



**WOMEN'S ENTERPRISE
SKILLS TRAINING
OF WINDSOR INC.**

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35
YEARS OF
SERVICE

Presenting Sponsor



Gold Sponsor



— Proudly Presents —
International Women's Day

Gala 2024

PROGRAM GUIDE

INSPIRE THE FUTURE GENERATION

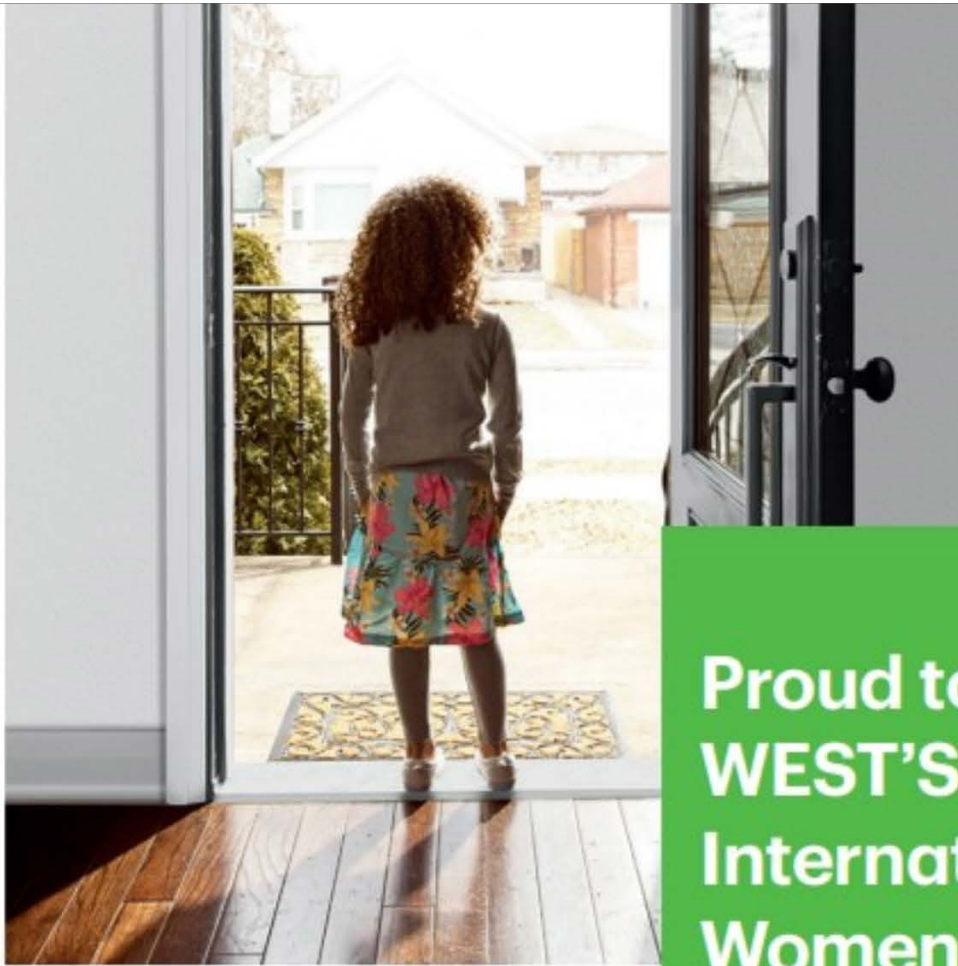
#CountHerIn

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Patricia France

OUR SPONSORS AND DONORS





**Proud to support
WEST'S
International
Women's Day
Gala.**

We are working together with Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor. It's just one way we are helping to open doors for a more inclusive and sustainable tomorrow.

td.com



PROGRAM LIST

- 5:30 PM Registration/ Networking Reception
- 6:30 PM Welcome/ Land Acknowledgement/O Canada
- 6:35 PM #CountHerIn Campaign Video
- 6:45 PM Greetings by WEST Leadership
- 6:50 PM Journey to Success Award 2024: Lifetime Achievement Award
- 6:55 PM Keynote Speaker - Dr. Patricia France
- 7:20 PM Dinner Reflection
- 7:25 PM Dinner
- 8:00 PM Journey to Success Award 2024, Part I
1. The Phenomenal Woman Award, sponsored by St. Clair College
 2. The Catalyst for Change Award, sponsored by WFCU
 3. The Youth Community Leadership Award, sponsored by Erie Shores HealthCare
- 8:20 PM Spoken Word - Chidera Ikewibe
- 8:25 PM Journey to Success Award 2024, Part II
4. The Visionary Award, sponsored by AM800/CKLW
 5. The Allyship Award, sponsored by Windsor Star
 6. The Sisterhood Award, sponsored by Odette School of Business
 7. The Influencer Award, sponsored by Caesars Windsor
 8. Daphne V. Clarke Trailblazer Award, sponsored by CTV Bell Media
- 8:35 PM Band Performance - Eclipse Duo
- 8:40 PM Journey to Success Award 2024, Part III
9. The Perseverance Award, sponsored by Build A Dream
 10. The DEI (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion) Award , sponsored by Attache Group Ltd
 11. The New Partnership Award , sponsored by TD Bank Group
 12. The VIP Award: New Business Partner, sponsored by Biz X Magazine
 13. The Equity & Inclusion Award, sponsored by CPA Ontario
- 8:55 PM Raffle Closes/ Closing Remarks



THE CITY OF WINDSOR

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

DREW DILKENS, DBA
MAYOR

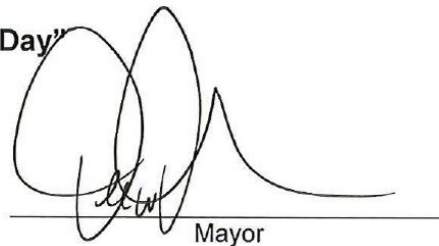
PROCLAMATION

**"International Women's Day"
March 8, 2024**

- WHEREAS:** In 1977, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution calling on member states to proclaim a day for women's rights and international peace; and,
- WHEREAS:** Following the United Nations' lead, Canada chose March 8th as International Women's Day; and,
- WHEREAS:** In 1979 the United Nations adopted the "Convention of the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women" (CEDAW), providing a mechanism for governments to make commitments ensuring women's equal access to equal opportunities in political and public life, as well as education, health and employment; and,
- WHEREAS:** International Women's Day is observed around the world and provides an opportunity to recognize and reflect on the progress made to advance women's equality, to celebrate the gains made by women in our society, and to reflect on the challenges and barriers women continue to face; and,
- WHEREAS:** Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor Inc. states its commitment towards the elimination of inequality and all forms of discrimination and is in the forefront of efforts to establish a caring, compassionate society in which all of its members have the right to live in conditions of good health, safety, dignity, respect, and peace; and,
- THEREFORE:** I, Drew Dilkens, Mayor of the City of Windsor, do hereby proclaim



March 8, 2024
"International Women's Day"
in the City of Windsor.



Mayor

350 City Hall Square West - Suite 510 • Windsor, Ontario N9A 6S1
Tel: 519-255-6315 • mayoro@citywindsor.ca • mayordrewdilkens.ca • [@drewdilkens](https://www.facebook.com/drewdilkens)

International Women's Day Gala Honoured Guest

Elder Mona Stonefish



Dr. Mona Stonefish, Bear Clan, Potawatomi, Bkejwanong, Three Fires Confederacy, is a recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal and recognized leader in decolonizing education, social justice, disability studies, arts and activism, and Nishnaabe language, culture and tradition. With a deep-rooted commitment to her community's well-being, Stonefish has dedicated her life to advancing Indigenous causes. Central to her work is her tireless advocacy for Indigenous education, ensuring that it is both culturally relevant and equitable. Through her efforts, she has helped amplify Indigenous voices on national and international platforms, challenging discriminatory policies and fostering greater self-governance and sovereignty.

Stonefish's leadership extends beyond advocacy; she actively engages in community development initiatives, creating spaces for cultural revitalization and intergenerational healing. As a respected educator and mentor, she imparts traditional knowledge to younger generations, nurturing future Indigenous leaders. Her impact has been recognized through numerous awards, celebrating her contributions to Indigenous education, leadership, and advocacy. Mona Stonefish's dedication and passion continue to inspire positive change within Indigenous communities and beyond, leaving an indelible mark on the fight for Indigenous rights and social justice.

International Women's Day Gala Host Speaker

Dr Marium Tolson-Murty



Marium Tolson-Murty, a proud Windsorite and educator with over 20 years of experience, is deeply rooted in her community. As an advocate, entrepreneur, wife, and mother, she is committed to addressing anti-Black racism and systemic practices in post-secondary education. Marium holds multiple degrees from the University of Windsor and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Education, focusing on this critical issue.

In addition to her academic pursuits, Marium is heavily involved in various community organizations, including serving as President of the Hour A Day Study Club and as a Board member of the Black Council of Windsor-Essex. She has been recognized for her leadership and engagement by numerous organizations, including receiving the Influencer Award from Women's Enterprise Skills Training (WEST) and being named one of Canada's Top 100 Black Women to Watch.

Marium is also a dedicated public speaker and strategist, advocating for lifelong learning, diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging. Through her work, she aims to dismantle institutional barriers and create better environments for living, learning, and working.



MISSION STATEMENT

Women’s Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor Inc. (WEST Inc.) exists to provide training for severely employment disadvantaged visible minority women in order to improve their employability in the workforce and/or to further their education.

VISION

Leaders in Positioning Women for Success

VALUES STATEMENT

Together at Women’s Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor Inc.:

We are committed to treat everyone with Dignity and Respect.

We strive to create an environment of Accountability and Professionalism of the highest standard.

We passionately aim to foster, promote and advocate for Inclusivity and Diversity of all women.

We are dedicated to serve the needs of the community with Compassion and Empathy.

Prayer

In these turbulent times, amidst uncertainty and division, let's unite in our pursuit of peace. Together, let's embrace the vision of a world where conflicts are resolved through dialogue, where every individual's rights are respected, and where the dream of peace on earth becomes a celebrated reality. Now, more than ever, let's stand together for peace on earth and champion democracy for peace. Let's sow the seeds of harmony and understanding, fostering a world where peace prevails over conflict. Together for peace

WEST Board of Directors

NADINE MANROE-WAKERELL



LISA SHULMAN



HELENA PALMA-KUREK



JESSICA WATSON



JUSTINA NWAESU



PRIVANKA PHILIP



DR. FELICIA LAVAL



MARIE FORD CONLIFF



GEMMA GREY-HALL



SABRINA DEMARCO



ANN DIAB



ROSE ANGUIANO HURST



SHEILA BARKER



Message from The President & Executive Director

Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor Inc.

Nadine Manroe-Wakerell & Rose Anguiano Hurst

Inspire The Future Generation

As we commemorate International Women's Day, we are reminded of the importance of recognizing and celebrating the invaluable contributions of women in every aspect of our society. As members of the WEST Board of Directors, we have the privilege and responsibility to champion gender equality and drive positive change within our organization and beyond.

At WEST, we are committed to fostering an inclusive environment where women have equal opportunities to thrive and succeed. From the leadership team to every department and level of our organization, we recognize the diverse talents, perspectives, and experiences that women bring to the table. We understand that by harnessing the full potential of women, we can unlock innovation, drive growth, and achieve greater success as a company.

On this International Women's Day, let us reaffirm our dedication to supporting women in the workplace. This includes promoting diversity and inclusion initiatives, providing mentorship and leadership development programs, and ensuring equal pay and advancement opportunities for all employees, regardless of gender. By creating a culture of respect, equality, and empowerment, we can attract and retain top talent, strengthen our teams, and enhance our competitive edge in the market.

Beyond our organization, let us recognize the broader impact that women have on society. From advocating for social justice and human rights to driving economic growth and sustainability, women are catalysts for positive change in our communities and around the world. As leaders in our respective fields, we have a responsibility to amplify women's voices, address systemic inequalities, and work towards building a more equitable and inclusive world for future generations.

We are also thrilled to recognize our 2024 Journey Towards Success Award Recipients. These award winners include WEST clients who have successfully embraced a challenging journey to achieve their goals through additional training as well as community partners and employers that have made a powerful impact in their commitment to our programs.

As our keynote speaker, we are delighted to host Patti France, the sixth president of St. Clair College of Applied Arts and Technology. She has over 36 years of experience in the postsecondary education sector. Patti France is a visionary leader and the driving force behind St. Clair College's continued success. As the President of St. Clair College, she has transformed the institution into a hub of innovation and excellence in education. With a steadfast commitment to student success, France has implemented ground-breaking initiatives that have elevated the college's reputation regionally and nationally.

As we reflect on the progress we have made and the work that lies ahead, let us seize this opportunity to recommit ourselves to advancing gender equality and empowering women in all aspects of our lives. Together, we can create a brighter, more equitable future for all.



