

WIPC

Women in Physics Canada Conference

2018 Partnership Plan



The event

The 7th *Women in Physics Canada* Conference (WIPC2018) will be held from July 17th to the 20th, 2018, at Université de Sherbrooke, in Sherbrooke, Québec. This nation-wide conference will bring together more than a hundred female students from across Canada, undergrad through PhD, as well as professors, postdoctoral researchers and professionals from various areas of science and technology.

This event is a one-of-a-kind opportunity for the participants to build their network, to learn about a multitude of options for their future career and to help overcome the obstacles that might come in their way. As this is the first edition to be held in Quebec, this is also a unique opportunity to showcase its scientific talent and the fertile research environment it provides to tomorrow's researchers.

Among other things, the event will showcase:

- Scientific presentations from internationally renowned Quebec female researchers in physics;
- Workshops on leadership and communication skills;
- Seminars on the current situation for women and minorities in physics, and strategies to improve it;
- Discussion panels on career choices;
- Networking activities;
- Opportunities for participants to present their own research.

The most recent studies demonstrate that diversity promotes performance, creativity and innovation. In other words, success. Yet, the fields of science and technology suffer from a blatant lack of diversity. Notably, the number of women working in those fields continues to be largely insufficient to ensure optimal exploitation of our society's talent pool. The *Women in Physics Canada* Conferences are a major element of the global effort aiming to increase women's presence in physics (one of the areas where they are the most underrepresented) and promote diversity in science.

A word from the organizers

The 2018 edition of the *Women in Physics Canada* Conference needs you! You can help make this event a success by becoming a conference partner. Becoming a partner will allow your organization to be known by potential employees and collaborators. Take advantage of this opportunity to position your organization as a supporter of diversity through tangible action that goes beyond just words.

Different partnership options are available. Please contact us for more information or to create a partnership adapted to your needs. We hope we can count on you as a partner of the 2018 *Women in Physics Canada* Conference!

