



For immediate release
March 22, 2019

APEGA Female Innovators Join UN Global Initiative

Edmonton – APEGA is proud to announce that a number of female Alberta innovators have been chosen to pilot the first Canadian chapter of the Global Innovation Coalition for Change (GICC). APEGA members and APEGA employee Alissa Boyle, Outreach Manager, are among the group of female innovators. The GICC was created by UN Women, a United Nations entity dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women, as part of its innovation strategy. This strategy will drive action in gender equality, recognize the gender gap in technology and innovation, and improve women’s access, participation, and ability to innovate.

“*SHEInnovates Alberta*,” said Boyle, “is amplifying the discussion around women’s ability to contribute to society in innovative and impactful ways. It is important, both ethically and economically, that we ensure we are effectively engaging women in our economy and in our workforce.”

To put its action plan in motion, the GICC recently launched a Canadian chapter as a pilot project—*SHEInnovates Alberta*—as part of its innovation strategy. The activities of the group will be documented and shared with the GICC and UN Women to be adapted for other regions globally. Through the collaboration of UN Women and key representatives from the private sector, academia and non-profit institutions, *SHEInnovates Alberta* will achieve the long-term goal of connecting women worldwide and providing women and girls the support they need to be innovators.

The role of the *SHEInnovates Alberta* members is to understand how the region can overcome current barriers and take action to empower women and girls in their local communities. Members will act as local role models, work to tackle gender stereotypes, connect with and support female innovators, and raise awareness of innovations developed by women in Alberta.

Established in 1920, APEGA is responsible for regulating the practices of engineering and geoscience in the province of Alberta.

- 30 -

For more information, please contact:

Gisela Hippolt-Squair, BA
Assistant Director, Communications
Tel: 587-489-1567 or toll free 1-800-661-7020
gisela.hippoltsquair@apega.ca
www.apega.ca