

Part II

Université de Montréal

What is your vision for the conference?

For the 2017 edition, we wanted to make maximal use of the diversity of the university culture of Montreal. As we are fortunate enough to have four major universities, we will try to unite our forces in order to make CUMC 2017 in collaboration with UQAM, McGill and Concordia. Apart from being a great way to increase partnership between these universities, it will allow to have more option to locate strategically the conference and the residence. In order to cover a broad array of mathematical subjects, we have chosen a team with members in different branches : actuarial, statistics, physics, applied maths and pure maths. Furthermore, a designated committee will ensure many diverse social activities will take place in hope that everyone will find something fitting their interests. A gender diversity event will also be held, organized by dedicated members of our diversity committee. Additionally, we will offer a bilingual experience, making sure everyone has the tools to understand.

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

Preserving the CUMC mission of bringing undergraduate mathematicians together across Canada in a week of sharing ideas and interests, and offering a tribune for their first talks is undoubtably in our plan. Furthermore, the combination of social events and academic ones in a non-competitive environment is part of the essence of CUMC, and we will work hard to keep that as a central component of our edition.

Last edition dynamic and welcoming committee will be hard to surpass, but we will try our best to keep the same level of energy that made everyone feel welcomed.

We will be trying our best to come up with new ideas to help the mixing of students of different background and universities, as we believe this is one of the greatest force of the CUMC and we want our edition to further enhance this.

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 would like to improve the aspect of bilingualism of the past CUMC. There will be French keynote speakers and we will reach out for a strong francophone presence while maintaining anglophone presence, something that lacked in the two past CUMC. We will aim for at least one third of the presentation in French in order to offer an alternative in both official language to students at everytime. However, when an alternative is not possible, as is the case with keynote speaker, we will accommodate as much as possible with, for example, English slides in the French keynote.

Another aspect we would like to improve upon, would be the preparation and the help offered for the student speakers. As we all know, CUMC is one of the few opportunities Canadian students in mathematics get to present their work ; it is thus important that we work hard to offer tips and guidance to improve the overall experience for everyone.

What are your proposed dates for the conference and why?

We have two sets of dates, namely 19-23 July or 12-16 July. The first one offers the opportunity to attend the Mathematical Congress of the Americas, for those interested, taking place in Montreal 24-28 July just after this set of dates. The other set gives a week of rest between the two events. July is a perfect month to be in Montreal : a myriad of events and festivals are taking place and the temperature is usually very pleasant. Moreover, these sets of dates have two days of weekend, reducing the impact of going away for a week on work for students.

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

Montreal blooms with cultural activities and various festivals in the summer. If you want an international competition of fireworks, an indie films festival, humor shows or electronic music event, it has it in July ! Montreal has something for everyone, be it the quiet Mont Royal park, the exciting Place des Festivals, the historical Vieux-Montréal, or its never sleeping downtown. Not to mention that with its four university, it is also a students heaven. On top of that, next year, Montreal will hold festivities for its 375th anniversary and events will flourish across the city. We will work hard with UQAM to get everybody lodged five 3minutes from the conference and five minutes from downtown, so you can benefit as much as possible of Montreal !

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

We will work diligently on the publicity, getting as soon as possible our keynote speakers and distributing posters via our contacts in universities across Canada. We will also make use of social media via web-friendly publicities. As we acknowledge the importance of word-of-mouth advertising, we will communicate with our friends early in the year and spread the word, so that people can not only plan in advance, but hopefully talk to their friends about it ! We also plan to contact every mathematics student associations we can, in order to spread the word to people who might not be in the intersection of our friends connections.