Sincerely yours,

The 2018 *Women in Physics Canada* Conference Organizing Committee

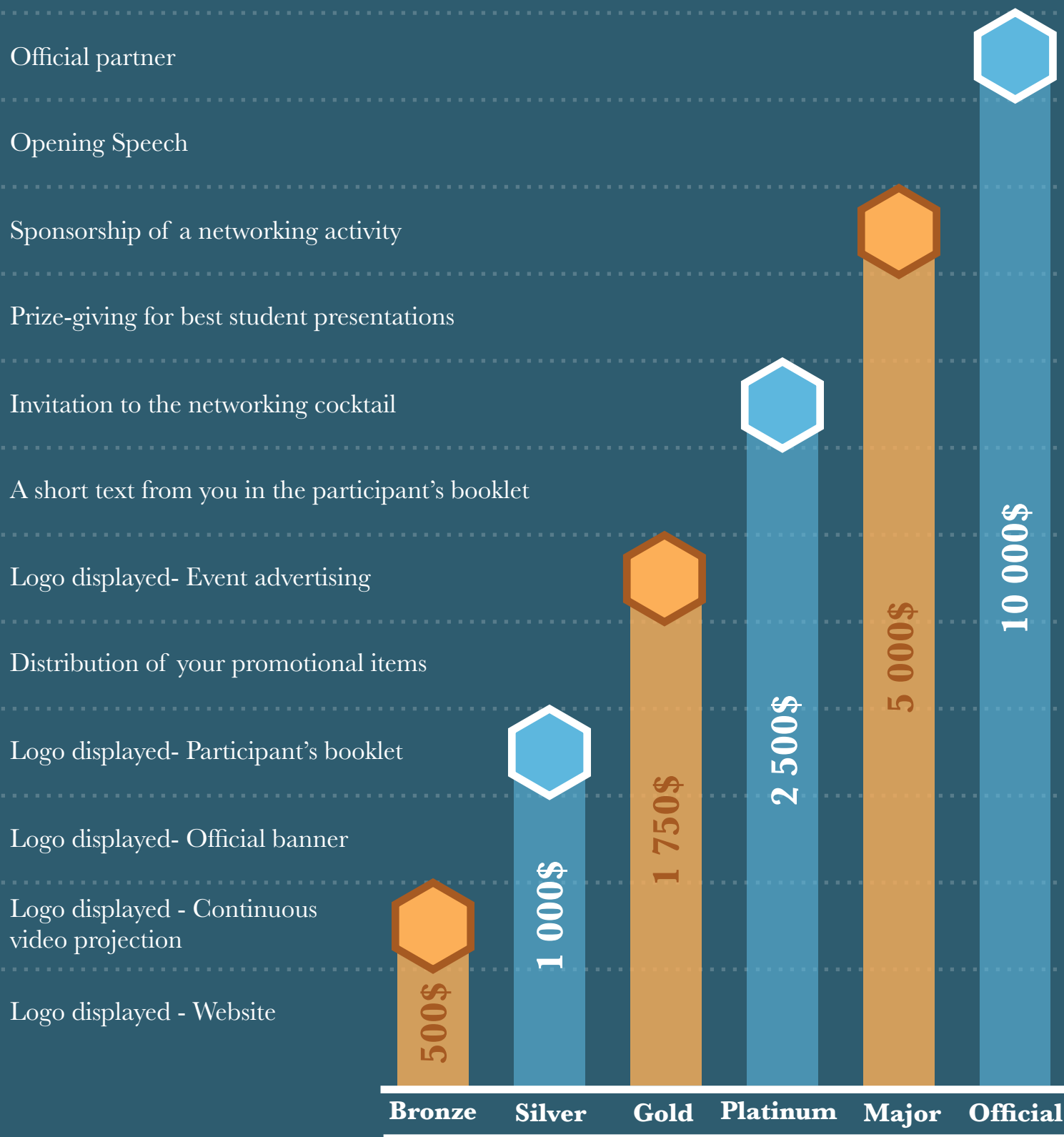


Marie-Eve Boulanger

Sophie Rochette

Maude Lizaire

Partnership offers



To contact us

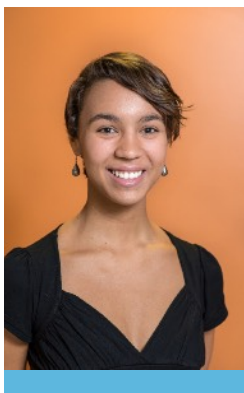


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November 24th, 2017

To the future partners of the Women in Physics Canada Conference 2018,

We are writing to express our strong support for the organization 2018 edition of the *Women in Physics Canada Conference* at Université de Sherbrooke as it is in our commitment for a more diverse research environment to help create the conditions conducive to the success and retention of women in physics.

The Institut Quantique (IQ) at Université de Sherbrooke (UdeS) brings together world leaders in research and interdisciplinary formation in quantum sciences and technologies. The field of quantum technologies is shaping up to be one of the most far-reaching and transformational for the future of microelectronics, information and communication technology (ICT), security and metrology. The IQ is convinced that an increased female presence in the scientific and technology domains is one aspect that will help accelerate quantum sciences and technology development.

We therefore entirely endorse the organizing committee formed by Marie-Eve Boulanger, Maude Lizaire and Sophie Rochette to host the *2018 edition of the Women in Physics Canada Conference* in Sherbrooke. Those three graduate students have been involved in the organization of multiple scientific events for students in the last years, and are dedicated to the cause of improving diversity in physics. Their experience and focus are guaranteed to lead to a fruitful edition of the *Women in Physics Canada Conference*.

To conclude, IQ is proud to endorse this event and is prepared to directly support this exciting initiative. Being part of this event represents a unique opportunity for IQ in its quest to provide exceptional scientific and professional perspectives to our students.

Sincerely,



Alexandre Blais
Institut quantique, Director

December 4, 2017

Re: letter of support for WIPC 2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in support of the organisers of the 2018 edition of *Women in Physics Canada*, to be held at Université de Sherbrooke, July 24–27. The Physics Department at Sherbrooke includes 15 faculty and a total of 200 employees, postdocs and students. It is recognized as a leader in the fields of Quantum Materials and Quantum Information. Its research activities, under the umbrella of the *Institut quantique*, were recognized by the award of one of the five grants of the first CFREF competition in 2015. It is thus a great venue for this conference.

The Physics Department is committed to increasing the visibility of women in Physics and to employ a variety of strategies to encourage women to study Physics. Any activity that reinforces the presence of women in the field, or projects a positive image of the discipline for women is heartily welcome. The Women in Physics Canada Conference is a unique opportunity to bring together students, industry representatives and research leaders from Canada while addressing the pressing issue of women's underrepresentation in Physics with specific activities.

I therefore encourage you to answer favorably to this partnership request, and to support the advancement of women in science by contributing to the success of this conference.

With my best regards,



David Sénéchal



Sherbrooke, Wednesday December 6th 2017

To future partners of the 2018 *Women in Physics* Canada Conference

Subject : Support for the 2018 *Women in Physics* Canada Conference

Dear future partners,

It is with honor that the Quebec Chair for Women in Science and Engineering supports the **2018 *Women in Physics* Canada Conference** to be held at Université de Sherbrooke. Such an event allows women studying and working in physics to present their work and be informed and inspired by the research of other women from the same domain. This event is very important because it provides women the opportunity to grow their networks, meet with leaders in their field, and equip themselves to advance in a fruitful and gratifying career.

Still today, few women choose to study physics. For exemple, in Quebec in 2016, women represented only 25% of enrolment in the physics bachelor's degree, 20% at the master's degree level, and 21% at the PhD level. Yet, the advantages of diversity inside an organization are well-known: it diversifies preoccupations and perspectives, minimizes risks of group thinking, increases creativity and innovation, enhances economic performance, etc. Efforts are thus necessary to attract more girls to physics and increase female participation in this domain.

But the challenge goes further. Many women leave the field or don't progress as well as they could. Different barriers are put up in front of them, like unconscious bias, micro-agressions, and subtle negative signals. To bring down those barriers, it is important to inform and empower women and raise awareness on a larger scale. The **2018 *Women in Physics* Canada Conference** will be an occasion for education and discussions on those subjects.

Finally, a conference bringing together close to 150 women from all across Canada will provide a unique opportunity for outreach to the Université de Sherbrooke and its region, as well as a powerful platform for the event partners.

It is for all those reasons that the Chair for Women in Science and Engineering in Quebec supports **the 2018 Women in Physics Canada Conference** to be held at Université de Sherbrooke. I invite you to also offer your support to this event and contribute to its success.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eve Langelier". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E".

Eve Langelier, ing. Ph.D.

Professor, mechanical engineering

Chair for Women in Science and Engineering Quebec's Chairholder