



## Backgrounder

### **The Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation 20 Years of Investing in the Future “Dream To Be an Engineer”**

Promotion, encouragement, scholarship, and education – these are the basic tenets that drive the goals and achievements of the Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation. It is through these principals that the Foundation has been providing inspiration and opportunities for young people, especially women, to choose and pursue exciting careers in engineering.

The Foundation is committed to creating a world where engineering meets the needs and challenges of Canadians by engaging the skills and talents of both men and women alike. The Foundation is dedicated to attracting more women to the engineering profession so they may contribute in a truly inclusive manner. In so doing, they also honour the memory of the 14 women from École Polytechnique whose contributions to Canada ended on December 6, 1989.

Through the generosity of its donors and supporters, the Foundation is able to promote engineering as a career option to young women – helping many of Canada’s most talented students pursue an education in engineering.

Each year up to five scholarships are awarded by the Foundation to women in their first, second or third year of an accredited engineering undergraduate degree program. These \$5,000 scholarships are available to students from Canada’s five regions. Scholarship recipients are leaders in their community, involved in volunteer work and services and participate in extracurricular activities. Young women selected to receive these scholarships serve as role models to others and must be willing to promote engineering through visits to local high-schools and in their communities. High marks and academic achievement are not criteria.

For post graduate studies the Foundation offers a scholarship in the amount of \$15,000 – this scholarship is named after one of the Foundation’s original founders, Claudette McKay-Lassonde, who passed away in June 2000. The scholarship recognizes a candidate who has acted as a leader in her community, who has dedicated her time and energy to promoting engineering as a career to young people, who is involved in research and teaching and who is enrolled full-time in a graduate engineering program at the PhD level.

In early 2006 Vale Inco became the first Canadian corporation to partner with the Foundation to offer named scholarships. The Vale Inco Undergraduate Scholarship program consists of three \$10,000 scholarships along with one \$10,000 Vale Inco Master's Engineering Scholarship. Recipients may be provided with a summer job opportunity with Vale Inco.

Later that year, AMEC partnered with CEMF to fund a new \$10,000 AMEC Master's Scholarship in Engineering and a \$5,000 undergraduate AMEC Aboriginal Scholarship in Engineering. The master's scholarship may also come with a summer job opportunity at one of the many AMEC locations across Canada.

Most recently, the Foundation created the CEMF 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary National Scholarship for Women in Engineering. In recognition of 20 years of providing engineering scholarships to Canadian women to study engineering who are leaders in their communities, a \$10,000 undergraduate engineering scholarship is being offered in 2010. The winner will act as a mentor to other young women to encourage them to pursue a career in engineering. Like all CEMF scholarships, this unique award is not based on academic achievement. Applicants must be female engineering students at the undergraduate level enrolled full-time in an accredited university engineering program at a Canadian university.

Most CEMF scholarship winners are required to make at least one presentation to a pre-university audience to encourage others to consider engineering as a career choice. All scholarships are awarded based on leadership, extracurricular activities and the applicant's dedication to encouraging more women to become engineers.

For more information on the Foundation, its scholarships and programs, to find out how your company can partner with CEMF or how you can contribute as an individual, please visit the website at [www.cemf.ca](http://www.cemf.ca) or contact the Foundation directly.

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