Nadine Manroe-Wakerell



Rose Anguiano Hurst

International Women's Day Gala 2024 Keynote Speaker

Presenting

Dr. Patricia France

President

St. Clair College of Applied Arts and Technology



President France has over 36 years of experience in the postsecondary education sector. She holds a Bachelor of Adult Education Degree from Brock University and a Master of Adult Education Degree from St. Francis Xavier University, Nova Scotia. Patti France was appointed the sixth President of St. Clair College on September 1, 2015. In her previous role as Senior Vice President, College Operations, and over the past decade, President France has experienced direct responsibility, at some point, for key College components: Registrar's Office, Human Resources, Student Services, Information Technology Services, Health and Safety, Facilities Management, the formal College interaction with both Unions, primary College interaction with the Ministry of Colleges and Universities and all academic issues. As President, Patti France chairs

numerous College Committees, including the Senior Operations Group, which includes members of the Senior Management Team.

President France's board and committee involvements are extensive, reaching beyond education to include the enhancement of healthcare, social services and technological infrastructure in our community. She currently holds, or has held, memberships and/or directorships in such organizations as:

- Windsor Regional Hospital Board of Directors – Current Chair
- Windsor Regional Hospital's Finance/Audit & Resources Committee and Quality Care Sub-Committee
- Connecting Windsor-Essex (Smart Community)
- Windsor Family Credit Union Board of Directors
- Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce's "Gold Circle"
- Industry-Education Pathways to Success Task Force
- Windsor-Essex Compassionate Community Coalition
- Chatham-Kent Community Leaders Cabinet
- Chatham-Kent Education Sector Committee
- Committee of Presidents of the Provincial College System
- Public College Private Partner Sub-Committee of the Committee of Presidents
- Accreditation Task Force Sub-Committee of the Committee of Presidents
- Sexual Violence Task Force Sub-Committee of the Committee of Presidents
- Collective Impact Steering Committee
- 100 Women Who Care of Windsor-Essex
- United Way/Centraide Windsor-Essex County
- St. Clair College/University of Windsor Cooperative Development Committee

International Women's Day Gala 2024 Keynote Speaker

Presenting

Dr. Patricia France

President

St. Clair College of Applied Arts and Technology

In April 2017, President France was named the 2017 ATHENA Award winner for Windsor-Essex. In January 2020, President France was named the recipient of the Paul Harris Fellow Award by Rotary 1918 to recognize her considerable contributions. In June 2022, President France was awarded a Doctor of Laws honoris causa by Assumption University for her outstanding contributions to higher education in Windsor-Essex County. In May 2023, the Multicultural Council of Windsor and Essex County awarded President France with the Herb Gray Harmony Award in recognition of her outstanding contributions to building a more welcoming community for all in Windsor-Essex. In August 2023, she was awarded with a key to the City of Windsor for assisting the community during the COVID-19 pandemic. In October 2023, President France was the 2023 recipient of the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce's Lifetime Achievement Award due to her outstanding personal and professional accomplishments, coupled with her invaluable contributions to the community. In February 2024, President France was presented with the 2023 Hand In Hand Award from In Honour of the Ones we Love at their 26th Anniversary Gala.

Patti's personal involvement in various charitable causes has been reflected by the College's support of a number of community projects and programs during her Presidency. For instance, St. Clair's hosting of The Polar Plunge during the past half-decade has raised \$235,000 for the Special Olympics. The College's sponsorship of the annual "S'Aints" Christmas Concert at Caesars Windsor has garnered over \$400,000 for food banks in Windsor Essex and Chatham-Kent during the past decade. Patti encourages the use of the term "community college" to demonstrate St. Clair's efforts to enhance the well-being of citizens throughout southwestern Ontario.

President France's chief concentration remains St. Clair's delivery of exceptional, employment-ready education and skills to students. The fact that she was, when appointed, the first President in Canada whose preliminary education was obtained within the college system (Computer Programming, St. Clair, 1994) made her an example of the far-reaching value of a college-based education. The fact that her original education was in a technical field has made her an example – and advocate – of "Women in STEM" educational pursuits and careers. Indeed, female enrolment in science, technology-and-trades, engineering and math-related programs has increased significantly during her Presidency. President France has, similarly, fostered the enrolment of more men in program areas that are "non-traditional" such as nursing, health care and social services.

President France prides herself on her transparency to ensure that St. Clair College remains on the cutting edge of academic programming.



HELP US BRING **MRI** HOME

At Erie Shores HealthCare, we're paving the way for a new chapter in healthcare within Essex County. Our latest endeavour, introducing advanced MRI services, marks a significant leap toward eliminating prolonged wait times for diagnostic scans. With the deployment of a mobile MRI unit this spring and the development of a permanent MRI suite by late 2024, we're not just enhancing healthcare—we're redefining it. For professional women who value progress and community well-being, your involvement symbolizes more than support; it's a partnership in fostering accessible, high-quality healthcare. Let's embrace this opportunity to shape a future where health and innovation converge, creating a legacy of care and excellence for future generations.

Scan to Support



 **Erie Shores HealthCare**
Care Happens Here

Lifetime Achievement Award 2024

Sponsored by WEST

Dr. Patricia France



Dr. Patti France has over 26 years' experience in the post-secondary education sector. Over the past decade, she has experienced direct responsibility, at some point, for key College components (Registrar's Office, Human Resources, Student Services, Information Technology Services, Health and Safety, Facilities Management, the formal College interaction with both Unions, primary College interaction with the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development and all academic issues. Most recently, Dr. Patti France was appointed the sixth President of St. Clair College, commencing September 1, 2015. As President, Dr. Patti France chairs numerous College Committees, including the Senior Operations Group, which includes members of the Senior Management Team.

Dr. Patti France is Chair of Connecting Windsor-Essex and presently serves on the Board of Directors of Windsor Family Credit Union and the Windsor Regional Hospital and also sits on its Human Resources Sub-Committee. Dr. Patti also serves as a member of the Ontario Colleges Committee of Presidents.



WOMEN'S ENTERPRISE
SKILLS TRAINING
OF WINDSOR INC.

