



Quebec professor joins national math initiative

By: Rafael Ruffolo

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Université Laval professor and popular Quebec TV personality Jean-Marie De Koninck has joined forces with a national research network aimed at showing Canadian students the power of mathematics.

De Koninck has teamed up with the Burnaby, B.C.-based Mathematics of Information Technology and Complex Systems (MITACS) to expand upon two Quebec-based outreach programs. Math en Jeu, is a free online game which allows high school aged players to compete against one another by solving math puzzles, and Show Math, is multimedia stage show which uses humourous skits to show students the relevance of math in day-to-day life.

MITACS said it chose Jean-Marie because of his ability to reach out to children and teach them the contributions math has had on the world. And the early feedback from Quebec students involved with the two outreach initiatives has been so positive, MITACS Scientific Director Arvind Gupta said, that the organization plans to roll out the program across the country in the near future.