It has been an eventful year for the NSERC Chair for Women in Science and Engineering, BC and Yukon.

Our mission is to advance engineering and science as welcoming careers that serve our world through holistic understanding and creative, appropriate and sustainable solutions, and we have made a strong start towards this goal.

Since our formal launch on September 28, 2010 we have been featured in local and national media, presented in a variety of venues, and hosted a number of events and initiatives - in the classroom, at work, in the community, and in academe. This update includes information about many of them.

Thank you to our sponsors, supporters, and advisors - this would not be possible without your contributions and feedback. In the words of John Lennon, "A dream you dream alone is only a dream. A dream you dream together is reality."

Thank you for dreaming with us,
Dr. Elizabeth Croft, P.Eng., FEC, FASME Chairholder
Jennifer Pelletier
Heather Gerrits
Program Assistant

Leadership Development Workshops for Women in Industry Successfully Piloted

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The workshops were very successful - the host companies were happy with the outcomes, the participants gave positive reviews, and data from an occupational self-efficacy scale completed by participants indicated improvements in self-efficacy.

"Discussing these topics with other women increased my confidence and inspires me to continue developing leadership skills," one participant shared.

Following this successful pilot, WWEST is seeking new partner companies to bring more workshops to more women in engineering across BC and the Yukon.

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Statistically significant (p=0.05) difference between pre- and post-survey.

Survey adapted from Rigotti, Schyns & Mohr, Occupational Self-Efficacy Scale: Structural and Construct Validity Across 5 Countries (2008)
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Other activities included:
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- GEERING UP! UBC Engineering & Science for Kids: Workshops for Girls Guides units and Girls Only! Day camps  
- Girl Guides of Canada – SOAR: STEM activities at an international camp for girls aged 11-18  
- IEEE-WIE Affinity Group Vancouver: STAR (Student, Teachers, and Research) program for grade 4-10 students to increase awareness about careers in science and engineering  
- SFU Girls Exploring Physics: Workshops to introduce girls in grades 9 and 10 to physics  
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WWEST was also visible in the community at the UBC Engineering Open House, as well as at the APEGBC Vancouver Branch E-Fest, where we co-hosted a booth with NWIEC to increase awareness of women in engineering and challenged the public to answer trivia on how engineers help society.

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Beyond the Leadership Development Workshops described on the cover of the booklet, WWEST is interested in looking more closely at women in engineering in BC, and is planning to launch a case study in the fall. WWEST is excited to be collaborating with Dr. Ruby Heap (University of Ottawa) and Dr. Toni Schmader (UBC) for this initiative.

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- Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC, Division for the Advancement of Women in Engineering and Geoscience, Advisory Board  
- International Network of Women in Engineering & Science, CWIE +20 Task Force  
- UBC Faculty Association, Status of Women Committee  
- UBC Faculty of Applied Science, Status of Women Faculty in Applied Science  
- UBC Faculty of Applied Science, Women in Engineering Program Faculty Advisor  
- UBC Faculty of Applied Science, Community Service Learning Committee

**Other activities included:**
- Hosted Imposter Panel Discussion at UBC (in conjunction with the Launch of the Chair)  
- Co-hosted a networking breakfast for all groups involved in the promotion of women in SET in BC and the Yukon  
- Profiled in the “Mothers of Invention” exhibit at the Historic Stewart Farm, City of Surrey  
- Featured as a Wonder Woman at the SCWIST XX Evening  
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