support of TD Bank Group (TD), ONWiE will be able to provide workshops for approximately 5000 girls this year.

“As we face new and difficult challenges in rapidly-changing industries, we need to find the most creative solutions – and this is best done by diverse teams. The Ontario Network of Women in Engineering has led the way in building a pipeline of talented women who are excited about engineering and technology,” said Dr. Kim Jones, Chair of ONWiE and an Associate Professor of Chemical Engineering at McMaster University.

ONWiE provides hands-on workshops in Go ENG Girl, Go CODE Girl and Girl Guide Badge Days give young women exposure to the potential of engineering to change the world for the better. The girls work closely with female engineering students as mentors, which builds their confidence. Parents are also engaged throughout as ongoing family support is vital in pursuing these interests.

Held at Engineering Faculties across the country, these workshops have reached over 40,000 girls since their inception in 2005. Over that time, the representation of women in undergraduate engineering programs in Canada has steadily grown. Through the Network, engineering faculties share best practices and new research. Go ENG Girl events happened through October and Go CODE Girl and Girl Guide Badge Day events will take place in the new year.

“At TD, we know that diverse teams are critical to the success of any organization and are proud to be an employer of choice for women,” said Jeff Martin, Senior Vice President & CTO, Infrastructure Technology Solutions. “We are committed to helping shape the future for women in engineering and technology and recognize that investing in early talent by working with organizations like ONWiE will help create more female representation in both our workforce and our communities.”

Potential participants can sign up for upcoming Ontario Network of Women in Engineering events at www.onwie.ca . On November 21st, ONWiE will be hosting a Summit in Hamilton. The gala dinner is open to the public and will feature Maria Klawe, the president of Harvey Mudd College, who is famous for achieving gender parity in computer science. She will be speaking on “Increasing the Number of Women in Tech”.

“By supporting our work, TD is demonstrating a commitment to investing in young women and promoting new voices in the engineering. They are showing a vision of the 21st century workplace that encourages innovation, equity, diversity and inclusion,” said Dr. Jones.

In addition to support from innovator partner TD, ONWiE has received generous support from additional innovator partners including the Council of Ontario Deans of Engineering and the McMaster University Faculty of Engineering. Suez is the title sponsor of the Summit in November.

About the Ontario Network of Women in Engineering

ONWiE was formed in 2005 as a result of a roundtable discussion with representatives from all engineering and applied sciences schools in Ontario. ONWiE works collaboratively with other stakeholders to support current female engineers, students, and encourage the next generation of women to pursue careers in engineering.

It is a unique and innovative collaboration that works to address low female enrollment in engineering programs. ONWiE is the primary network through which Ontario schools and faculties of engineering and applied science work together to collectively address the status of women in engineering. The outreach programs delivered by ONWiE work to promote a positive image of STEM professions and to instill in girls the confidence they need to pursue careers in these fields.

Go ENG Girl and Go CODE Girl are free annual events organized by ONWiE and Canada’s top universities. Girls in grades 7-10 are offered the chance to learn more about engineering fields and coding through a series of fun hands-on activities and exhibits. Female undergraduate students, professional engineers, and professors take part in the day to share their stories of passion, inspiration and success.

This year marks the 14th anniversary for the Go ENG Girl program since its inception in Ontario in 2005. Held at 27 universities across Canada, the Go ENG Girl event will serve 1900 girls this year and will expose them to national and international opportunities in engineering fields.

To find a local university and register for the event please visit: <https://events.onwie.ca>

Note to Editors: To request a press pass to the Summit, please contact kjones@mcmaster.ca

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