

June, 2011

ASTTBC's Women in Technology (BCWiT) Collaborate with WWEST



Sarah Campden, CTech, Chair of BCWiT (far left) and Clarissa Brennan, AScT (fourth from left) join other delegates at the inaugural meeting of the Westcoast Women of Engineering, Science and Technology Council

ASTTBC's BC Women in Technology (BCWiT) group has joined the Westcoast Women of Engineering, Science and Technology (WWEST) Council, a collaboration of organizations from across BC and the Yukon who promote women in science, engineering, and technology. The BCWiT mission is to provide support, be an information resource and promote awareness to women in technology careers, and to women seeking new career opportunities; as such, participation on the WWEST Council was only natural.

Almost 20 individual groups with similar mission statements participated at WWEST Council's inaugural meeting. Each organization identified their goals, endeavours, and events. As a result, a comprehensive mind map was created to identify relationships between each group's target audience, geographic reach, and activity types. The mind map will enable each organization to more easily collaborate with other groups with similar objectives and coordinate joint events.

In addition to producing the mind map, a list of resources that could be available to the other groups was created. This list will allow each of the groups to draw on the resources of the others to contribute to the overall success of the promotion of women.

Exciting tools such as a Google event calendar (to encourage networking between all the groups and their audiences, and discourage conflicting event dates) and a single webpage (to link each of the organizations together for a "one stop" location for information) will be developed as a result of meeting.

The WWEST Council endeavours to meet biannually to continue to support and collaborate with each organization. BCWiT is excited to contribute to the WWEST Council and thus the global success of promoting women in technology. To find out more about BCWiT and view the complete list of the organizations that have joined to form the WWEST Council go to www.bcwit.com