

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY:

NLCA NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION



WOMEN
IN CONSTRUCTION

"We're Better Together"

FORUM
2023



**LEADERSHIP
CONVERSATIONS**

**PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT**

**ALL GENDERS
WELCOME**

VALERIE PENNEY
FORUM EVENT CHAIR



GREETINGS FROM
MP JOANNE THOMPSON



KEYNOTE LUNCHEON SPEAKER
ASHLEY BORZELLINO
MISS CANADA 2023
A CHAMPION OF THE WOMEN
IN STEM PROGRAM



GUEST SPEAKER
TONYA WHITTLE

TO REGISTER:
709-753-8920
WWW.NLCA.CA



3 NOVEMBER 2023



8:00 AM - 5:30 PM



**SHERATON HOTEL
ST. JOHN'S, NL**

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY:



FORUM AGENDA AT A GLANCE



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Locke's Electrical Ltd. Showcase Hall

8:00 - 9:00 AM

Enjoy a morning coffee while networking with exhibitors

Greetings and Opening Remarks

Welcome from NLCA Forum Chair, Valerie Penney

9:00 - 9:15 AM

Greetings from MP Joanne Thompson

Welcome from Locke's Electrical Ltd.

Industry Panel Discussion

Panelists: Tonya Knopp, City of St. John's

9:15 - 10:45 AM

Erin Hickey, Pennecon Heavy Civil Limited

Liz Palmera-Nunez, Newfoundland Power

Christine Adams, Belfor Property Restoration

Youth Industry Panel Discussion

Panelists: Abygail Pike

10:45 - 11:45 AM

Kelsey Smith

Omega Nathaniel Malisa

Business Luncheon

Keynote Speaker: Ashley Borzellino, Miss Canada 2023

12:00 - 1:45 PM

Business Session

Guest Speaker: Tonya Whittle,

2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Women's Empowerment & Leadership Coach

Nutrition Break w/ Exhibitors

3:00 PM

Sponsored by: InnovativeNL Engineering &

Project Management Inc.

Networking Cocktail Reception with Exhibitors

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Sponsored by: Cox & Palmer

Door Prize Draw taking place

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY:



WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION

"We're Better Together"

MESSAGE FROM OUR WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION FORUM CHAIR

Dear Delegates,

It is with great pleasure and excitement that I extend a warm welcome to each of you for the Women in Construction Forum. As the Chair of this inspiring event, I am honored to invite you join us for what promises to be an enriching and empowering experience.

In the world of construction, where diversity has been a driving force of innovation and progress, your presence at this event will be a testament to the strides we are making as women in this dynamic industry. During the forum, we will come together as a community of trailblazers, change-makers, and visionaries who are shaping the future of construction. This event is a platform for people of all genders to come together for professional development and support women's progress in the construction industry.

Our forum is not just about the structures we build, but the bridges we forge between each other, the knowledge we share, and the barriers we break. Throughout our sessions, we will explore the challenges we've overcome, the achievements we've celebrated, and the strategies that have propelled us forward.

This is an opportunity to learn, connect, and inspire. Engage with your fellow delegates, dive into discussions, and seize the chance to network with accomplished professionals who share your aspirations. Our panel, business sessions, and discussions are designed to provide you with insights that can transform your career and ignite your passion for continued excellence. Remember, our collective journey is one of progress. Together, we are redefining what it means to be a woman in construction. So, let's embrace this forum with open minds and a commitment to empower not only ourselves but the generations of women who will follow in our footsteps.

I look forward to personally meeting each of you and witnessing the incredible exchange of ideas and experiences that lies ahead.

Warm regards,

TO REGISTER:
709-753-8920
WWW.NLCA.CA



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FORUM 2023

 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

The Sheraton Hotel, St. John's

DELEGATE REGISTRATION 8:00 - 8:30 A.M.

Main Lobby

Welcome all delegates to the forum!

