

MULTI-MEDIA SHOW USES HUMOUR TO GET YOUTH HOOKED ON MATH

Renowned Quebec math professor, Olympic commentator bringing one-of-a-kind math comedy show to Metro Vancouver high school

Burnaby, November 3, 2008 – Two hundred students at Earl Marriott Secondary School in Surrey will be the first B.C. students to see how humour can be used to teach them about math.

MITACS – a Simon Fraser University-based math research network which links industry with academia – is bringing Dr. Jean-Marie de Koninck, a renowned mathematics educator, Laval math professor, Olympic commentator and Order of Canada recipient, and his French, multimedia stage show – *Show Math* – to the Surrey French immersion high school. Math and humour? It must be seen to be believed.

Date: Tuesday, November 4, 2008

Time: 9:45am - 11:20am

Location: Earl Marriott Secondary School
15751 16th Avenue, Surrey, BC

MITACS is working with de Koninck to translate *Show Math* into English with plans to launch it across Canada.

“It’s quite common for children be intimidated by mathematics which leads to them to think that they are not good at it,” said de Koninck. “*Show Math* demonstrates that mathematical concepts can be easily understood and are related to their everyday lives. And a little bit of laughter goes a long way, too.”

About MITACS

MITACS (www.mitacs.ca) is a Network of Centres of Excellence (NCE) for the mathematical sciences hosted by Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, BC. The only Canadian organization of its kind, it focuses on developing mathematical solutions in five of the economy’s fastest growing sectors: biomedical and health, environment and natural resources, information processing, risk and finance and communication, networks and security. Each MITACS research project partners academic scientists and their graduate students from universities across the country with Canadian organizations.

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