



WESTCOAST WOMEN IN ENGINEERING,
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Westcoast Women in Engineering, Science and Technology (WWEST) is the operating name of the Canadian Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Chairs for Women in Science and Engineering (CWSE) British Columbia and Yukon Region. WWEST is housed at the University of British Columbia Okanagan (UBCO), under the Direction of BC/Yukon Chair, Dr. Jennifer Jakobi. WWEST aims to increase the number of women and other underrepresented persons in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education and career fields, locally and globally.



Dr. Jennifer Jakobi



Chairs for Women in Science and Engineering /
Chaires pour les femmes en sciences et en génie
Chairs for Inclusion in Science and Engineering /
Chaires pour l'inclusion en sciences et en génie



WWEST provides evidence-informed, STEM programming, built on foundations of innovation, collaboration, and inclusion, for participants in stages of early years to professional career advancement. Through positive relationships and strong community partnerships, WWEST has developed and delivered programming that is created with local community.

Programming encompasses a variety of experiences and platforms to ensure equitable, accessible and low-barrier involvement. WWEST prides their programs on positive and reciprocal relationships, best practices, and promotion of diverse and inclusive STEM across education, research and workplace settings.

Community Based Programming:

WWEST works alongside community groups to provide hands-on STEM experiences, and increase conversation and engagement in STEM, across all ages and abilities. Community-based programming includes:

- Festivals & Fairs
- Intergenerational Events for youth and caregivers
- Youth camps in Kelowna and Vernon (spring, summer, winter)





K-12 Education:

The WWEST Educator team supports and enhances teacher professional growth, comfort, and confidence, in developing curriculum linked STEM lessons and assessments, to increase student curiosity, interest and excitement. WWEST supports K-12 school teachers, students, and families through:

- Personalized professional growth
- Afterschool programs
- Science Fair program development
- Parent Advisory Council partnerships
- UBCO STEM tours and workshops
- Unique in-person curriculum support
- Collaborative development and delivery of a series of research informed, curriculum-linked, hands-on learning activities:
 - once a week for four weeks within the local Okanagan region, and two to four lessons within a compacted travel period time, for those outside the Okanagan region
 - ongoing and sustainable support for teachers and classrooms



Post-Secondary Students, Staff and Faculty:

WWEST provides experiential learning opportunities and resources to post-secondary students, staff and faculty, through:

- Workshops focused on equity, diversity and inclusion, and/or allyship training
- Career fairs
- Podcasts and Infographics
- Indigenous STEM mentors/mentorship training
- Teacher candidate Community Field Experiences and in-class sessions
- Volunteer and employment opportunities
- Academic Advancement workshops
- Invited speaker events and presentations



We are grateful for our partnerships, donors and supporters which support us in elevating STEM and reaching demand for programming across the region. These include, but are not limited to: School Boards/Districts, Parent Advisory Councils, Public Library, Post-Secondary Institutions, Private Businesses, Museums, Science Centres, NSERC CWSE-CISE Network.

If you want to learn more about WWEST or become a donor, partner or collaborator, please connect with us through email: wwest.ok@ubc.ca or website: wwest-cwse.ca. Keep updated with us at:

