



The Engineering Institute of Canada

2021 Award Citation

EIC Fellow

Ning Yan

Nominated by the Canadian Society for Chemical Engineering

Ning Yan is the Distinguished Professor in Forest Biomaterials Engineering and the former Chair in Value Added Wood and Composites at the University of Toronto. She is an internationally renowned expert in converting renewable biomass materials into bio-based chemicals and functional bioproducts. Her innovations span a broad spectrum of engineering disciplines, and include novel green processes for biochemical extraction and unique lignin-containing nanocellulosic materials, as well as innovative synthesis methods for bio-adhesives and biofoams, functional bio-nano-composites, and smart sensors.

Professor Yan's work has resulted in 13 patents/invention disclosures and collaborations with industry partners around the world, as well as numerous awards. She has delivered more than 100 invited talks, distinguished seminars and keynotes, and has been an ongoing conference chair for the International Conference on Wood Adhesives since 2010. Professor Yan has developed state-of-the-art educational programs in sustainable chemical engineering and has successfully trained more than 140 engineers and researchers.

Ning is a strong advocate for developing sustainable technologies for a waste-free circular economy, and her research program is helping industry transition from fossil fuel derived products to more sustainable low carbon renewable alternatives.

Ladies and gentlemen, and Mr. President, please welcome Ning Yan as a Fellow of the Engineering Institute of Canada.