

Oddly, it's feeling an awful lot like December 2020 even though it's 2021. While we made the best of the guidance and restrictions imposed upon us for COVID, it seems like we're headed into 2022 with the same concerns around travel, community spread, and the risks of in-person events. Not quite what we were hoping for, especially after rolling up our sleeves for vaccinations and following all the health and safety advice. I am sure many of you reading this newsletter have had to make changes to your plans to celebrate Christmas as a result.

While we are all likely feeling quite tired of this never-ending pandemic, let's remember there's always something to be thankful for. I am grateful that despite the hard-hitting challenges to our industry, the community around Women in Aerospace Canada remained engaged and resilient. Even if holiday plans changed, take the time to reflect on what has gone well in 2021 and focus on self-care to recharge the batteries for 2022. This marathon isn't over yet!

Wishing you and yours a peaceful and joyful holiday season. We look forward to seeing you in 2022, even if only virtually.

Eva Martinez, Vice-President WIA-Canada

Recent Events

Power of Positive Thinking

On 22 September 2021, Brenda Landry of [Evoke Consulting](#) spoke to us about the Power of Positive Thinking. Most of us know that our thoughts inform our attitude, emotions and behaviour. That's why things like self-talk and positive messaging are so important. During the session, Brenda focused on how to change the conversations we have with ourselves and others to create a more positive experience in your life particularly as we continue to be challenged with COVID.



Advancing Women in Aerospace Leadership Certificate – I

Congratulations to another 22 successful graduates of the Advancing Women in Aerospace Leadership Certificate Training Program Part 1. The four modules covered in this highly engaging and interactive program included Brand Yourself, Positively Confident, Developing Leadership Presence, and Handling Challenging Situations.



DEFSEC Speed Mentoring

On 5 October 2021, as part of DEFSEC, WIA-Canada and [WIDS](#) hosted another virtual speed mentoring event. Sponsored by [SERCQ](#), we had a fantastic turnout of spotlight speakers, mentors, and mentees.



WIA-Canada Book Club

In November 2021, we kicked off our Book Club – a forum for women in aerospace and other related sectors to discuss their experiences in the workplace. With the help of articles and one book, each session tackles a particular topic including the importance of diversity, equality, the importance of women in these sectors, and COVID's impact on women in the workforce. Each session is moderated by a WIA-C Director, facilitating conversations around the articles and how they relate to our lives, some lessons we took from the articles, anything of particular interest and suggestions of what more can and should be done.



Atlantic Canada Christmas Party

On Wednesday 15 December, a small group of members from the Atlantic region gathered at The Birch & Anchor to celebrate the upcoming holiday season. This was our first in-person gathering in many months and likely the last for the foreseeable future. Living with the pandemic has certainly affected our ability to meet regularly; however, the health and safety recommendations are occasionally conducive.



WIA-Canada Virtual Christmas Party with Chef Anthony

On Thursday 16 December, WIA-Canada hosted a virtual cooking class to celebrate the holiday season. Chef Anthony Zolkiewicz from [Gastro Market Inc.](#) taught participants to make Basil Tomato Caprese, Chicken Coq au Vin, and No-Bake Vanilla Cheesecake! Thanks to Safran and Collins for their generous sponsorship of WIA-Canada's holiday celebrations. Keep reading to see more pictures!



Upcoming Events

WIA-Canada Book Club

It's not too late to join the WIA-Canada Book Club. Each session runs from 60 to 90 minutes and will concentrate on one article (sometimes two). All articles pertaining to a particular session and date will be sent to you as a PDF attachment for your reading prior to the session. The next session (11 January 2021) will be moderated by Nancy Barber and will feature the book *The Fix* by Michelle P. King. To join the book club, register [here](#).

Supply Chain 101 Technical Series

WIA-Canada is delighted to partner with Supply Chain Coach and Consultant [Ana Lovera](#) to provide this exclusive Supply Chain 101 Technical Series to our aerospace community: open to women and men in any role.



Whether you are a supply chain professional or not, this unique program (sponsored by [Nitrex](#)) is designed to provide participants with an opportunity to gain knowledge on supply chain activities, especially as these have become more critical than ever in the post-pandemic business world and ongoing economic recovery efforts. This program will enhance your understanding of the forces that influence business operations and how we can manage them efficiently. This virtual 6-week workshop will take place via Zoom on Wednesdays from 12 pm to 1:30 pm Eastern and will cover the following topics:

- 12 Jan 2022 – Getting Started in Supply Chain Management
- 19 Jan 2022 – The Supplier Development Journey
- 26 Jan 2022 – Understanding ERP Systems and Inventory Management
- 02 Feb 2022 – Risk Assessment and Crisis Management in Supply Chain
- 09 Feb 2022 – Supply Chain Sustainability and Innovation
- 16 Feb 2022 – Increase Confidence through Expertise: A Workshop

To learn more or to register, click [here](#).