MORE THAN
35
YEARS OF
SERVICE

Proudly Presents

International Women's Day

Gala, 2024

**INSPIRE THE
FUTURE GENERATION**

#CountHerIn

The Phenomenal Woman Award 2024

Sponsored by St. Clair College

Dayna Eidukas - Mooney



Raised in Essex County, Dayna relocated to Toronto to study Performance Production at Toronto Metropolitan University's Theatre School where she specialized in set and costume construction and design. During the summers and upon graduation, she completed on job training for her occupation in the Royal Canadian Navy Reserves on both coasts in various ships at sea internationally and domestically. In early 2020, she returned to Windsor working part time and focused her time toward studying horticulture and volunteering at a local regenerative farm to gain knowledge of local food systems. In the following year she applied to WEST's Introduction to Construction Craft Trades for Women program with a desire to gain theoretical and practical construction skills, and working experience with the job placement. Dayna continued her Level 1 and 2 construction studies with LIUNA Local 625's Training Centre and gained apprenticeship hours at the Gordie Howe International Bridge. She challenged and passed the Construction Craft Worker Red Seal Exam and achieved CCW Journeyperson status in November 2023. Dayna recently accepted a job in the training support section at the naval school in Esquimalt, British Columbia and is considering changing her military occupation to one in technical aircraft maintenance. She has goals to advance her second language skills and pursue roles in military leadership.



ST. CLAIR

C O L L E G E

Catalyst for Change Award 2024

Sponsored by WFCU

Ms. Sheila Barker



Shelia Barker brings extensive experience in governance, race relations, policing, and quality assurance to WEST. Her expertise is highly regarded throughout the community and province. Shelia has served on various boards and professional affiliations, including the United Way, CMHA, The Distress Centre, labor organizations, VON, and W-E Health Unit. Notably, she was seconded to the Ontario Human Rights Commission, Ministry of Labour, and Solicitor General to work on special projects related to racial relations and police services. As the longest-standing board member at WEST, Shelia's commitment and dedication continue to make a significant impact.



Our Community. Our Priority.

At WFCU Credit Union, giving back to our local communities is part of who we are and what we do.

We're proud to support the **Catalyst for Change Award** through **Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor Inc. (WEST)** which celebrates outstanding individuals who demonstrate an unwavering commitment to driving positive change within their communities.

wfcu.ca

Amherstburg | Cambridge | Chatham | Kingsville | Kitchener
LaSalle | Leamington | London | Tecumseh | Waterloo | Windsor

wfcu | CREDIT UNION

Youth Community Leadership Award 2024

Sponsored by Erie Shores HealthCare

Anne Rosete



Anne Rosete, is a dynamic former LEAD participant, who transitioned into a direct hire role after completing her placement with the LEAD program. She currently serves as a program support at Connections Early Years Center. Anne delivered a touching testimonial speech during the WEST Employer Appreciation Event 2023, adding a meaningful and personal touch to the occasion. Known for her strategic vision and commitment to leadership excellence, Anne successfully obtained her high school diploma and consistently delivers innovative solutions in her workplace. Throughout her journey in the LEAD program, she demonstrated remarkable leadership abilities such as leading diverse teams to successful completion of assignments by fostering collaboration. Anne actively seeks opportunities to enhance her leadership skills, inspiring her peers with her growth mindset. Her exceptional empathy brings a compassionate perspective to her endeavors, evident in her approach during volunteering, where she prioritizes understanding and support of others. Anne is passionate about continuous learning and aspires to become a certified Early Childhood Educator by enrolling in the Early Childhood Education program. Her biography stands as a testament to her resilience, adaptability, and dedication to

I use technology to change people's lives.

**LISA REGISTERED
X-RAY TECHNOLOGIST**

**WHAT CAN YOU
DO TODAY?**

Make Erie Shores HealthCare
Part of Your Tomorrow




Erie Shores HealthCare
Care Happens Here

The Visionary Award 2024

Sponsored by AM800/CKLW

Derric’Ka Talbot



Derric’Ka Talbot attended the CNC Millwright program in 2019. She successfully completed her in class training and completed her placement at St.Clair college skilled trades regional training center as student machinist. Prior to joining the program Derric’ka worked as a PSW. She knew this CNC Mechanical Millwright program was her chance to change her and her family’s life forever. On December 9th, 2022, I got a phone call that changed my life. Ford motor company had hired me full time. All the work I had put in from 2019 to that day had finally come to fruition. I was going to be able to support my son as a single mother and help my family as well. As of today, I have been at ford for just over a year , I was able to pay for my son to join an after-school program of his choice. I've been able to assist my siblings and my mother and grandmother in ways I never dreamed I would be able to. I still hold a casual position at Victoria manor, and I continue to visit and do shifts there whenever I am able to. I am truly grateful for all if the opportunities, experiences, and people in my life for helping me to get here .



**THE
MORNING
DRIVE**
WITH MIKE AND LISA



WEEKDAYS 5AM - 9AM ON AM800
AND 6AM - 9AM ON CTV WINDSOR

AM800CKLW.COM

Allyship Award 2024

Sponsored by Windsor Star

EnerQuest Technologies Services Inc.



Established in 2003 in Harrow, Ontario, EnerQuest Technologies Services Inc. operates a 116,000 sq ft facility offering Engineering, Design, Steel Fabrication, Welding, Electrical Integration, Sandblasting, Painting, and Assembly. Their comprehensive services give them a competitive edge by minimizing logistics costs. Over 18 years, they've diversified into renewable energy, mining, oil & gas, modular housing, medical units, and emergency management, serving North America, South America, the Caribbean, and the Arctic. Since 2023, EnerQuest collaborates with Women's Enterprise Skills Training, led by Koddi Quick, providing employment opportunities in skilled trades. Quick's involvement includes joining the Industry Council, attending EDI Training, organizing job fairs, and offering industry tours. EnerQuest supports initiatives like International Women's Day events and grants. Three participants from the Electrical Pre-apprenticeship Program are now Electrical Assemblers at EnerQuest, transitioning to 442A Industrial Electrician Apprentices. EnerQuest continues to support WEST programming by submitting resumes for the CNC Industrial Mechanic Millwright Program, affirming their commitment to the partnership's growth.



WINDSOR STAR IS PROUD TO CELEBRATE
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
AND SUPPORT
**WOMEN'S ENTERPRISE SKILLS
TRAINING OF WINDSOR**

At Postmedia we leverage the strength of our more than 130 brands to support important causes and local businesses in the communities we serve.



