

2021 Judith Weizmann Women in Engineering Champion Award

Maria Neufeld, P.Eng.



Maria Neufeld, P.Eng., is a distinguished electrical engineer and the Director of Transmission Operations and Maintenance at Manitoba Hydro. She has long since been recognized as a leader and role model in the workplace, in the engineering community, and in the industry both locally and internationally. As a champion for women in engineering, Maria chairs the 30 by 30 Task Force at Manitoba Hydro, leading a team in developing action plans to recruit and retain women in engineering. She also serves on the Engineers Change Lives Provincial Steering Committee and the industry coalition to lead changes to improve the participation of women in STEM.

For years, Maria has served as a mentor for engineering students and engineering interns in the Women in Engineering and Geoscience Mentorship Program. She is also a regular volunteer and mentor at the University of Manitoba's Make Your Move event, an event targeted at female grade eight students, challenging them to undertake engineering design challenges and demystify engineering. As a well-respected role model, Maria is often asked to speak (and generously agrees to do so) at events to promote the engineering profession. Maria is also an avid volunteer within her community, helping the United Way achieve their mission of creating opportunities for a better life for Manitobans by bravely shaving her head, raising over \$1,300 in the process!

Maria leads by example. She doesn't shy away from difficult challenges and is generous with her time and knowledge. Through her professional and volunteer works, she has greatly inspired her colleagues, other engineers, and young women to see their potential, trust themselves, dream bigger, and do better.

In recognition of Maria's outstanding advancement and support of women in engineering, Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba is pleased to present the 2021 Judith Weizmann Women in Engineering Champion Award to Maria Neufeld, P.Eng.