

IEEQ: Facilitating Professional Registration for Newcomers

Immigrating to a new country can be difficult. In addition to cultural differences, many people with strong technical backgrounds in their home country struggle to have their education and credentials recognized in Canada. The Internationally Educated Engineering Qualification (IEEQ) Program is a pathway for engineers educated outside of Canada to meet partial licensing requirements for professional engineering practice in Manitoba. In this panel discussion, you'll learn about the program and meet three engineers who have either been through, or are currently enrolled in, the IEEQ program. They'll give insight into the challenges they faced and the connections they made in the program that have made them leaders in their profession.

Kathryn Atamanchuk, P.Eng., MBA, PMP

Kathryn holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering (Aerospace Option) and an MBA, both from the University of Manitoba. She began her engineering career at StandardAero, where she held various technical and leadership roles. Kathryn is now the aero-engine test Engineer-in-Residence in the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Manitoba where she provides mentorship to engineering students, facilitates aero-engine related research, and teaches courses in Instrumentation and Operations and Project Management. Kathryn is passionate about engineering and volunteers on several committees promoting the profession. She is currently the Chair of the Committee for Increasing the Participation of Women in Engineering (CIPWIE).



Ethel Fernandez, P.Eng.

Ethel Fernandez is a registered professional engineer in the province of Manitoba. Prior to immigrating to Canada, she worked as a Senior Quality Assurance Engineer and Supervisor in electronics manufacturing industries with Japanese-owned firms. She obtained her bachelor's degree in Electronics and Communication Engineering in the Philippines and received her Post-Baccalaureate Diploma in Engineering at the University of Manitoba by completing the Internationally-Educated Engineers Qualification (IEEQ) program in 2013. She is currently working as a Quality Systems Engineer for a crown corporation and is the current president of the Filipino Members Chapter-Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba. Ethel is also a member of Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba's Experience Review Committee and writes for Pilipino Express, a local newspaper magazine. Her column titled, "Life of Canadian PI", features inspiring stories of fellow Filipino engineers, the Filipino Members Chapter's activities and other relevant topics.



Sukhdeep Burmi, P.Eng.

Sukhdeep is a Transmission Line Engineer at Manitoba Hydro. She holds a Bachelor of Civil Engineering degree from Punjab Technical University in India and a Drafting CAD Certificate from Red River College. Sukhdeep completed the Internationally Educated Engineers Qualification Program (IEEQ) at the University of Manitoba in 2010 and is a Professional Engineer registered with Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba.



Kathleen Clarke, B.Ed.

For the past twelve years, Kathleen has been the Communications Instructor for the Internationally Educated Engineers Qualification Program (IEEQ) at the University of Manitoba. Throughout her career, she has specialized in curriculum development and instruction in English for specific purposes, particularly for internationally educated professionals. Kathleen co-teaches the IEEQ Program core course, Professional Engineering Practise in Manitoba. Her focus in the course is on culture in the workplace, intercultural communication, English language skills and technical writing.



Nuno Mendonca

Nuno holds a Bachelor Degree in Civil Engineering from Portugal (2007), and has spent over 6 years working as a Project Manager at various general contractor and structural firms in Portugal and France. Since relocating to Canada, Nuno has enrolled in the IEEQ program and expects to graduate in October 2017. He has spent 6 months working as a pile inspector for TREK Geotechnical and has already secured a permanent position at TREK, where he will work in the geotechnical field upon his graduation from the IEEQ program.

