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Feds hope math funds help solve disease, terror
 UPDATED: 2007-05-26 02:19:00 MST

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By CP

BURNABY, B.C. -- Canada's top mathematicians have been handed \$1.1 million from the federal government in an attempt to find common denominators on issues such as the spread of avian flu and SARS and terrorist threats.



The money from Industry Canada will go to MITACS, or the Mathematics of Information Technology and Complex Systems, based in Burnaby, B.C.

The funding will allow Canadian experts to collaborate with the world's best mathematical minds to simulate the outbreak of infectious disease, which would be used to deal with outbreaks and controlling the spread of disease.

Canadian and American math researchers will mathematically model roads and buildings to help identify what could be used in a terror attack and how to prevent them.

Industry Minister Maxime Bernier says the funding ensures Canadian researchers are in the forefront of international initiatives that are important to our economy and society.

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