



The Association of Professional
Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release
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APEGA awarded \$350,000 Status of Women grant

Edmonton – APEGA will examine workplace barriers facing female professionals—and recommend sustainable solutions—with a three-year, \$350,000 grant from Status of Women Canada. Pay equity, hiring practices and advancement opportunities are some of the topics to be reviewed.

APEGA is one of three Alberta organizations to receive funding for projects that will address root causes of economic insecurity for Canadian women.

“Data collected during the study will help us develop Canada-wide workplace culture guidelines to help all companies, in any industry, create more inclusive workplaces that fully engage women,” said APEGA Registrar & CEO Jay Nagendran, P.Eng.

APEGA will collaborate on the project with other organizations that support diversity. We’ll work closely with engineering and geoscience employers, which will test our guidelines to ensure they’re achievable.

The project supports APEGA’s 30-by-30 goal to increase the number of women in the professions to 30 per cent by 2030. About 13 per cent of professional engineers and about 19 per cent of professional geoscientists in Alberta are female.

“We want to ensure that women currently working in the professions, and those entering them in the future, don’t face unintentional systemic barriers. We want all members to be valued, welcomed and included in the workforce,” said Alissa Boyle, APEGA’s outreach manager and the project coordinator.

As part of the study, APEGA will consult with female professional engineers and professional geoscientists to help us understand their experiences working in industry and any challenges they face. We’ll also add gender and diversity questions to our annual salary survey to measure the current state of diversity in our professions.

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

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Backgrounder attached.

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