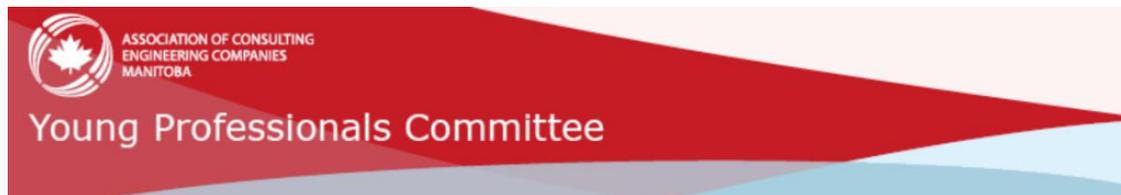


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## Event Recaps

### 10th Annual Young Professionals Gala

On October 30th, the ACEC-MB Young Professionals Committee (YPC) hosted the 10th Annual Young Professionals Gala. This year's Gala was held at the Alloway Reception Centre at FortWhyte Alive. The venue offered a beautiful backdrop to the evenings proceedings.

This year's Young Professionals Gala featured a presentation by Alexis Kanu of the Lake Winnipeg Foundation regarding their citizen science initiative focused on tracking phosphorus loading to Lake Winnipeg. The Lake Winnipeg Foundation coordinates the Lake Winnipeg Community-Based Monitoring Network (LWCBMN), a growing network of citizens,

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scientists, and conservation professionals taking action for healthy waters. The LWCBMN is tackling the root causes of algae blooms by identifying phosphorus hotspots across the landscape, creating opportunities to target funding and action to achieve the greatest impact for Lake Winnipeg.

Over the past three years, the LWCBMN has expanded from 12 sites to 100, from 200 samples to 1500. This incredible growth is a testament to the dedication of citizen scientists and conservation groups who are leading the charge for healthy waters. The presentation and discussion during the question period was very informative. It was great to see the Gala attendees engaged with the topic and discussion.

The event was once again a success with nearly 100 young professionals, managers, and industry representatives in attendance. As this was our 10th Gala, this year also marked a special milestone for the YPC. Thanks to everyone who came out and made it a great night.



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## ACEC-MB Mentorship Program Kickoff

The kickoff event for the 2018-2019 ACEC-MB Mentorship Program was held on Thursday, November 15, 2018. The program is organized by the YPC, and pairs industry professionals from various member firms with University of Manitoba engineering students. Approximately 40 students and mentors attended the kickoff event, and were introduced to their matches and the program. Thank you to everyone who attended the event and a big thank you in advance to all of the mentors for volunteering their time as a part of the 2018-2019 Mentorship Program!

The Mentorship team is looking forward to the next event, which will be a panel discussion on topics relevant to the students and the consulting engineering industry. The panel discussion topic, as well as the date and location of the venue, will be announced once the preparations have been finalized.

Mentors perform a critical role in encouraging students to pursue a career in consulting engineering, and the ACEC-MB YP Committee thanks all members who have volunteered their time for this initiative. Anyone interested in attending the panel discussion or obtaining more information about the Mentorship Program is encouraged to email [mentorship@acec-mb.ca](mailto:mentorship@acec-mb.ca).



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## 2018 ACEC National Leadership Conference

Over a hundred leaders and emerging leaders from the consulting engineering sector, along with major clients and stakeholders, gathered in Ottawa from October 21-23, 2018 to learn of the latest industry trends, challenges and opportunities, and to network with peers and national decision makers.

A Young Professionals Session was held on October 21. The YP's were tasked with creating "rapid fire" presentations addressing the following question:

*What is a major challenge or opportunity faced by young professionals at consulting engineering companies? How can young professionals overcome this challenge or take advantage of this opportunity to add value to their firm and the industry?*

The rapid fire format required a presentation of 15 slides, where slide transitions were automatically programmed at 20 seconds per slide, therefore totaling a 5 minute presentation. The YP's were given 45 minutes to create their presentations. The presentations were then made to the other groups, as well as the ACEC Canada Board of Directors.

On the first day, the business program featured trend forecasts from business experts, discussions on the state of consulting engineering in Canada, panels on the challenges facing the industry and the opportunities available to address them.

The **Honourable Perrin Beatty, President & CEO of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce** provided the opening keynote by addressing the Canadian economy and the implications of international market forces and what service industry firms need to know to remain competitive. Followed by a day of engaging presentations and panel discussions, the day ended with a closing keynote by the **Honourable François-Philippe Champagne,**

**Minister of Infrastructure and Communities** on the state of infrastructure investments in Canada and how engineers are an essential component for turning these investments into infrastructure that can improve the quality of life of all Canadians.