Learn more at postmedia.com/supports

The Sisterhood Award 2024

Sponsored by Odette School of Business

Joyce Zuk



Joyce Zuk is one of only two elected women on Windsor's 11 member city council . She held the role for many years and she led by example. She also held positions as a public policy elected municipal on multiple committees whilst holding her full time community service agency leadership role as Executive Director. For 25 + years she has been an Executive Director advocating for some of the most vulnerable in our community. For her entire life she has been advancing education, working conditions, rights and liberties with respect for roles that have traditionally been for women nurses, social workers, mothers, primary family caregivers and teachers. She has received the Innovative Collaboration Award, Windsor Essex Bilingual Legal Clinic (2019) Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee Medal (2012) , Community Leadership in Justice Fellowship from the Law Foundation of Ontario (2008)

Congratulations West!

The Odette School of Business is proud to support International Women's Day.



Odette School
of Business
University of Windsor



Influencer Award 2024

Sponsored by Caesar Windsor Cares

Kate Isley



Kate Isley is a graduate of the WEST Electrical Pre-apprenticeship Program for Women and is currently working as an Electrician Apprentice for Honey Electric. She is proud to be the first female apprentice hired within a company that has been in business for over 45 years. Only 5% of skilled trade workers throughout our country are women according to Statistics Canada. Programs such as the one developed by WEST, aim to prepare women for a career in non-traditional work force environments where they are not only able to succeed, but thrive. It brings Kate great joy to be able to say that she is a successful candidate because of their program, which is providing access and resources that help women achieve self-sufficiency. She envisions a world where we strengthen women and families, and provide them with unlimited opportunities.



CAESARS WINDSOR

CARES is proud to support WEST and the International Women's Day Gala.

We are committed to providing resources to strengthen our community where we live, work, and play and are taking measurable actions to ensure we are breaking the bias and fostering a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive workplace.

PEOPLE
PLANET
PLAY.



PlaySmart. 1-866-531-2600 ConnexOntario Problem Gambling Services. All ages welcome in our Augustus Tower and convention complex. Must be 19 years of age or older to enter the casino and all other outlets. Those who have been trespassed from Caesars Windsor and/or self-excluded from any OLG or Caesars property are not eligible to attend Caesars Windsor or related outlets, participate in promotions or redeem offers. The Caesars brand and related trademarks are owned by Caesars License Company, LLC and its affiliated companies. Used with permission.

Daphne V. Clarke Trailblazer Award 2024

Sponsored by CTV Bell Media

LiUNA!625



LiUNA Local 625 proudly cultivates a robust partnership with WEST, championing the entrance of women into the construction industry—a commitment that continually energizes us.

As the largest construction union in North America, LiUNA stands as a cornerstone of the industry, boasting a membership exceeding 120,000 across Canada. Within Ontario, our influence is further solidified through 11 cutting-edge training campuses.

Our dedication to fostering inclusivity and excellence is evidenced by the success stories within our programs. Numerous women who've pursued these initiatives have not only joined the esteemed ranks of LiUNA members but have also completed rigorous apprenticeship programs, ascending to the esteemed status of Red Seal construction craft workers. Among these exemplary individuals, Dayna Eidukas-Mooney stands out, having achieved a remarkable feat—a Red Seal certification with an exceptional score of 94%.



Perseverance Award 2024

Sponsored by Build A Dream

EPICentre

EPICentre



University of Windsor

The Entrepreneurship, Practice and Innovation Centre (EPICentre) is the entrepreneurial hub on the University of Windsor campus. Our members are guided through their entrepreneurial journey through mentorship, a collaborative co-working space, connections, and funding opportunities to bring their ideas to market. We believe that an entrepreneurial mindset is critical to success, which is why we've created unique experiences and opportunities to support students, alumni, faculty, and the community to succeed in moving their ideas forward.

EPICentre is home to two facilities, a collaborative workspace on the 2nd floor of the Joyce Entrepreneurship Centre and a makerspace in the Ed Lumley Centre for Engineering Innovation. The EPICentre workspace offers an open-concept co-working environment for startups looking to network, collaborate, and immerse themselves in a creative environment. Our MakerSpace allows curious minds to learn, tinker, and create with 3D Printers, Laser Cutters, and more!

WE DREAM OF A WORLD WHERE WE ALL WIN.

WE^A BUILD A DREAM

Women face barriers that make it harder for them to pursue successful careers in the skilled trades. For some, these barriers shut them out entirely.

At Build A Dream, we break down these barriers by partnering with businesses and supporting women throughout their careers. Join us and together we will make this dream a reality.



OUR SERVICES



Career Coaching



Professional Development



Policy Research



Networking

www.webuildadream.com

DEI (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion) Award 2024

Sponsored by Attache Group Inc.

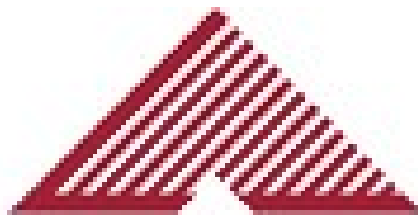
WECF



The WindsorEssex Community Foundation (WECF) is a charitable organization dedicated to improving communities across Windsor-Essex County through collaboration, strategic leadership, and innovative solutions to charitable giving. For 40 years, the WECF has worked to improve the quality of life for residents of Windsor-Essex County and to create and support opportunities for prosperity.

Originally founded in 1983 as Heritage Windsor, the WECF is a perpetual community trust for philanthropic purposes. The WECF assist donors in creating a lasting legacy to benefit and support their community, now and in the future. Through community investment activities, the WECF has invested over \$16.6 million in the community and has accumulated over \$26 million in assets.

In addition to this, the WECF also leads a variety of programs in Windsor & Essex County including Inspiration 100™, Vital Signs®, and Random Act of Kindness Day™.



Attache Group Inc.

Secure, Unified Network Solutions & Services

New Partnership Award 2024

Sponsored by TD Bank

Afrik Empire



Embracing the Rich African Experience

Oluwakemi emerges an independent woman who embarked on a remarkable journey by relocating to Canada and establishing her own business, "Afrik Empire," located at Tecumseh Mall. Her entrepreneurial spirit has not only led to her personal success but has also made her an influential figure on the LEAD program.

Oluwakemi is a supportive collaborator with the LEAD program, Oluwakemi has committed herself to supporting young women who came from diverse backgrounds. Her engagement goes beyond mere participation, as she actively contributes to breaking down barriers and providing opportunities for growth. Oluwakemi's dedication to the LEAD program is a testament to her belief in empowering and uplifting others, particularly young women striving to overcome obstacles.



