

University of Ottawa

1. **What is your vision for the conference?**

CUMC is an excellent opportunity for students from across the country to come together, learn new things and meet new people. As in past years we believe the social aspect to be one of the most important parts of the conference. We envision an open and casual event for undergraduates to learn from their peers, as well as from more advanced keynote speakers. We'd like to emphasize a future in mathematics by hosting events on career options and graduate studies.

Furthermore, we believe firmly in the importance of diversity within all STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) fields but particularly math. In a similar vein, we'd like to stress that bilingualism is of the utmost importance to CUMC, as well as to our university. We will ensure the 2018 conference reflects this. We'll draw on our diverse faculty and the surrounding areas to schedule keynote speakers in various fields, as well as encourage students of all levels in their undergraduate degrees from across Canada to give talks.

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

Keeping with the traditions of CUMC we will do our best to create a friendly, non-competitive environment where students can meet one another, learn new things, and have fun. The women in math panel at the 2017 conference was an excellent event and we plan on including a similar workshop.

We believe the structure of the student talks has worked well in the past years, however we'll return to the scheduling of the 2016 conference in Victoria with 30 minute time slots for simplicity. Also as usual, we'll simultaneously host 3-4 talks across various rooms. This will allow us to fit in all of the talks and will give students a choice of which talks they want to attend as well as ample time to change rooms. Bilingualism has always been an important part of CUMC and we would like to continue this by encouraging students to write their slides in one language, and present in the other as in past years.

3. **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?**

Navigation is the first aspect of CUMC we would like to improve. We will do so with detailed maps of the university campus and surrounding areas, and sufficient signage to help students navigate. Posting photos on Facebook of the event venues was a great help at the 2017 conference which we plan to continue.

As for student speakers, we would like to minimize any stress by ensuring they are well informed by sending out an information package via email regarding the presentation rooms and blackboard/projector situations.

While the graduate studies lunch was a great opportunity to get information, we feel that a dedicated panel, similar to the women in math panel of the 2017 conference, could be a

more effective event. In addition, we have several ideas for informational events, including a talk on mathematical software and its uses as well as a career panel with speakers from government agencies, actuarial firms, and tech companies among others.

4. What are your proposed dates for the conference and why?

Our first choice is June 27th to July 1st. Leading up to Canada Day, Ottawa has a number of events and shows which will be excellent for the evenings of the conference. Also, the following Monday will be a stat holiday, allowing students an extra day for travel or time to stay in the city. Otherwise, July 18th to 22nd is at a much quieter time in the summer while all our regular tourist attractions are still ongoing.

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

The University of Ottawa is the largest English-French bilingual university. As such, nearly all of the professors, students, our university services and the city itself are bilingual. This will ensure all participants of the conference can feel welcome. The University of Ottawa math department consists of professors from all over the world of varying backgrounds and research areas. The department has always been heavily involved in student life and will be incredibly helpful in creating a well organized conference. As the capital of Canada, Ottawa is home to many agencies such as StatsCan, the Tutte Institute for Mathematics and Computation, and CSIS .These organizations can provide us with a wide range of potential speakers. Furthermore, there is no better location than the capital of Canada for the 25th annual CUMC! Ottawa has a number of tourist attractions such as free tours of the Parliament buildings and many museums. Additionally, by summer 2018 Ottawa will have a brand new light rail transit system.

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

Ottawa's central location between Ontario and Québec will ensure a large number of students will be able to attend. Furthermore, those of us who attended past CUMCs will be able to reach out to students we have met. We plan to campaign largely via email by sending out information to math departments across the country early on. In addition, our team consists of students who come from all across Canada with many contacts in several provinces. We can use this extensive network to get the word out about the conference. As previously mentioned, we hope to offer new and exciting events such as a graduate studies and career panel and an information session on mathematical softwares which will draw many students. Finally, we have a committed and enthusiastic team and webmaster so our website will be up and running as soon as possible to promote the event.