ACEC's Parliament Hill Day was in full swing on the second day. The day kicked off with a morning address by the **Honourable Lisa Raitt, Deputy Leader of the Official Opposition** on the importance of connecting the environment with infrastructure, followed by informative panel discussions. Throughout the day, delegates made their way to the offices of Members of Parliament to discuss opportunities for the consulting engineering sector. Conference delegates were also treated to a private tour of West Block, which will serve as the interim House of Commons during the renovation of Centre Block. The tour included a presentation by one of the project's lead architects and other senior members of the team.

The conference closed with a celebration of engineering excellence at the [2018 Canadian Consulting Engineering Awards](#) gala. Over the course of the evening, 20 [Awards of Excellence](#) and 5 [Special Achievement](#) awards were presented, as well as the [Beaubien Award](#) and the [2019 Allen D. Williams Scholarship](#).



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## Call for Volunteers

### Image Committee

The ACEC-MB Image Committee is seeking new committee members. The Image Committee is charged with increasing the profile and enhancing the image of the business of Consulting Engineering as a key consulting profession that is integral to the prosperity and high quality of life enjoyed in Manitoba.

#### **Primary goals:**

- Increasing awareness and interest in university, technical college, and high school students for the possibility of a career in the consulting engineering field.
- Advocacy and promotion of our industry.

- Improving the image of the consulting engineering industry to the general public and demonstrating the importance and value provided by consulting engineers in society.

Please contact Kerri Hiebert at [ed@acec-mb.ca](mailto:ed@acec-mb.ca) if you are interested in joining this committee.



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## Other Events

### Upcoming ACEC-MB Events

It's the start of event season for ACEC-MB! We strive to provide opportunities for our members to meet, network and enjoy celebrating our members, our clients and our accomplishments.

Please mark your calendars for the many upcoming events; there is something of interest to everyone in your firm. Please share this information with all your staff and don't forget to support Young Professionals in their pursuit of long term careers.

All events, including registration and more information, is always available on the <https://acec-mb.ca/> website. The website has just undergone a refresh and upgrade, so be sure to check out the changes.

- **February 7, 2019** - Annual Transportation Committee Reception
- **March 7, 2019** - TWICE Committee Annual Reception
- **March 13, 2019** - Annual Energy Science and Technology Committee Reception
- **March/April 2019** - Young Professionals Curling Funspiel
- **April 9, 2019** - 20th Anniversary Awards of Excellence Gala [Click here for intent to submit and ticket sales!](#)
  - Intent to submit deadline is **December 7, 2018**
  - Final project submission date is **February 8, 2019**
- **May 2019** - TWICE Committee Annual Drive and Dine
- **May 15, 2019** - Annual Golf Tournament and AGM

Be sure to check back on the website for online registration for events throughout the year: <https://acec-mb.ca/>

For more information on any events or any questions, please contact Kerri Hiebert, Executive Director at [ed@acec-mb.ca](mailto:ed@acec-mb.ca).



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# YP Committee Member Spotlight

## **Jennifer Pieniuta, Environmental Engineer in Training**

**Committee role:** Event Planning

**Employed by:** Tetra Tech Canada Inc. as an  
Environmental Engineer in Training

**Studied at:** University of Manitoba

**And left with a degree in:** Biosystems Engineering

**Years in consulting:** 3 years

**Why I love my job:** I love my job for many reasons – the work I do is rewarding because I know I am making a difference by protecting the integrity of our natural environment, the work varies on a day to day basis as I am not limited to one specific project, and I get to interact directly with clients, contractors, and coworkers. I also love my job because the work I do requires travel, so I've had the opportunity to travel to some amazing places in Canada such as Iqaluit, Nunavut, Inuvik, NWT, and Banff, AB.

**What I do in my free time:** In the last year I've been busy planning a wedding with all of my free time, so now that that's done, I have been spending most of my free time playing basketball, volleyball, and spending time with family and friends.

**Fun fact about me:** In grade 12 I was offered a full scholarship to a university in BC to play basketball but I stayed home to be with family and friends (it was summer when I decided...).

**Favourite or dream travel destination:** Favourite destination so far has been the Gili Islands in Indonesia. Dream destination right now is Zanzibar in Tanzania, which I will be going to in 2019!



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Tuesday, November 27, 2018

This message was sent by Samantha Symons on behalf of the Young Professionals Committee of the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies Manitoba. If you do not wish to receive electronic messages from the Young Professionals Committee, please contact your office liaison and ask to be removed from the mailing list. We thrive on feedback! For newsletter related questions or comments, please email [ypnews@acec-mb.ca](mailto:ypnews@acec-mb.ca).

If you'd like more information on the YPC, please contact our Chair, Tyson Ehnes, at [yp@acec-mb.ca](mailto:yp@acec-mb.ca)

For additional information on ACEC Manitoba and the ACEC Manitoba YPC, please visit our website at [www.acec-mb.ca](http://www.acec-mb.ca).

Find old copies of the ACEC-MB YPC Newsletter at <https://acec-mb.ca/yp-newsletter/>.

Samantha Symons

[ypnews@acec-mb.ca](mailto:ypnews@acec-mb.ca)

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