Bank

VIP New Business Partner Award 2024

Sponsored by Biz X Magazine

Off The Hook Paralegal



Off The Hook Paralegal is a fully licenced firm that will assist anyone who finds themselves charged with a driving offence. Off The Hook Paralegal will go to court and fight for you, your driving privileges, while protecting your wallet. Walter Martin, owner at Off the Hook Paralegal, is a former police officer with the traffic enforcement unit and a certified operator of several Breathalyzer instruments used to test impaired drivers. Walter Martin obtained the highest qualification in Canada as a court certified expert in motor vehicle collisions and as an investigator of fatal collisions. As a certified instructor of police radar and police laser, Walter instructed other officers how to use this technology properly.

After graduating from college with honors, Walter Martin started Off The Hook Paralegal with the goal to represent anyone who has been charged with a driving offence. Off The Hook Paralegal is located in the downtown Windsor area and continues to represent drivers in Southwest Ontario. Walter Martin will work with you, and for you, to defend your rights using knowledge, qualifications, training, and experience.



CELEBRATING 27 YEARS OF LOCAL PUBLISHING

- The Upcoming WEST International Women's Day Gala
- Celebrating Black History Month
- Real Estate Association Appreciation Luncheon Snapshots
- THE PARENTING BIZ: Issues Facing Tweens & Teens
- Welcome Home Kitchen & Bath; Berryline Candles; Twigg's Bar & Grill; Dr. Bill Wall's New Book On Transplants; Art Galia Turns 20; Tecumseh's Wineology and more!

Turning The Page ...

St. Clair College President Patti France — who has led the transformation of the College footprint, student experience and community brand — leaves the President's office in June as she retires after over 37 years at the College. Under her leadership the College has added new programs and degrees, elevated athletics and strengthened many community partnerships. — PAGE 18

FOR BUSINESSES & PEOPLE IN WINDSOR, ESSEX COUNTY, PEELEE ISLAND & CHATHAM KENT

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Equity & Inclusion Award 2024

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Ashcon Construction



Ashcon Construction commenced its operations in Lasalle, Ontario in 1999. Initially undertaking a variety of projects, including custom home construction and additions across Essex County. Subsequently, Ashcon Construction Ltd was incorporated in 2001, continuing to provide comprehensive carpentry and construction services until 2010 when the company transitioned towards specializing in a particular construction niche.

As the company expanded, it found its forte in finish carpentry, excelling in custom millwork, interior trim work, and crafting unique pieces for its esteemed clientele. Despite focusing primarily on finish carpentry, requests for managing entire projects still come in, which are accommodated within the operational schedule whenever feasible.

Over the years, Ashcon Construction has had the privilege of working on exclusive and noteworthy projects that have allowed the team to unleash their creativity. Collaborating closely with builders, clients, and designers, the company has brought numerous innovative concepts to life.



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International Women's Day 2024

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CenterLine (Windsor) Limited
Chrysler Theatre
Coral Medical Health Spa
DeMonte Fabricating Ltd
Devonshire Mall
Diageo
Dronfield Equestrian
DS Electric
Electra-tech Manufacturing Inc.
Entice Salon
Ergonow Ergonomic Solutions
F45 (Functional Forty Five)
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Freed's
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Lakeview Montessori School
Laser It! Salon & Medical Spa
Laval International
Libro Credit Union
Linda's Fashion
Logic Executive Search & Workplace Solutions
Lungovita Beach Retreat
Lynn Guest
Mactools Visual
Mezzo Ristorante & Lounge
Monarch Basics
Multifood Supermarket
Nancy Johns Gallery & Framing
New Life Fellowship Church
Ocean Bottom Soap Company
Oxley Estate Winery
Peak Processing Solutions
Piccolo's Pizza and Pasta House
Power Traxx Electric
Real Canadian Superstore
Refresh Day Spa & Salon

Rosa's Pizza
Roseland Golf and Curling Club
Sabell Essentials
Select Tool Inc.
Seven Lakes Championship Golf
Shoppers Drug Mart (Dougall Avenue)
Shoppers Drug Mart (Ouellette Avenue)
Soffi Studio
Sprucewood Shores Estate Winery
Stiemar Bread
Target Building Materials
The Aesthetic Lab
The Boomin Gardener
The Bourbon Rose Floral Design Co.
The Keg Steakhouse +Bar
The Windsor Spitfires
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Thank you for your time and donation

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LFX Supply Centre

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Sophy Theam
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International Women's Day Gala Past Keynote Speakers



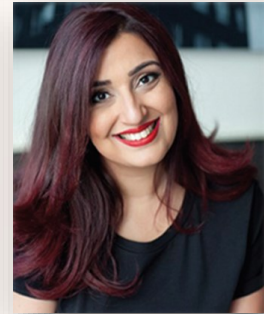
Carolyn Brown
2023



Dr. Beverly Jacobs
2022



Dr. Patricia France
2021



Samra Zafar
2020



Major
Catherine Wollocombe
2019



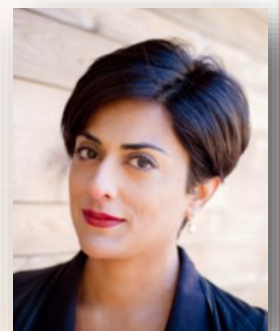
Donna Wellington
2018



Jacqueline Lyanga
2017



Hon. Dr. Jean Augustine
2016



Saadia Muzaffar
2015



Staff Sergeant
Maureen Rudall
2014



Hon. Teresa Piruzza
2013



Sukanya Pillay
2012



Kaye Johnson
2011



Hon. Sandra Pupatello
2010



Hon. Madam Justice
Micheline A. Rawlins-2009



Evelyn Myrie
2008



Donna Moro
2007



Dr. Emily Carasco
2006



Susan Whelan
1997

International Women's Day Gala Past Award Winner

2009

Journey Toward Success Award
Debra Eichmann

Journey Toward Success Award
Chidi Gladys Ubah

Community Partner Award
City of Windsor, HR Department

2010

Journey Toward Success Award
Doina Tintoi

Journey Toward Success Award
Elsie Calumpang

Community Partner Award
Champion Products

Community Partner Award
BMO (Bank of Montreal)

