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Chair for *Women*
in Science and Engineering

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Sonia Bot

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Sonia's Biography

Sonia Bot is the Chief Executive of The BOT Consulting Group Inc. She also is an accomplished industry presenter, author of numerous peer-reviewed articles, and an industry executive member of university and business acceleration boards. Before The BOT Consulting Group Inc., she worked at BlackBerry, Nortel, Bell Northern Research, IBM, and TransCanada Pipelines.

In her career, Ms. Bot has built five global businesses from the ground up. These ventures introduced wildly disruptive value propositions and were recognized as trailblazers in the communications, Internet infrastructure, wireless, and mobility industries. In addition, she consistently ranks in the top 1% of global corporations and clients for achievements in leading breakthrough transformations and turnarounds of CEO top-of-mind issues.

Ms. Bot holds degrees in computer science with systems design/electrical engineering (BMath) from the University of Waterloo and biomedical engineering (MAsc) from the University of Toronto. She is a certified Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt.

What is your current job? Please list the title and briefly describe what it involves

Chief Executive of The BOT Consulting Group Inc.; a global, boutique consulting and advisory firm with deep specialization in technology innovation, entrepreneurship, and global business management. Sonia partners with C-levels and executives in advisory and special assignment roles to assist in building, growing, and transforming their ventures, and to solve wicked business problems. Company sizes range from large enterprises and Fortune 500s to small-medium enterprises in the mobility, telecommunications, software, internet, healthcare, and IT sectors.

What role does your company or organization play in the Canadian IT industry?

For Canadian clients, our role is strengthening companies in their capacity for innovation and business sophistication in order to collectively get Canada back into the Top 10 ranking for global competitiveness. In 2015, Canada ranked 13th overall in the World Economic Forum's Global Competitive Index, and 23rd for capacity to innovate.

What is the best advice you've ever gotten that you'd like to pass along to aspiring women in IT?

Always have your antennas on alert and tuned for new opportunities that you can create or leverage – for products, solutions, technologies, processes, systems, business models, organizations, partnerships, et cetera. Think like a designer! Be creative! Dream big! And of course, act on it!

What drives or motivates you?

I love doing what I do! I'm in my element and value the purpose. Every day I get to be highly creative, deal with high stakes, be challenged, be highly competitive, meet great people, and achieve breakthrough results!

If you were to start again what would you do differently?

I wish that I better understood the power of networking much earlier in my career. Rather than placing relentless focus on "nose to the grindstone", also balance productive networking – together they are a winning formula!

WOMEN WHO LEAD

[Women scientists in history \(/women-scientists-in-history-2\)](#)

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Through outreach and professional development activities, research, partnerships, thought leadership and online initiatives, we work with industry and academia to educate on the value of diversity for innovation, to inspire women to thrive and to celebrate the contributions of women in science and engineering.

For Inquiries : ✉ scieng.women.ontario@gmail.com (mailto:scieng.women.ontario@gmail.com)

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Elevate Communications