

Engineering Science Quest Receives 2013 Actua & GE Canada Award for Leadership and Innovation

Ottawa, January 20 2013/ Engineering Science Quest (ESQ), Actua's member located at the University of Waterloo, has received the 2013 Actua & GE Canada Award for Leadership and Innovation. The award recognizes ESQ's excellence in the delivery of high impact STEM programming reaching more than 20,000 Ontario youth in 2013 and outstanding leadership within the Actua network.

ESQ is recognized for its demonstrated excellence across all areas of programming, program development and leadership within the Actua network. ESQ has consistently shown dedication to high quality, high impact programming with a significant focus on reaching ALL underserved youth audiences in STEM. Through the delivery of classroom workshops and week-long summer camps, ESQ exposes youth to the many dynamic STEM studies and careers that are open to them and empowers youth to experience what it means to actually be a scientist or an engineer. This award also recognizes ESQ's important leadership within the Actua network, including leading sessions during Actua's national conferences, advocating for new areas of development and supporting their peers across the country.

"ESQ's ongoing commitment to engage underrepresented youth audiences in high impact STEM programming and continual expansion into new topic areas such as entrepreneurship is making a significant difference in the lives of youth in southern Ontario," says Jennifer Flanagan, President and CEO of Actua. "As one of Actua's founding members, we are especially pleased to recognize Engineering Science Quest's success during Actua's 20th year."

"Creating a fun and stimulating environment to learn about STEM programs is key to inspiring the next generation of scientists and engineers," says Kim Warburton, Vice President, Communications and Public Affairs, GE Canada. "ESQ is to be congratulated for developing engaging programming that is building the skills needed for tomorrow's workforce."

About Actua: Actua is Canada's leading science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) youth outreach network. Over 3 million young Canadians have been inspired through their participation in Actua's positive, hands-on educational workshops, camps and community outreach initiatives. Each year, Actua's growing network of member organizations reach over 200,000 young Canadians in over 500 communities nationwide. Actua's major funders include: Suncor Energy Foundation, GE Canada, Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, Synapse – CIHR Youth Connection, Government of Nunavut and Shell Canada. For more information about Actua visit www.actua.ca.

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