WIA Europe – Women in STEM White Paper

On 1 February 2022, WIA Europe will be given an opportunity to speak on their STEM Education in Europe [White Paper](#). The White Paper Working Group consists of individual and corporate members, embracing as many perspectives as possible to profoundly cover relevant topics and provide actionable recommendations. This particular White Paper gives a concise summary of the main issues, transverse across European countries, focusing on early inspiration, retention of young women, the contribution and influence of peers/family, the perception of women in STEM careers, and the importance of European coordination.



It delivers a plentiful set of recommendations to address each weakness, emphasizing the role of the aerospace sector and the contribution that organizations such as WIA-Europe can make to society, both locally and at a European level, to encourage young people, especially girls, to pursue pathways into STEM. Keep an eye out for details.

Advancing Women in Aerospace Leadership Certificate – II

February 2, 9, 16, and 23, Brenda Landry of [Evoke Consulting](#) will host four modules for Part 2 of the Advancing Women in Aerospace Leadership Training Certificate. These include Navigating the Political Landscape, Growing Your Network, Building Strategic Relationships, and Adapting to Change. If you have successfully completed Part 1, you are welcome to join us for Part 2. Please send an email to Eva Martinez at atlantic@wia-canada.org for more details.

International Women's Day 2022

Join us on 8 March 2022 for our annual celebration of International Women's Day. This year's theme is Break the Bias. Imagine a gender equal world. A world free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination. A world that is diverse, equitable, and inclusive. A world where difference is valued and celebrated. Together we can forge women's equality. Collectively we can all #BreakTheBias.



WIA-Canada Mentoring Program

Coming this spring...keep an eye out for details about this amazing mentoring program!

Leadership Lessons from Space



Join us on 8 April 2022 for a virtual keynote address by famed Canadian astronaut, aquanaut, jet pilot, ER doctor, scientist, CEO and best-selling author Dr. Dave Williams on leadership lessons learned from space and the importance of teamwork and corporate culture.

Details to follow!

WIA-Canada will be cohosting the 18th Biennial [CCWESTT](#) (Canadian Coalition of Women in Engineering, Science, Trades and Technology) Conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia on May 12-14, 2022 with [WISEatlantic](#).



To learn more about the **Reach for the Stars: Creating Impact Together** themed-conference, or to register, click [here](#). The aim of the conference will be to build alliances, highlight our achievements, and work together towards a more diverse SETT workforce in Canada. This conference will bring together CCWESTT members and other stakeholders from across Canada representing engineering, science, trades, technology, and mathematics for two-and-a-half jam packed days of inspiration, networking, learning, sharing best practices, collaboration and previewing of the latest technologies and resources to support their activities.

Stay Connected

Are you a WIA-Canada Member?

Members of WIA-Canada represent all levels of employment in aerospace – from entry level to senior executives, from administrative to technical to engineering roles and everything in between. If you are a woman working in the aerospace industry, WIA-Canada is definitely for you! As a not-for-profit organization, Women in Aerospace Canada uses membership fees as predictable and ongoing funding of our operational expenses.

Throughout the ongoing pandemic, we demonstrated the ability to pivot to virtual events. This has allowed us to bridge the geographical divides that previously justified different regional pricing. Most of our events now boast national, even international, representation, thereby allowing attendees to grow their network by leaps and bounds. Although we haven't been able to meet in person, WIA-Canada remains a vibrant national organization committed to its members and the professional advancement of women in this industry.

If you aren't already a member of WIA-Canada, don't delay, [join/renew](#) today!

Benefits of memberships include:

- **Front of Line** – members receive exclusive first round early access to tickets before non-members so you can avoid the disappointment of a sold out event when tickets go public!
- **Event Discounts** – members will benefit from lower pricing for their tickets compared to full-price for non-members.
- **Exclusive Events** – participate in special member-only events.
- **Newsletter** – free announcements and advertising in the Quarterly Newsletter.

Check out our Website – www.wia-canada.org

To join our email list, send an e-mail to leigh.kras@wia-canada.org!

