



Janice Paslawski, P.Eng. Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta / Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan PhD in environmental engineering University of Saskatchewan

## CCPE - MANULIFE FINANCIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

anice Paslawski, P.Eng. believes that engineers are responsible for identifying solutions that enable people to effectively adapt to environmental changes.

Well-respected in the area of environmental remediation, Janice is currently pursuing a PhD in environmental engineering at the University of Saskatchewan. She has focussed her engineering career on assessing and overcoming the health and environmental risks associated with the petroleum industry.

A member of both the Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists, and Geophysicists of Alberta (APEGGA) and the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan (APEGS) and the, Janice has worked and contributed to important research findings in both provinces.

Through her PhD studies, Janice is further researching the concept of bioremediation technology. Bioremediation uses naturally present micro-organisms to actively consume fuel-derived toxic compounds and transform the waste into harmless carbon dioxide by-products.

This type of work is currently a priority for Environment Canada, as the accumulation of naphthenic acids-or NAs in tailings wastewater is posing an enormous environmental threat.

NAs are problematic because they can cause corrosion in refinery equipment, resulting in costs that are ultimately passed on to the consumer. In addition, NAs are known to be toxic to a range of aquatic organisms. Consequently, environmental regulators and the oil industry both have an interest in safely disposing of these unwanted acids.

Janice is expecting to graduate with a PhD in environmental engineering in 2007, and hopes to contribute to the profession by continuing her work in the oil and petroleum industry, or by teaching at the university level. She also hopes that her work will have a positive impact on the environment and the world in which her children live.