2011

Journey Toward Success Award
Magdalena Diaconu

Journey Toward Success Award
Merita Katana

Community Partner Award
St. Clair College

Community Partner Award
Green Shield Canada

2012

Community Partner Award
Human Resource Professionals
Association

Community Partner Award
Certified Management Accountants Ontario

Community Partner Award
Maria Belenkova

2013

Journey Towards Success Award
Manju John

Community Partner Award
The Tax Stop

Community Partner Award
BASF Canada

2014

Journey Towards Success Award
Jennifer Cousineau

Community Partner Award
Power Traxx Electric

Community Partner Award
Odette Tostmasters

2015

Journey Towards Success Award
Rama Elluru

Journey Towards Success Award
Kateri Garvey

Community Partner Award

Inna Turkova - AV Gauge & Fixture Inc

Community Partner Award
Renee Turner - KPMG

Community Partner Award
Eric Bialkowski - Drive Logistics

Community Partner Award
Beth Yeh - Roth Mosey

Community Partner Award
Multiculture Council of Windsor
& Essex County

2016

The Sisterhood Award
Shantelle Browning - Morgan

The Phenomenal Woman Award
Judith Obatusa

The Trailblazer Award
DeMonte Fabricating Ltd

The Trailblazer Award
Centerline Limited

The Visionary Award
Rob Paglia

The Innovation Award
Nour Hachem Fawaz

New Business Partner Award
Sutherland Global Services

2017

The Sisterhood Award
Terry Weymouth

The Phenomenal Woman Award
Francisca Bakre

The Trailblazer Award
HR Block

The Trailblazer Award
AlphaKor

The Visionary Award
Mona Stonefish

The Innovation Award
Reem Al-Khulaidi

New VIP Partner Award
Karen Pilon

Legacy Award
Dr. Martha Reavley

2018

The Sisterhood Award
Patricia Brown

The Phenomenal Woman Award
Evian Kassab

The Trailblazer Award
Laval International

The Trailblazer Award
CommUnity Partnership

The Visionary Award
Lindsay Angier

The Innovation Award
Kylie Masse

2019

The Sisterhood Award
Lacy Carty

The Phenomenal Woman Award
Jamie Campbell

The Trailblazer Award
Mistermaid

New Business Partner Award
Hotel Dieu Grace Healthcare

The Visionary Award
Alpha Kappa Sorority Inc. Psi
Delta Omega Chapter

The Innovation Award
Saja Mefleh

2020

The Sisterhood Award
Diala Zaidan

The Phenomenal Woman Award
Lisa Eybergen

The Trailblazer Award
A Book of My Own

New Business Partner Award
Enwin

The Visionary Award
Michael Brown

The Innovation Award
Bisma Sheraz

The Influencer Award
Rebecca Saad

2021

The Sisterhood Award
Sandra Istefan

The Phenomenal Woman Award
Rebecca

The Trailblazer Award
Réseau-femmes du Sud-Ouest
de l'Ontario

New Business Partner Award
Tejon Digital

The Visionary Award
Art Gallery of Windsor

The Innovation Award
Fadak Al Naely

The Influencer Award
Women of Windsor

The Choose To Challenge Award
Anthonia Abimbola Aborode

2022

The Sisterhood Award
Sungee John

The Phenomenal Woman Award
Evon Karayan

The Trailblazer Award
Maryan Amalow

New excellence Partnership Award
John Wigle

The Visionary Award
Susan Taylor

The Innovation Award
Priya Chana

The Influencer Award
Marium Tolson-Murthy

DEI Award
Bonnie Douglas

Perseverance Award
Dr. Tariq Ali Khan

Break The Bias Award
Bridging North America

Youth Community Leadership Award
Fatima Al Hakim

Allyship Award
Justin Falconer

New Business Partner Award
Academy Truck Driving School

2023

The Innovation Award
Faria Islam

Youth Community Leadership Award
Tayler Diamond

The Visionary Award
Ms. Lana Talbot

Allyship Award
Lido Zuccato

The Phenomenal Woman Award
Theresa Nguyen

The Sisterhood Award
Nada Ayad

Influencer Award
Rama Musharbash

Daphne V. Clarke Trailblazer Award
Matthew House Refugee Welcome Center - Windsor

DEI Award
Evelyn Myrie

New Excellence: Partnership Award
WESUN

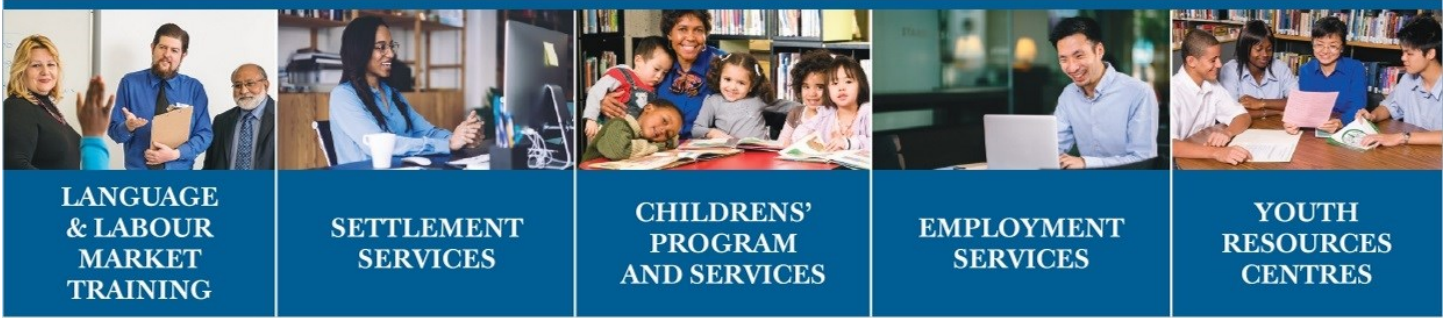
The VIP Award: New Business Partner
Amico Affiliates

Embrace Equity Award
Paul Davis



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Melissa & Randy

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The Eclipse Duo is a versatile music group based out of Kingsville Ontario. This husband-and-wife powerhouse have been performing for audiences together over the past ten years and pride themselves on mastering every genre. Randy's studio and production expertise mixed with Melissa's vocal ability will have you entertained all night long. You can catch this duo performing at weddings and corporate events weekly with the high-energy party band, *Eclipse Live Band*.

TheEclipseduo 519-818-0712

HAPPY *Women's* DAY



8 MARCH 2024



Bishop Paul and Lady Sheri Riley, honor and Celebrate International Women's Day with you.

Congratulations to Women's Enterprise Skills Training for your continued success to bringing attention to this wonderful Day. May God continue to Bless you and keep you in His perfect Peace.



New Life Fellowship
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Ann Wilson, Oxley Estate Winery
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5 Ways to Support Local:

1. Write an honest and supportive review of their business online.
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3. Tell your family and friends.
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5. Purchase a gift card (they don't expire).

