

## RECIPIENT OF THE 2019 PIPSC GOLD MEDAL AWARD

Since 1937, the Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada (PIPSC) has awarded a Gold Medal every year to a professional public service employee who has made a significant contribution in a field of pure or applied science, and whose outstanding work has led to the improvement and enhancement of public well-being.

This year's recipient of the Gold Medal Award is **Dr. Xiaolan Wang, a senior Research Scientist in the Atmospheric Science & Technology Directorate.** Dr. Wang received her award on November 8 at the PIPSC Annual General Meeting. Dr. Wang is an internationally regarded climate scientist with expertise in the development of methods for creating multi-decadal to centurial climate data records and on the quantitative characterization of historical and future climate.



Dr. Wang's research on data homogenization has led to the development and release of multiple derived historical Canadian climate datasets, which are essential for studying and monitoring changes in the Canadian climate. Her statistical methods and associated software have changed the approach to assessing climate trends and variability used by scientists worldwide. Her studies on extreme wave heights have enabled the assessment of the potential impact of climate change on coastal/offshore design and operations.



l-r: Nancy Hamzawi ADM Science and Technology, ECCC; Dr. Xiaolan Wang; Debi Daviau PIPSC (presenter)

The scientific impact of her research is especially evidenced in her contributions to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fifth Assessment Report and in two chapters of the recently released *Canada's Changing Climate Report*.

Dr. Wang has also substantially influenced the planning and execution of research in her division and has managed collaborative research with a wide range of scientists from Canadian and international institutions. She has and continues to co-lead several international projects and committees under the auspices of the World Climate Research Programme, the World Meteorological Organization's Commission for Climatology, and the Joint Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology. Since 2017, Dr Wang has served as the president of the PIPSC Research (RE) Downsview Sub-Group and became a PIPSC steward in 2018.