

Mapping the Field of Women in IT in Canada

Groups: Women's IT Networks

1. Immigrating Women in Science (IWIS)	
What it is:	non-profit initiative network parent organization: Society of Canadian Women in Science and Technology (SCWIST)
Designed to Impact:	workforce, formal and informal training, entrepreneurship, leadership
Target Population:	immigrant
Mandate:	help build an active community of female immigrant professionals where they can seek support and mentorship to settle in Canada and active employment commensurate with their prior academic and professional experience in SETT
Geographical Region Served:	BC
Website:	http://iwisblog.wordpress.com/
Contact Information:	iwis2@sfu.ca 471 – 411 Dunsmuir Street Vancouver, BC, V6B 1X4
Contact Name:	
Start Date:	blog began April 09
Area of Specialty:	SETT
Funding:	through SCWIST volunteers
Other Notes:	newsletter ESL handbook (on SCWIST site: http://www.scwist.ca/images/uploads/Handbook.pdf)

2. LinkedIn Group: Femmes en Technologie	
What It Is:	online network
Designed to Impact:	workforce, informal and formal training, entrepreneurship, leadership
Target Population:	university professionals academia industry
Mandate:	to increase the number of women in ICT, quality of work life and their chance to gain access to senior management ("Femmes en Technologie vise a augmenter le nombre de femmes dans le domaine des TIC, leur qualité de vie au travail et leur chance d'accéder à des postes de haute direction.")
Geographical Region Served:	Québec
Website:	http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=1982337&home=
Contact Information:	
Contact :	Huguette Guilhaumon, Communications Career and Management Studies at McGill University Solange Girard
Timing:	created 2009
Area of Specialty:	IT
Funding Sources:	
Other Notes:	82 members

3. LinkedIn Group: Women 2.0	
What It Is:	online network
Designed to Impact:	workforce, informal and formal training, entrepreneurship, leadership
Target Population:	professionals entrepreneurs
Mandate:	to increase the number of female founders of technology startups
Geographical Region Served:	international
Website:	http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=1827&trk=anetsrch_name&goback=.gdr_1274726317330_1
Contact Information:	http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=1827&trk=anetsrch_name&goback=.gdr_1274726317330_1
Contact Name:	Angie Chang, Shaherose Charania and Baat Enosh
Timing:	started 2007
Area of Specialty:	IT
Funding Sources:	
Other Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 20,263 members - supports entrepreneurs with a network, resources and knowledge to take your startup from an idea to launch. - headquartered in San Francisco - founded connected to Geek Girl SF

Industry Associations and Initiatives

4. Canadian Women in Communications	
What It Is:	professional association
Designed to Impact:	workforce, education, entrepreneurship, leadership
Target Population:	professionals university
Mandate:	- dedicated to the advancement of women in the communications sector through strategic networking, targeted professional development and meaningful recognition.
Geographical Region Served:	national
Website:	http://www.cwc-afc.com
Contact Information:	67 Yonge Street, Suite 804, Toronto, ON M5E 1J8 Tel: (416) 363-1880 or 1-800-361-2978 Fax: (416) 363-1882 e-mail: cwcafc@cwc-afc.com
Contact Name:	Stephanie MacKendrick, President mackend@cwc-afc.com, (416) 363-1880, ext 302 Chair of the Board: Sandra Mason , CFO, <i>The Globe and Mail</i> , Toronto IT Outreach Task Force Chair (Board): Martine Normand , Vice-President, Human Resources, Xerox Canada Ltd, North York, ON
Timing:	established as Canadian Women in Radio and Television (CWRT) in 1991
Area of Specialty:	IT
Funding Sources:	membership fees Long list of "patrons" Direct funders: - Canwest - Corus - CTVglobemedia - KPMG - Rogers - Xerox
Other Notes:	- raises the profile of women working in the communications field through a number of benefits, services, awards and internships, a national mentoring program, local and national events, professional development, high-profile initiatives like the Women on Boards program and through strong partnerships with government agencies, industry corporations and other associations. - regional branches - speakers series with ITAC - scholarships/awards - networking - mentoring

5. NSERC/RIM Chair for Women in Science and Engineering for Ontario (CWSE-ON)	
What It Is:	Public-private partnership; university-based initiative Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) sponsors 5 regional chairs across Canada see http://www.cwse-on.ca/index.jsp?resourceID=5
Designed to Impact:	policy, workforce, education, informal and formal training, leadership
Target Population:	professionals academics university
Mandate:	to increase the participation of women of all ages in science and engineering
Geographical Region Served:	Ontario
Website:	http://www.cwse-on.ca/
Contact Information:	NSERC/RIM Chair for Women in Science and Engineering – Ontario University of Guelph School of Engineering Thornbrough Building, Room 206 Guelph ON N1G 2W1
Contact Name:	Valerie Davidson, Chair holder 519-824-4120 Ext. 54367 vdauidso@uoguelph.ca
Timing:	established in 1996
Area of Specialty:	science and engineering
Funding Sources:	Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) University of Guelph RIM
Other Notes:	In collaboration with partners and volunteers from across the province, CWSE-ON delivers and supports innovative outreach, research, networking and advocacy initiatives towards its goal.