Libro Credit Union celebrates the achievements of all women this International Women's Day!

Women contribute significantly to our thriving community. Libro is loyal to local and proudly supports the many strong female business leaders and entrepreneurs across southwestern Ontario. Local businesses need our support now more than ever.

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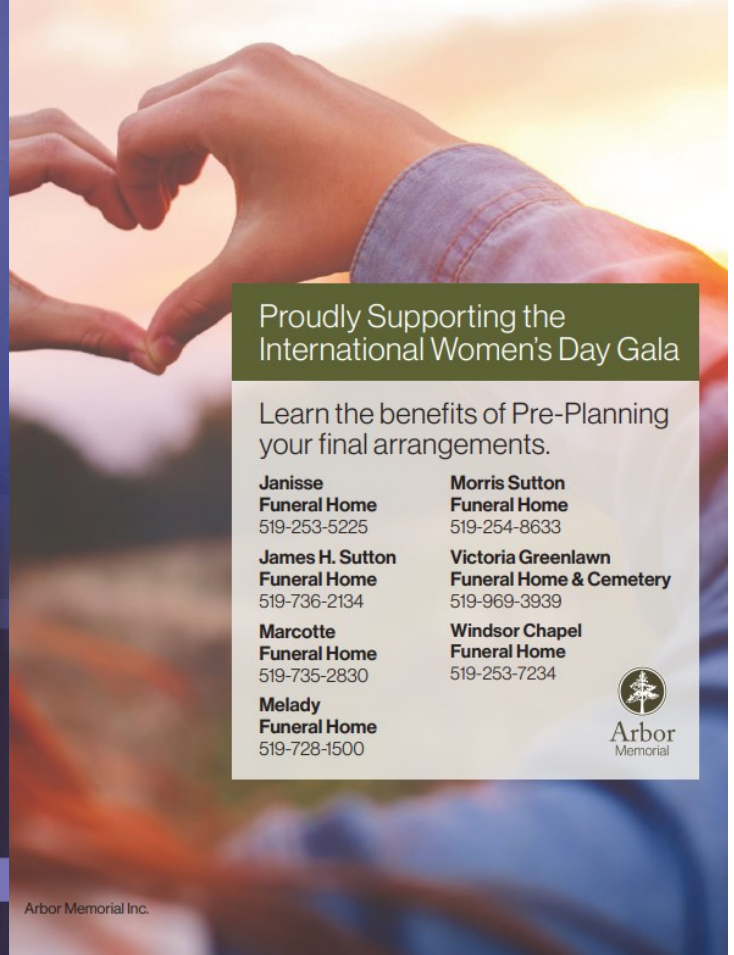
Celebrate women's achievement.
Celebrate inclusion.



Proudly supporting Windsor-Essex's diverse community of women entrepreneurs and leaders.



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WEST Memories 2022—2024



WEST Memories 2022—2024



WEST Client Testimonies



Young Women in Leadership, Employment and Development (LEAD)

Before I joined the LEAD program, I wasn't very confident in myself and struggled with public speaking. After joining this program, I was hopeful again about finding a job. I've learned many things that would help me with employment like soft skills, effective communication, and customer service. I've also learned how to be more confident by doing public speaking and so on. I currently have started my placement at Shopper's Drug Mart. The LEAD program really was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

—Naomi Kayumbi

Empowering Women for Employment (EWE)



My passion drove me to enroll in the EWE Program. Moving to Canada has meant embracing new challenges in an unfamiliar professional landscape. The EWE Program was not just a path to learn the necessary skills and certification only, it was also a getaway to immerse myself in Canadian culture, make new connections, and truly belong.

—Jana



Settlement Services

In this difficult time for Ukraine, the whole world is united in a desperate fight. Caring people do everything to provide help and support. I express my words of sincere gratitude to Alona for providing help with language school, transit pass, food bank, resume writing, job search and training. This is very hard and dedicated work. Thank you for your care, participation and support.

—Viktoriiia

Employment Services (ES)



The outstanding services provided by WEST have proven to be invaluable to us here at PROSTAFF Employment Solutions. They consistently connect us with a multitude of highly skilled candidates, enabling us to guide them toward fulfilling long-term or short-term career opportunities. Moreover, WEST has played a pivotal role in amplifying our community outreach efforts to various organizations in the Windsor-Essex region. Through active participation in their job fairs and events, we've not only expanded our network but also fostered meaningful connections within our community.

—ProStaff



Electrical Pre-Apprenticeship Program for Women (EPA)

Without WEST I would not have been able to attend school and prepare myself for my new career. They have helped me tremendously throughout this journey. WEST was always there if a problem arose or you just needed to talk.. I highly recommend WEST for the electrical pre-apprentice program or any of the other programs that they run.



**WOMEN'S ENTERPRISE
SKILLS TRAINING**
OF WINDSOR INC.



This Employment Ontario project is funded in part by the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario.



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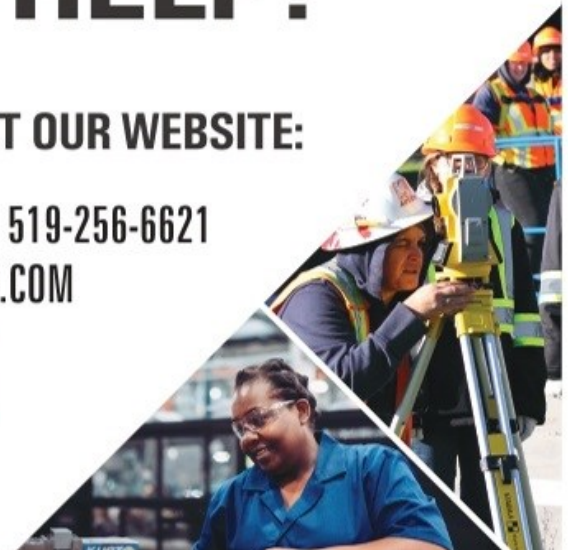
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ST. CLAIR
COLLEGE

WHERE WE BUILD LEADERS

DISCOVER ST. CLAIR COLLEGE

St. Clair College is committed to remaining at the forefront, fueling the industries that drive the region forward. We value our partnership with the Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor (WEST), together we are committed to training and helping students prepare for meaningful careers.

Together, St. Clair College and WEST support the following programs for Women in Trades:

- Electrical Pre-Apprenticeship Program for Women
- CNC Industrial Mechanic Millwright Pre-Apprenticeship
- Introduction to Construction and Craft Trades for Women (ICCTW)

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Inspire The future Generation