

*For immediate publication*

**Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec: National Engineering Month  
dedicated to the theme of renewing the profession**

**Montreal, March 6, 2017** – This year, the Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec (OIQ) is focusing on the renewal of the profession in the activities it offers during National Engineering Month, a nationwide initiative to promote the profession to young people and highlight engineering excellence.

**Recognition events across Québec**

The OIQ will kick off recognition events (Soirées reconnaissance) across Québec to welcome the approximately 2,000 new engineers who obtained their engineer's permit last year. These new engineers may now work fully independently since they have completed their junior engineer period, a period of apprenticeship in which junior engineers work under the immediate control and supervision of an engineer to gain experience and learn best practices so that decisions are made in the public interest. 17% of these new engineers are women and 23% were trained abroad.

The Soirées reconnaissance will also be an opportunity to encourage the next generation of engineers, who are vital to Québec. For that purpose, the OIQ Foundation will award seventeen \$2,000 Scholarships for the Future to college-level students and thirty \$3,000 Next Generation Scholarships to university-level students.

Regional recognitions will be awarded to companies for their contribution to innovative projects that have a significant impact and embody the four fundamental values of the profession: competence, ethics, responsibility and social commitment.

**The OIQ active in the field**

The OIQ's President, Kathy Baig, Eng., FEC, MBA, continues her tour of Québec in March to talk to OIQ members about the ENG2020 Plan, an ambitious strategic plan that will enable the OIQ to step up its public protection efforts in the next three years.

The OIQ's regional committees are also offering many activities to promote the profession to young people. During the month of March, the volunteer engineers on these committees will be very busy as they visit secondary school students and career days at CEGEPs, and participate in regional activities such as Science Fairs, the Défi génie inventif, or Les filles et les sciences.

The OIQ is also supporting several events at the provincial level: Les filles et les sciences, the FIRST Robotics Québec competition, the PontPop Competition and the Aboriginal Science Fair.

## **About the Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec**

Founded in 1920, the Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec (OIQ) has a membership of some 62,000 engineering professionals in all fields, except forest engineering. The OIQ strives to be a reference for professionalism and excellence in engineering as well as a unifying organization. Its mission is to protect the public by acting to ensure that engineers serve society with professionalism, compliance and integrity in the public interest. For more information, go to [www.oiq.qc.ca](http://www.oiq.qc.ca).

For a quick update on OIQ news, join our virtual communities:

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- Twitter <https://twitter.com/OIQ>
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## **About the Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec Foundation**

Founded in 2010, the mission of the Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec Foundation is to promote the study of engineering by awarding scholarships, help develop engineering education and expertise and support student projects. For more information, go to [www.foiq.qc.ca](http://www.foiq.qc.ca).

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