6. Women in ICT	
What It Is:	industry initiative parent organization: Information and Communications Technology Council (ICTC)
Designed to Impact:	policy, workforce, education, formal training, entrepreneurship
Target Population:	industry academia
Mandate:	seeks to bridge the gap between women and the ICT workforce through collaboration and programs that outreach and increase attraction, recruitment, and retention in Canada's ICT sector.
Geographical Region Served:	national
Website:	http://www.ictc-ctic.ca/en/Content.aspx?id=1728
Contact Information:	
Contact Name:	
Timing:	2008 for forums; 2008, 2009 for reports
Area of Specialty:	IT
Funding Sources:	Government of Canada Sector Council Program Microsoft
Other Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reports (listed in this mapping under "reports") - convened national forums on Women in ICT (2008) - Information Technology Professional (ITP) Program—for post-graduates interested in careers in the IT sector

7. Canadian Coalition for Tomorrow's ICT Skills (CCICT)	
What It Is:	industry network
Designed to Impact:	policy, workforce, education, formal training, leadership
Target Population:	industry government academia
Mandate:	to ensure that Canadian organizations can engage information and communications technology professionals with knowledge, skills and talents to meet the evolving and diverse needs of this field to increase awareness about information and communications technologies, especially among potential employees
Geographical Region Served:	national
Website:	http://www.ccict.ca/
Contact Information:	Canadian Coalition for Tomorrow's ICT Skills 1-A Carrefour Alexander Graham Bell, 4th floor Verdun, QC, H3E 3B3 cell 416.709.1565
Contact Name:	David Ticoll dticoll@ccict.ca http://ticoll.typepad.com/electronic_cottage/ http://twitter.com/dticoll
Timing:	started in 2007
Area of Specialty:	IT
Funding Sources:	Bell Canada
Other Notes:	- D. Ticoll talks a lot about gender in his blog - reports almost all deal with gender and the ICT labour shortage in some way - industry members include: Computer Talk, Microsoft, Government of Ontario, Sapphire Technologies, Symantex, Xerox, IBM - many academic partners as well

8. CATA WIT (Women in Technology) Forum	
What It Is:	network industry initiative parent organization: Canadian Advanced Technology Alliance (CATA Alliance)
Designed to Impact:	policy, workforce, formal training, entrepreneurship, leadership
Target Population:	professionals university
Mandate:	- Forum committed to the advancement of women in technology under the CATAAlliance innovation umbrella. - help women in technology companies advance in their careers and succeed as entrepreneurs through mentoring, networking, professional development and advocacy.
Geographical Region Served:	national
Website:	http://www.catawit.ca/
Contact Information:	207 Bank St., Suite 416 Ottawa, ON K2P 2N2 Tel: (613) 236-6550 info@cata.ca
Contact Name:	Joanne Stanley Executive Director CATA WIT Forum 613-746-9291 jstanley@cata.ca Dr. Cindy Gordon, Chair of CATA WIT Forum, and CEO Helix Commerce International Inc.
Timing:	2005 to present
Area of Specialty:	technology
Funding Sources:	Canadian Advanced Technology Alliance (CATAAlliance) – industry association with membership fees that support CATA work Helix Xtreme Productivity Microsoft National Research Council Canada MTS Allstream Status of Women
Other Notes:	- individual chapters in BC, Calgary, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal - professional development workshops - newsletter - mentoring - events - has an extensive network of young women in Canada aspiring or already in the IT profession.

	<p>- In 2009, CATA WIT received \$405,000 from the Status of Women for national studies of best practices in IT industry; creating a website for young women called "Bringing IT on"; professional development and mentoring workshops http://www.catawit.ca/features/news/items/news04090901.asp</p>
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9. eMentoring Program	
What It Is:	initiative industry network parent organization: CIO Association of Canada (CIOCAN) and CATA WIT
Designed to Impact:	policy, workforce, education, informal and formal training, entrepreneurship, leadership
Target Population:	professionals university
Mandate:	to support young women's long-term participation in IT industry by giving female IT managers access to experienced CIO mentors
Geographical Region Served:	national
Website:	http://www.catawit.ca/home/ http://www.ciocan.ca/node/449
Contact Information:	CATA WIT Forum 613-746-9291 jstanley@cata.ca
Contact Name:	Joanne Stanley, Executive Director jstanley@cata.ca
Timing:	announced Feb. 2010
Area of Specialty:	IT
Funding Sources:	Microsoft Canada, www.microsoft.ca , Empowered Networks www.empowerednetworks.com , and Achieve Blue www.achieveblue.com
Other Notes:	

10. Women in IT	
What It Is:	professional association initiative parent organization: Canada's Association of Information Technology Professionals (CIPs)
Designed to Impact:	education, workforce,
Target Population:	girls
Mandate:	change the negative perceptions high school girls have about IT careers and to encourage them to pursue a career in IT.
Geographical Region Served:	national
Website:	http://www.cips.ca/women http://www.cips.ca/women?q=witambassador
Contact Information:	info@cips.ca
Contact Name:	
Timing:	
Area of Specialty:	IT
Funding Sources:	
Other Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Women in IT event held in many cities across the country with an objective to enhancing the perceptions high school girls have about IT careers and to encourage them to pursue a career in IT: NFL WIT conference for girls in May 2010 - http://nl.cips.ca/node/7 - Ambassador program – presentations and mentoring for girls by professionals in the field - 2 of the many provincial and city chapters have a women in IT section