

NEWS EMBARGOED UNTIL 11:15 a.m., September 24, 2018

Who is Gina Cody? Biography of a Concordia alumna, trailblazing donor

Montreal, QC, Canada: September 24, 2018 — Gina Parvaneh Cody is a Canadian-Iranian engineer and business leader. She received her Bachelor of Science in her native Iran at Aryamehr University of Technology, which is now called Sharif University of Technology. After moving to Canada in 1979, she attended Concordia University in Montreal, where she completed a master's degree and a PhD in engineering.

Achievements:

- In 1989, Gina Cody became the first woman in Concordia University's history to earn a PhD in building engineering.
- Gina Cody has more than 30 years of professional practice in the private sector as a professional engineer, corporate executive and principal of an engineering firm.
- Gina Cody has provided professional engineering services to some of Canada's largest real estate investment trusts, financial institutions, builders and developers.
- Gina Cody was executive chair and principal shareholder of CCI Group Inc., an engineering consulting firm headquartered in Toronto, Canada, with over 150 technical staff. She sold her company and retired in 2016.

Community engagement:

- Gina Cody has served the Professional Engineers of Ontario (PEO) for more than 15
 years as a member of the Discipline Committee. She served for more than eight years
 as a member and subsequent chair of the PEO's Professional Practice Committee.
- Gina Cody was a commissioner with the Ontario Ministry of Housing, member and chair of numerous technical committees for the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) and director of the Canadian Condominium Institute.
- Gina Cody has provided engineering support to the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). She is currently on the board of trustees of CAPREIT, one of Canada's largest residential landlords.
- Gina Cody sits on Concordia's Board of Governors; Governance Committee; and serves as chair of the Real Estate Planning Committee. She chairs the university's Industrial Advisory Board.
- Gina Cody supports and volunteers with SKETCH, a Toronto-based charitable community arts organization that engages street-involved youth through the arts.

Accolades:

- Gina Cody received an Award of Merit from the Canadian Standards Association.
- Gina Cody received a Volunteer Service Award from the Government of Ontario and was made an Officer of the Order of Honour of Professional Engineers Ontario.
- Profit magazine named Gina Cody one of Canada's Top Women Entrepreneurs in 2010.
- Gina Cody was named Alumna of the Year by the Concordia University Alumni Association in 2011.
- Gina Cody was named a Great Concordian by her alma mater in 2014.

Personal life:

- Gina Cody currently resides in Toronto and is married to **Thomas Cody**, a Concordia MBA graduate and retired Bank of America Canada senior vice-president.
- The couple have two daughters:
 - Roya Cody (BSc Eng Queen's University, MSc Eng Carnegie Mellon) a current PhD candidate at University of Waterloo.
 - Tina Cody (BA McMaster University, MA University of Toronto) a current law student at the University of Toronto.

Related links:

- Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science: www.concordia.ca/ginacody
- Concordia University: <u>www.concordia.ca</u>

Media contacts:

Fiona Downey Senior Advisor Public Affairs and Deputy Spokesperson Concordia University

Tel.: 514-848-2424, ext. 2518

Cell: 514-518-3336

Email: fiona.downey@concordia.ca

Sylvain-Jacques Desjardins
Director of communications
Advancement and Alumni Relations
Concordia University

Tel: <u>514-848-2424</u>, ext. <u>4977</u> Cell phone: <u>514-710-7819</u>

Email: s-j.desjardins@concordia.ca