

## University of Victoria Leadership Through Diversity (LTD)

Leadership Through Diversity (LTD) is a student-run group that was started in January 2012. The creation of this group was inspired by many of the existing Women in Engineering groups across Canada, and the support and involvement they provided minority groups in a male-dominated field of study. Initially taking after many women in science, technology, and engineering groups, LTD soon formed to become a group focused on diversity. This includes first years, bridging students, international students, students with disabilities, LGBTQ, and women. Inclusivity is the main focus, so everyone is allowed at all events, with exceptions to the women-focused events like Girls Night.

Past events for the group have included a technical woodworking workshop, a technical soldering workshop, Ladies Nights, First Year Mentorship workshops, International Potlucks, LAN Parties, speaker events, and an annual attendance at the National Conference on Women in Engineering (NCWIE).

In 2012 when the group first started up, WWEST Partners funding provided a one-time \$200 donation to help fund 2 Ladies Nights events that brought female engineering students together to network, socialize and build relationships. This \$200 grant was matched by the UVic Faculty of Engineering that same year. This has allowed LTD to build a strong reputation and basis within the engineering environment, that has allowed the group to expand and grow into what it is today.

