

## 2025 JUDITH WEISZMANN WOMEN IN ENGINEERING CHAMPION AWARD

*Suman Suri, P.Eng*



Suman Suri, P.Eng., is a highly accomplished engineer whose remarkable journey, leadership, and dedication to gender equity have made a lasting impact on the engineering profession. Her advocacy for women and commitment to mentorship continue to transform the landscape for women in engineering.

Suman began her academic journey in India, earning a bachelor's degree in engineering from Punjab Technical University, followed by a Master's degree with Honors from Mumbai University. She spent nearly ten years as an Assistant Professor at Mumbai University, one of India's top institutions. During this time, she published more than ten papers in respected international journals and conferences. She also gave back to her community by working with students in Mumbai's underprivileged slum areas, helping to improve access to education.

After immigrating to Canada eight years ago, Suman faced many challenges but never gave up. While raising two young children and working full-time, she pursued her professional engineering goals with determination. She began her career humbly as a printer operator at a local fabric manufacturing company and was promoted to Assistant Production Manager within three years. Her technical excellence continued to shine in the electric bus industry, where, despite having no prior experience, she quickly became a key leader. In less than five years, she rose to Supervisor and now leads a team of ten

engineers. Her ability to learn, adapt, and lead has set her apart in this highly specialized and evolving field.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Suman is widely recognized as a champion for women in engineering. As the first woman Chair of the India Chapter, she led efforts to foster inclusion, achieving 50% female executive representation and organizing over 20 events focused on empowering women and developing leadership. She also mentors through the Women in Engineering and Geoscience Mentorship Program, guiding young engineers in their careers. Her advocacy extends to the workplace, where she initiated conversations with management and HR to address gender disparities and propose strategies for attracting more female engineers.

Her contributions extend into the broader engineering community as well. She has served as an external examiner for Capstone projects at the University of Manitoba, providing guidance to graduating students, and has also been a scrutineer in EngGeoMB bylaws elections, ensuring the integrity of professional processes. Additionally, her inspiring journey has been recognized in Keystone Magazine and highlighted by her company's social media channels, serving as a beacon of motivation for aspiring engineers.

Suman's commitment to service extends beyond engineering. She teaches language classes at the Hindu Temple, supporting cultural education, and runs a badminton club, promoting inclusivity and an active lifestyle. Through all her initiatives, she embodies leadership, resilience, and community-building.

With her exceptional achievements and unwavering dedication to uplifting women in engineering, Suman Suri, P.Eng., is truly deserving of the Judith Weiszmann Women in Engineering Champion Award.