LOCKES ELECTRICAL LTD. SHOWCASE HALL 8:00 - 9:00 A.M.

Pre-function Area

Enjoy a morning coffee and network with exhibitors as they introduce their products, services and/or technologies that support women in their roles in the construction industry.

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OPENING REMARKS 9:00 - 9:15 A.M.

Fort William Ballroom



Greetings from:
MP Joanne Thompson,
Member of Parliament for
St. John's East, Government
of Canada

Join our forum chair Valerie Penney as NLCA welcomes all delegates to the forum.

Opening Remarks: NLCA Forum Chair, Valerie Penney
Greetings from MP Joanne Thompson
Welcome from Locke's Electrical Ltd.

INDUSTRY PANEL DISCUSSION 9:15 - 10:45 A.M.

Fort William Ballroom

This panel session aims to empower, educate, and motivate delegates as the panelists highlight and share their stories of success, overcoming challenges, and making a positive impact in their respective fields.

Each panelist brings a unique perspective and journey, demonstrating the possibilities of breaking barriers.



Panelist:
Erin Hickey,
Quality Manager,
Pennecon Heavy Civil
Limited



Panelist:
Christine Adams,
Marketing & Business
Development,
Belfor Property Restoration



Panelist:
Tonya Knopp,
Manager Facility
Engineering
Planning, Engineering &
Regulatory Services,
City of St. John's



Panelist:
Liz Palmera-Nunez,
Manager, Asset Management,
Newfoundland Power

Registration Information: NLCA Member Rate: \$199.00 plus hst ▪ Non-Member \$249.00 plus hst
Register online at www.nlca.ca or email: abyrne@nlca.ca

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY:



YOUTH INDUSTRY PANEL DISCUSSION 10:45 - 11:45 A.M.

Fort William Ballroom

During this panel session youth civil engineering professionals will share their stories of their path to the construction industry highlighting their successes, what they have learned and challenges that they have experienced.

Each panelist brings a unique perspective surrounding their journey into the construction industry.



Panelist:
Abigail Pike,
Bachelor of Engineering (Civil),
Memorial University,
Quality Engineering
Department,
Pennecon Heavy Civil Limited



Panelist:
Kelsey Smith,
Bachelor of Engineering (Civil),
Memorial University,
Engineer-in-Training,
KelCo Construction Inc.



Panelist:
Omega Nathaniel Malisa,
Civil Engineering Student (Final Semester),
Memorial University,
Engineering Intern, KENJ International

BUSINESS LUNCHEON 12:00 - 1:45 P.M.

Fort William Ballroom



Keynote Speaker: **Ashley Borzellino**, Miss Canada 2023

Join Ashley as she shares her experience, inspiring others to step outside their comfort zone and consider opportunities and roles that transcend gender norms and societal boundaries.

Ashley's aim is to represent Women in STEM and Women on Site by attending NLCA's Women in Construction Forum and sharing her story. As a Mohawk College graduate with an Advanced Diploma in Civil Engineering Technology, she has been working as a Construction/Development Inspector for five years. During her five years, she has faced many challenges, but never allowed these experiences to discourage her. She believes having a strong voice and an authentic message can encourage other women to join this path.

She decided to compete for the title of Miss Canada because it is a national and reputable title, which comes with commitment and responsibility. She knew this title would help her reach a larger audience to speak about her passion and advocacy. Women in STEM/Construction is an important topic which is rarely discussed within pageantry. It was time for a change of scenery and to bring light to this mission.

Business Luncheon
Proudly Sponsored By:



Registration Information: NLCA Member Rate: \$199.00 plus hst ■ Non-Member \$249.00 plus hst
Register online at www.nlca.ca or email: abyrne@nlca.ca

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**BUSINESS SESSION
2:00 - 4:30 P.M.**

Fort William Ballroom



Guest Speaker:
Tonya Whittle,
International Women's
Empowerment Coach,
Human Behaviour Expert

Belonging is a fundamental human need. Consider the emotions that arise when we find ourselves on the periphery of a group. Consider the implications when certain groups are marginalized or given mere superficial inclusion without genuine acceptance.

