



Youth · STEM · Innovation
Jeunesse · STIM · Innovation

MEDIA RELEASE

Actua and Network Member Engineering Outreach Host Minister of Science and Sport for International Day of Women and Girls in Science

Toronto, February 11, 2019/ In celebration of the UN's International Day of Women and Girls in Science, Actua and its network member Engineering Outreach at the University of Toronto hosted a special computer science workshop event for girls. The event was attended by The Honourable Kirsty Duncan, Minister of Science and Sport.

"As we mark the International Day of Women and Girls in Science today, I am inspired to meet these girls who all have the potential to become the research leaders of tomorrow," said The Honourable Kirsty Duncan, Minister of Science and Sport. "Science and research have led to the greatest inventions of our modern world – from space travel to the Internet and everything in between. If you choose science today, you could be the next person to make a discovery that changes the world!"

In today's workshop, participants learned about robotics and how to build and code a prototype Mars Rover. By the end, the girls had coded their rovers through a simulated maze using a Sphero robot.

"We were thrilled to have Canada's Minister of Science attend today's event to show the federal government's support for women in science," said Jennifer Flanagan, CEO, Actua.

"Actua has worked for two decades to ensure girls and young women are equally supported in science education and careers. Without women's perspectives at the table, we will simply not achieve our science and innovation potential as a country."

Actua and its network of 38 university and college based members annually engage over 150,000 girls across Canada in deep-impact, hands-on science, technology, engineering and math experiences.

- 30 -

Contact Information:

Kristina Martin, Director of Communications, Actua

111 Murray Street, Ottawa ON K1N 5M5

Tel: (613) 234 4137 Fax: 613 234 4779

Email: kristina.martin@actua.ca

Web: www.actua.ca



Youth · STEM · Innovation
Jeunesse · STIM · Innovation

About Actua: Actua is Canada's leading science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) youth outreach network representing 38 university and college based members. Each year 250,000 young Canadians in over 500 communities nationwide are inspired through hands-on educational workshops, camps and community outreach initiatives. Actua focuses on the engagement of underrepresented youth through specialized programs for Indigenous youth, girls and young women, at-risk youth and youth living in Northern and remote communities. Actua's major funders include: Government of Canada, Google Canada, Suncor Energy Foundation, GE Canada, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Finning, Toyota Canada Foundation and Lockheed Martin. For more information about Actua, visit actua.ca.