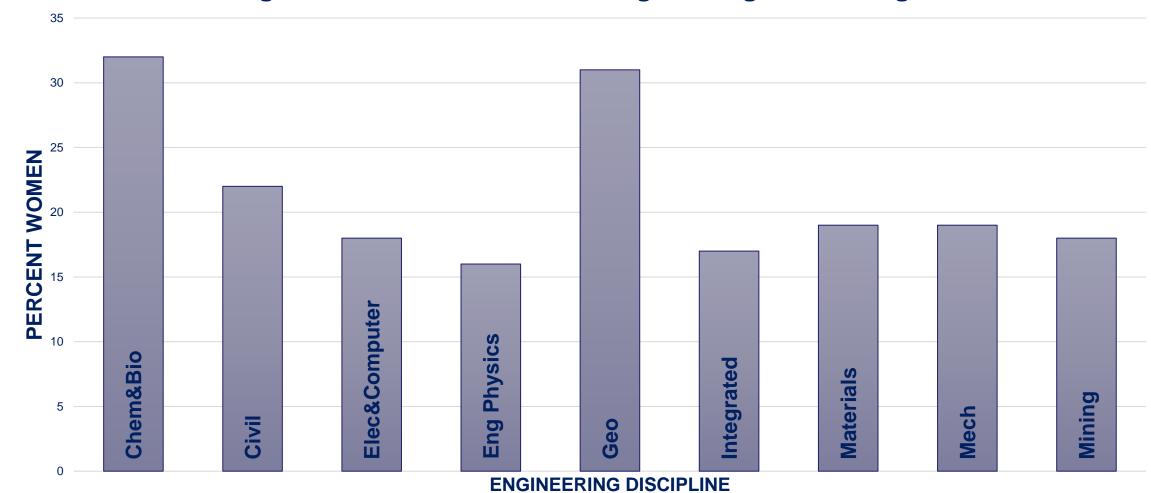
# The Key To Retention: Finding Purpose Women in Consulting Engineering Conference - CEA

Leanne McLaren



#### **The School Years**

#### Percentage of Women in UBC 2014 Engineering Graduating Classes





### Early Career – Working in the Field



Reading Slope Inclinometers near Peace River



Construction Inspection at a CIP Secant Pile Wall in Peace River

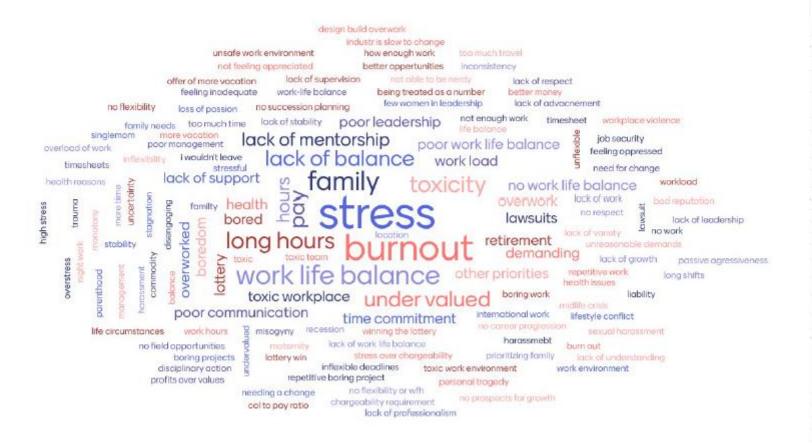


## Early Career – Working in the Field





#### The Reasons for Leaving



Burnout, bullying, and under-representation: Examining the retention of women in engineering with Dr. Jean Hutchinson. Trapezoid article, August 19, 2025.



#### The Reasons for Staying - External

- Promotion and normalization of parental leave for both parents
- More women in leadership roles
- More fair and transparent pay (not solved but getting better)
- Increased allyship
- Systems set up for reporting toxic behaviour



#### My Deep Purpose

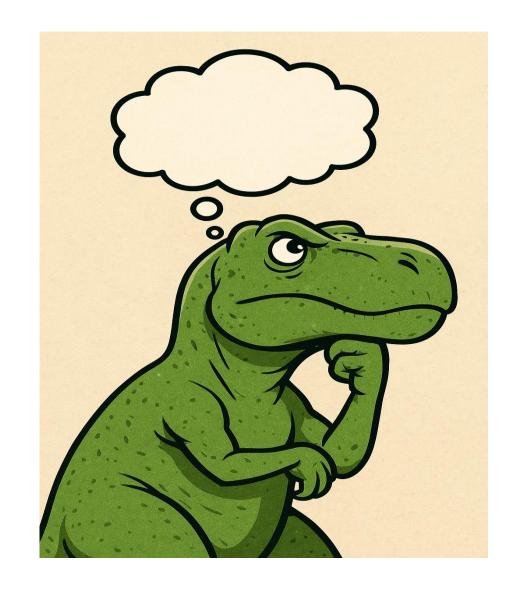
- What can I do for myself?
- My purpose: to be there for young engineers
  - Champion
  - Listen
  - Mentor
  - Support





#### Your Deep Purpose

- What can you do for yourself?
- Your purpose
  - Promote EDI
  - Smile at coworkers
  - Make a difference in the community
  - Make a difference to your family





#### YOU DESERVE TO BE HERE

