

EVENT PROMOTION

Here are a bunch of tips to promote NEM events to help you increase the engagement with your audience and broaden the visibility of your event!

- 1. Start by leveraging existing networks: Engineers Canada, Engineers Without Borders, NEM Ontario and founding partners: PEO, OACETT, OSPE. Don't hesitate to reach out to like-missioned organizations to help you promote your event. (bonus! It's also great networking.)
- 2. Use pictures & videos from previous years. If this is your first year, stock photos are also totally ok.
- 3. Use/create social media accounts dedicated to your organization.
- 4. Use the #NEM2020 hashtag leading up to and during the event. Encourage attendees to use it often!
- 5. Use tags to target audiences #Engineering #Technology #Ethics #Lifelonglearning #Equity #Diversity #Inclusion
- 6. Engage audiences before, during and after the event.
- 7. Have a dedicated social media person on event day who will post content, engage with replies or comments, answer questions and generate excitement.
- 8. Dedicate time to pre-event engagement. Share what people are excited about in sneak peaks and teasers!
- Don't feel pressured to be amazing on every platform, choose one or two to focus on.
- 10. Consider creating an <u>event</u> promo video.

Blog posts

Whether you have a blog of your own or are a guest post, a blog can be a great place to generate excitement for your event.

- The freedom of long-form communication allows you to craft a compelling narrative.
- Be sure to communicate the purpose of the event and why people should come.
 Generally aim to answer the 5 W's and how.
- Use quotes from past participants or event-goers, volunteers and organizers.
- TIPS for creating kick-ass blog posts.

Facebook

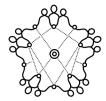
Who isn't on Facebook?!

- Create an <u>event page!</u> Include all the basics: location, who is hosting, time, what to expect, etc.
- Be thoughtful of the header and profile picture - make sure they're high quality and represent the event or organization well.
- Have a short and memorable event name - long titles are cut off on mobile.
- Choose the appropriate event category (conference, meet up, fair etc). Not sure which category your event falls under, read this!
- Add popular search tags (ie. equity, diversity, inclusion, technology, ethics, lifelong learning, engineering etc).
- Consider <u>Facebook Ads</u>.
 They can be a helpful way of reaching target audiences.
- Post often and tag people!

Twitter

- If you don't already have an account for your organization, create an account for the event. Include all event details in your bio or pin a Tweet.
- Use geotagging, it works similar to hashtags and allows audiences to see Tweets from a specific location.
- Create a strategy and stick with it. ie; When and how many times are you going to tweet before the event? There's a theory that 12pm-1pm and 5-6pm are prime times. Post during hours your target audience is online.
- Use multimedia, GIF's and polls to engage audiences.
- Create buzz and excitement for challenges and competitions by bringing audiences behind the scenes.
- If you have speakers, encourage them to Tweet their excitement for the event and retweet it.
- <u>Live Tweet</u> during the event, make sure to capture all the excitement.
- Reply and retweet related Tweets!
- Tweet a thank you and create a <u>Twitter moment</u> after the event, capture other users Tweets as well.





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Instagram

- If you don't already have an account, create one for your event/organization.
- Instagram's 'story' feature allows you to share short videos and pictures that build excitement for the event. You may choose to sneak-peek the venue, or provide a behind the scenes to the setup process get creative! More info on how to make a pro Insta story.
- The 'story' feature, has a poll option. It's useful for incorporating audience feedback into the planning process and general event engagement.
- People love winning things

 create a contest! One
 possibility is to host a weekly
 or daily thought-buster and
 pick a winner (that likes and
 comments on posts) through
 a randomized process.
- Create and share a short, sweet and upbeat event flyer.
- Designate someone to post stories constantly during the event.
- Continue engagement by posting after the event. #ThrowbackTuesday
- Choose some of your best photos to post as an endnote.
- Always caption pictures descriptively.

Snapchat

- Snapchat is a great tool for promoting events spanning multiple days.
- One of the best ways to promote on Snapchat is by creating a geofilter.
- A geofilter is a filter option you create and customize.
 The filter can be available to anyone within the radius you choose. Here are some amazing examples.
- Geofilters are useful because they grab the attention of audiences you may not have reached through other means.
- Because they are customizable you can include a hashtag, location and/or event name.
- Creating an account for the event and adding eventgoers is a great way to build a relationship with attendees.
- A geofencing tool allows event goers (or users in a location) to also post their content to your story. This is particularly useful for events with multiple moving parts.
- "Stories" allow pictures/ videos of your event to be viewed by users in the area as well as your 'friends'.

Eventbrite

- Eventbrite provides free promotional tools!
- If admission to your event is free, Eventbrite registration and promotion is also free!
- Create a standout event listing, use exciting images to grab attention. <u>Eventbrite</u> just changed their event listing design to be more appealing.
- Use tags in Eventbrite too!
- Send email invitations
 through Eventbrite is there
 a local politician, influencer,
 artist or cool Engineer in
 your area you want to invite
 directly?
- Use the email feature to thank all attendees after the event and link social media to continue the conversation.

