The 2005 Canadian Mathematics Education Forum

The 2005 Mathematics Education Forum will be held May 6 – 8, 2005 on the campus of the University of Toronto, with some events happening at either the Fields Institute or other nearby locations. We hope that approximately 200 people will be able to attend and it is our hope that these will come in roughly equal numbers from K-12 teaching, from mathematics education research and from mathematics itself (as represented by the Canadian Mathematical Society). We are also trying to balance the participation by region. This description is not meant to limit the type of participant but rather to give some idea of the nature of this meeting.

The overall theme of the forum will be "Why Teach Mathematics?" The format of the forum will consist of plenary or key note sessions and working group sessions. Some of the discussion and working group themes that have been identified so far include: approaches to early numeracy and age-appropriate mathematics education; strategies for increasing the number of highly qualified students in mathematically intense programs in science and engineering; mathematics education for students at risk; effective approaches to the education of all mathematics educators; and mathematics education and the aboriginal community.

The purpose of this invitational forum is to develop a national on-going conversation, among educators at all levels of schooling, about important issues and concerns in the development and future of mathematics education in Canada. It is the intent that groups working together in this forum will develop *projects*, *initiatives*, and *statements* that will outline ways in which Canadians may address these issues and concerns. The projects, initiatives, and statements developed during this forum will be shared widely with policy makers, school divisions, universities, colleges, parents, students, and the general public in a variety of ways.

We hope that many members of OAME will take part in the 2005 Forum. It is important to stress that the Forum is a **working meeting** and that because of its nature, participation is by invitation only. We encourage you to let Stewart Craven, past president of OAME and a member of the Forum program committee know of your interest in taking part in the Forum. Stewart can be contacted via email at stewart.craven@tdsb.on.ca.

Please review the website at www.cms.math.ca/Events/CSMF2003 for a historical perspective on the 2003 national forum. The web site for the 2005 Forum, www.cms.math.ca/Events/CSMF2005 should be available at the end of October, 2004.