

6TH ANNUAL WOMXN IN DATA SCIENCE CONFERENCE & AWARDS

Founder and Executive Director Distributed Artificial Intelligence

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(DAIR)

KEYNOTE SPEAKER





ABOUT

Toronto Womxn in Data Science



OUR MISSION

Our mission is to empower a million women to become data literate, increase the recruitment and retention of women in data roles and influence inclusive innovation in Al products.

The place to learn about all things data



KISHAWNA PECK

CEO & FOUNDER, TORONTO WOMXN IN DATA SCIENCE



An Inclusion and equity lens is needed to have technology that doesn't amplify societal biases and further marginalize minoritized folks. In the new age of artificial intelligence in the future of work, women risk being left behind. The 2020 World Economic Forum report found that women comprise only 26 percent of data and AI positions. Having diverse and inclusive teams mitigate this risk, and we can begin by increasing the number of data-literate women and upskilling and supporting women currently in data professions.

At Toronto Womxn in Data Science, we aim to empower a million women to become data literate, increase the recruitment and retention of women in data professions and influence inclusive innovation. In 2018, we hosted the first Women in Data Science Conference in Canada, and since then, we've built a community of over 4100 women. Our programs include a podcast, resource hub, events and a job board to help further our mission. We have a national presence and are building steam in the US. Our 6th Annual Conference & Awards will be on April 26th and 27th, 2023.

Our Why

A quick search for AI bias will turn up multiple headlines of shortcomings of products and services powered by AI. You'll find various industries represented, and diverse communities are consistently impacted. There are headlines about data privacy, housing, health, justice, social welfare, recruitment, and more. These headlines spotlight the gaps that exist in the products and services powered by AI.

Do you remember Maslow's hierarchy of needs? Most commonly depicted by a pyramid, it shows human motivations from the most basic to aspirations. From bottom to top, the sections are Physiological needs, Safety needs, Love and Belonging, Esteem, and at the peak, Self Actualization.

The majority of the headlines that you'll find when searching for Al bias fall within fundamental physiological needs and safety needs like being denied a mortgage, being filtered out in the recruitment process, or being misdiagnosed. If tech threatens the essentials like physiology and safety, it can impact the journey to self-actualization and leave minoritized communities behind.

It's not enough to put existing AI practitioners through diversity and inclusion training, partly because they are subjected to the privilege hazard. Those who suffer from the privilege hazard are poorly equipped to recognize oppression in the world. They lack lived experience, and despite how proximate they get to minoritized groups, their lack of lived experience limits their ability to foresee and prevent harm. Diversifying the AI field isn't a step we can skip, and we should start with women.





YOU ARE INVITED

TORONTO WOMXN IN DATA SCIENCE 6TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE & AWARDS

Date: 26 -27th April, 2023

About:

A two-day event where you will get a chance to hear from womxn in academia, industry, government, and start-ups about how they apply data science to their work and career journeys. Our goal is to ease the gap to help attendees see themselves in the data field, arm them with new knowledge and developments, and celebrate exceptional experts.

Who should attend:

The Conference and Awards are open to everyone. The majority of our audience are data professionals looking to keep up with the latest trends and build community. There are talks, panels and workshops accessible to a variety of skill sets.



SCHEDULE

TORONTO WOMXN IN DATA SCIENCE 6TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE & AWARDS

SCHEDULE

APRIL 26TH IN PERSON 9 AM-5 PM

GLEN GOULD STUDIO 250 FRONT STREET W.

Talks and panels on business, technical and ethical aspects of Data Science, Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence

APRIL 27TH (IN PERSON/VIRTUAL) 9AM- 5 PM

SMITH SCHOOL OF BUSINESS 200 FRONT ST. W

Hands-on workshops on technical skills development and career development. Workshops are livestreamed as well as in person

APRIL 27TH IN PERSON 7PM-11 PM

GLEN GOULD STUDIO 250 FRONT STREET W.

Celebrate with us as we announce the winners of our women in data awards



PROMO

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