



**Canada Science and Technology
Museums Corporation**

*Canada Agriculture Museum
Canada Aviation and Space Museum
Canada Science and Technology Museum*

**Société des musées de sciences
et technologies du Canada**

*Musée de l'agriculture du Canada
Musée de l'aviation et de l'espace du Canada
Musée des sciences et de la technologie du Canada*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Canada Science and Technology Museums Corporation proudly celebrates the first International Day of the Girl Child

OTTAWA, October 11, 2012 – Today marks the first United Nations' International Day of the Girl Child, and the Canada Science and Technology Museums Corporation (CSTMC) is proud to take part in this initiative aimed at empowering girls and ensuring their active participation in all spheres of society.

The CSTMC's Museums as well as its corporate operations take a variety of steps toward ensuring the ideal of gender equality is some day attained.

Last Summer, the Canada Science and Technology Museum's (CSTM) very popular Summer camps welcomed over 40 girls for its first-ever girls-only science camps, as part of the museum's overall efforts to ensure an increasing number of girls are drawn towards careers in STEM (Science, Technology Engineering, and Mathematics) fields.

In partnership with Carleton University, the CSTM is currently planning its second annual grassroots roundtable on the issue of girls and young women studying in STEM related fields. Scheduled for the end of November, this event will also mark the launch of the Museum's recognition award for an individual or institution making an important contribution in advancing the cause of girls and STEM. Exploratory work is also underway for the creation of a travelling exhibition on the subject of Girls and STEM.



Today the Canada Agriculture Museum will hold an activity that will highlight the role of girls and women in the agricultural sector. This seasonal activity will focus on pumpkins, corn and beans crops to showcase the companion planting technique called the Three Sisters, using the three main crops traditionally used by Native American populations in North America.

At the Canada Aviation and Space Museum, the pioneering women of Canada's aviation history figure prominently in the "High Flyers: Canadian Women in Aviation" exhibition. On this important day, guided visits will put added emphasis on the contribution of six exceptional women in particular.

The CSTMC has also been encouraging and supporting staff taking part in Carleton University's Management Development Program for Women, an intensive program emphasising application through workplace based assignment, to assist them in achieving their career goals.

"These are but a few examples of what the CSTMC does on a ongoing basis to ensure that today's girls become tomorrow's successful, decision-making women," said CSTMC CEO Denise Amyot. "We are very proud to mark the first United Nations' International Day of the Girl Child, and will continue to find innovative ways to pursue these important objectives going forward."

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