

## PART II

### **What is your vision for the conference?**

The Canadian Undergraduate Mathematics Conference has a powerful legacy of bringing students with a common passion together to share an extended weekend of idea sharing, networking, and fun. Our vision for CUMC 2016 is to continue this tradition in gorgeous springtime Victoria, BC, with an emphasis on diversity at the conference. As math students we have learnt of the immense diversity that exists both in the field of mathematics and in the community of mathematicians, and we believe that harnessing this would make for a lively and compelling CUMC.

We will explore the diversity of the mathematical field by ensuring that our keynote speakers represent a broad range of topics in both pure and applied math, and by encouraging student speakers to tackle topics of all kinds in both English and French.

We will celebrate the diversity amongst us by having a wide selection of activities, our goal being to have “something for everyone”! We will accomplish this with an exciting event schedule that will feature a cultural event, an outdoorsy event, and an evening celebrating gender diversity in math. Everyone will be welcome to participate in all events.

### **Which aspects of the CUMC do you think work particularly well and would continue to be included in your iteration of the conference?**

We believe that CUMC at its essence is an exciting and powerful event and we have no desire to change this! More specifically, we’ve observed that the friendly, non-competitive environment of the conference is extremely important and so we want to promote this. Furthermore, establishing a good rapport between the students and the keynote speakers is integral to the networking aspect of the conference.

Having students mingle with new people from other universities is indispensable at CUMC. We applaud past organizers’ ability to encourage this (with activities such as the dinosaur sticker groups at the opening banquet of CUMC 2015) and will undoubtedly do the same. On that same token, the social activities are also a critical part of CUMC, as they allow students to bond in different sorts of scenarios. As mentioned above, we will plan an exciting and diverse event schedule.

We greatly appreciate the efforts of previous CUMC organizers to be inclusive. Having all announcements made in both English and French is important to us, as well as making sure that all lecture locations are wheelchair-accessible.

In terms of logistics, having convenient accommodation works incredibly well for CUMC by making event attendance simple and hassle-free. If UVic was chosen to host CUMC 2016, we would contact the

conference office at the UVic residences and arrange accommodation there. The residences are a short walk away from all buildings on campus.

**Which aspects of the CUMC would you improve upon and how? Are there any new ideas that you would like to bring to the conference?**

We'd like to start by commending past hosts for the superbly organized previous CUMCs. The main aspect of CUMC that we'd like to improve upon is the logistics. We would like CUMC 2016 to be stress-free for all participants, and would achieve this by optimizing the smoothness of all operations at the conference. There would be excellent signage around the university on registration day to make finding the residence and other buildings easy. Clear maps and directions would always be provided. Furthermore, all participants would be sent the schedule of events and conference booklet prior to the event, and student speakers would be sent an information packet containing all information relevant to giving a talk (their room, the computer/projector situation, etc). The level of organization and communication at CUMC 2016 will make for a relaxing and enjoyable time for all participants.

One particular event that we would like to improve upon is the opening ceremony. The first day truly sets the tone for the conference and we would plan an exciting first meeting where the students are welcomed by the organizers and members of the UVic Mathematics and Statistics department and can enjoy refreshments and prizes and get excited for the coming days.

**What are your proposed dates for the conference and why?**

Our proposed dates for CUMC 2016 are:

- Wednesday June 15<sup>th</sup> – Sunday June 19<sup>th</sup>, or
- Wednesday June 22<sup>nd</sup> – Sunday June 26<sup>th</sup>

We've selected these sets of dates because they will have few conflicts with other events going on at UVic, and because June is an excellent month to visit Vancouver Island. During this time of year the weather is typically gorgeous- summery but not too hot. Furthermore, there are many festivals and events during this time of year that make Victoria an exciting place to be.

**What are the unique aspects of your proposed conference location (institution, city, etc), that would add to the conference experience and why?**

UVic is an ideal location for CUMC 2016 because of the nature of both our city, Victoria BC, and of our department of Mathematics and Statistics. Victoria strikes the perfect balance between a lively small city, and a laid back island town. During the summer months there is always something happening such as markets, live music, and events at the Royal BC Museum. Moreover, the beach and countless beautiful parks are within 10 minutes from anywhere in the city. The lengthy list of options for things to do will please everyone who attends the conference.

Practically, UVic is in a prime location, as it is walking distance from the beach and parks, as well as a grocery store.

The department of Mathematics and Statistics at UVic also encapsulates our proposed theme of diversity for CUMC 2016. We have faculty members researching a tremendous range of topics within the mathematical field including graph theory, combinatorial designs, operator theory, topology, mathematical statistics, mathematical biology, and many, many more. Many faculty members remain on campus during the summer to continue their research or to supervise graduate and undergraduate students.

**How will you do your best to ensure the conference attracts as many attendees as in the past or more?**

CUMC 2016 at UVic has draw. The conference has never been at Uvic, and our vision and location alone will attract many attendees. Beyond that, we will engage in significant advertising in order to make the conference as lively as possible. Advertising will be done though social media and e-mails sent to undergraduate students across the country. Furthermore, we will get the CUMC 2016 website up and running quickly and update it regularly with all information so that visitors to the site are aware of what is planned and encouraged to register.