

## Part II (viewable by the public)

### Basic Information

#### **1. Institution Name:**

University of British Columbia

### Conference Vision

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

We envision the CUMC as an environment for students with an interest in mathematics to come from all across Canada to meet, discuss math and be introduced to academic conferences, math research and new ideas in math. The conference will provide undergraduate students with the rare opportunity to present in an academic conference setting in an early stage of their mathematical career. By giving students these opportunities we hope to motivate and encourage their interest in math. The CUMC also allows students from different universities to meet with their like-minded peers and build important friendships and networks.

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

The CUMC has always done an excellent job of creating an open, welcoming environment of student talks to allow students to present talks on any mathematical topic they desire and for other students to see and learn from these talks and the talks of professors.

One aspect in which the CUMC has excelled in previous years is in providing a social environment for its participants. The CUMC brings together students from across Canada with a passion for mathematics and allows them to build friendships with others who share this passion. This is done through events such as the opening BBQ and closing banquet, the math movie night and simply by bringing these like-minded people together in a friendly environment built around the subject they love.

Past conferences have promoted bilingualism and gender diversity very well. We intend to continue this and attempt to strengthen these themes by continuing the gender diversity panel and by encouraging bilingual talks with French speech and English slides.

### **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?**

One aspect of the CUMC could be improved upon is helping students to prepare for what is for many their first academic talk. We will send out additional information and resources to presenters to help them be prepared and knowledgeable for their talk. We will also send out information describing the time, location and required preparation and materials for the presentations.

Although social events have been very well done in the past, there is still room for improvement. The opening BBQ could be improved by adding more icebreaker activities to help students from different universities meet each other at the beginning of the conference. We shall also add additional events throughout the conference to help participants to meet, socialize, and enjoy the CUMC.

### Logistics

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

Our proposed dates are July 15-19.

These coincide with the dates of previous conferences which were very successful. During these dates we expect to have very nice, warm, summer weather, allowing participants to have full enjoyment of the beautiful outdoors in and around UBC. During these dates, from July 17-19, there is also a large folk music festival at nearby Jericho Beach for anyone interested in attending.

We are flexible and would be happy to change the dates if the feedback and Studc indicates that there is a better time for the CUMC.

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

UBC is one of Canada's top universities in research and in teaching. This will allow us to bring a great level of mathematics expertise from professors, the researchers at PIMS and even the work done by many talented undergrad students. Undergraduate research in Mathematics happens every summer, with a strong cohort of Undergraduate Summer Research Award holders on site. This pool of potential volunteers would be a good resource both for staging the CUMC and for bringing some exciting mathematical contributions. Each USRA student has a research mentor. This demonstrates the UBC faculty's long-standing commitment to undergraduate research in math, and provides a pool of potential faculty-level contributors to the success of the conference.

UBC is located on the beautiful Point Grey, which is surrounded by nature with parks, forests, the ocean, and beaches located on campus. The natural beauty will make the conference more enjoyable to the participants and help attract potential attendees.

Hosting the CUMC at UBC will allow us to grow mathematics within western Canada and help build a stronger community of math students in the region. The headquarters of the Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences (PIMS), an international alliance of mathematics departments across western North America, is based on our campus. PIMS is in active operation over the summer, which contributes to a tradition of UBC's status as a hub of mathematical activity during the summer months.

We also have a large number of on campus residences with plenty of space to accommodate participants within a short walk of the conference buildings.

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

The greatest way through which we can attract people to the conference is by creating an enjoyable, inviting conference involving excellent speakers and a great environment to allow participants to share their work and have a fun and memorable experience.

We will advertise the CUMC through our website as well as through various social media platforms as widespread information through the internet is an excellent way to attract people. We will also contact many universities along with the departments of mathematics and all related fields to help spread and advertise the CUMC.