In this interactive workshop, we delve into the intrinsic need for belonging, explore the sociological aspects that underpin it, and dissect its pivotal role in the construction industry.

Specifically, we will address the need for the construction industry to foster authentic belonging for women within its ranks, transcending the superficiality of affirmative action hires. True belonging emerges when women are granted equitable access to the same opportunities and resources as their male counterparts.

**NUTRITION BREAK
WITH EXHIBITORS
3:00 P.M.**

Pre-function Area

Nutrition Break Proudly Sponsored By:



**CONCLUDING COCKTAIL
RECEPTION WITH
EXHIBITORS**

4:30 - 5:30 P.M.

Pre-function Area

Door prize draw to take place

Reception Proudly Sponsored By:



PROUDLY PRESENTED BY:



BUSINESS LUNCHEON KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Ashley Borzellino,
Miss Canada 2023

Bio: Ashley Borzellino, 25 years of age, resides in Hamilton, Ontario. Graduated with an Advanced Diploma in Civil Engineering Technology from Mohawk College. Certified Technician (C.Tech.) through OACETT and licensed OIT through Walkerton. Currently employed with the City of Brantford as a Development Inspector/Operator. Earned the title of Miss Canada 2023 on May 21, in Montreal, Quebec.

Miss Canada has been established since 1946 and is Canada's longest running pageant, it has a focus on personality and advocacy. As Miss Canada she aims to represent Women in STEM and Women on Site by attending public speaking events, attending high schools and sharing her story. She is a Mohawk College graduate with an Advanced Diploma in Civil Engineering Technology. She has been working as a Construction/Development Inspector for five years. During these five years, she has faced many challenges, but never allowed these experiences to discourage her. She believes having a strong voice and an authentic message can encourage other women to join this path.

She decided to compete for the title of Miss Canada because it is a national and reputable title, which comes with commitment and responsibility. She knew that this title would help her reach a larger audience to speak about her passion and advocacy. Women in STEM/Construction is an important topic which is rarely discussed within pageantry. It was time for a change of scenery and to bring light to this mission.

She has volunteered her entire life, through extracurriculars and with the Royal Canadian Air Cadets for six consecutive years. She graduated as a Level Five Flight Sergeant and held the positions of Drum Major and Flight Commander. During her reign as Miss Canada 2023, she has been devoting her time to Women in STEM. She is a Women on Site group member and she has also been invited to several public speaking events. She has been a special speaker for various engineering/construction related events as well.

As Miss Canada, she hopes to showcase that there is no particular physical appearance to success. She believes that there is a stereotype that women in STEM are typically more "masculine". As a pageant title holder, she aims to break this stigma, she believes that success has no face. She would also like to demonstrate that there is no "right" path, everyone's journey is unique and every experience is valuable.

"To all women in technology fields, if you are interested in pursuing this path, do not be afraid to start, it is never too late. For those who are already in the industry, make it your goal to share your stories with others and encourage more women to join our team."

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY:



THANK YOU TO OUR FORUM SPONSORS

For showcasing your firm's dedication to the success of women in the construction industry.

PRESENTING SPONSOR



SHOWCASE HALL SPONSORSHIP



BUSINESS LUNCHEON SPONSOR



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NUTRITION BREAK SPONSOR:
**INNOVATIVENL ENGINEERING & PROJECT
MANAGEMENT INC.**

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Thank you to the following firms that support women on their career journey.

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WOOD CANADA LIMITED -ASA

PROMOTING WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES STILL AVAILABLE!

Cost: \$250+hst

Be recognized at the Women in Construction Forum as a firm that supports women on their career journey, showcasing your firm's dedication to the success of women in the construction industry.