

[View this email in your browser](#)



### 3 DECADES OF ADVANCING THE MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES.

PIMS MONTHLY CONNECTION | May 2026

Welcome to PIMS Connection! Showcasing collaborations, discoveries, and leadership driving mathematical innovation — as we celebrate 30 years of advancing the mathematical sciences.

#### PIMS News:

- [PIMS-Supported Research Leads to Major Quantum Computing Initiative at USask](#)
- [PIMS Hosts CNRS Leadership as CNRS and UBC Sign a Letter of Intent for an IRC](#)
- [PIMS at 30 Years](#)

#### Upcoming Deadlines Across the Network:

- [Closing Soon: Maud Menten Institute Summer School: Mathematics of Human-Environmental Systems and Climate Change Impacts](#)
- [Closing Soon: PIMS Network-wide Graduate Courses](#)
- [Call for Nominations: 2026/27 PIMS Network-Wide Colloquium](#)
- [Nomination Closing Soon: PIMS Board Member – Mathematical Scientist Representative \(Saskatchewan\)](#)

#### Feature Events:

- [May 2: ELMACON 2026](#)
- [May 7-8: Alberta Mathematics Dialogue \(AMD\) 2026](#)
- [May 9: Science Rendezvous 2026](#)
- [May 15: Changing the Culture 2026](#)
- [May 25-29: Capstone Conference: Mathematical Modeling for Renewable Energy and Environment](#)
- [May 27: PIMS CRG Special Guest Lecture: Judith Sayers](#)
- [May 30-31: Western Canada Linear Algebra Meeting \(WCLAM\) 2026](#)

## PIMS NEWS



### [PIMS-Supported Research Leads to Major Quantum Computing Initiative at USask](#)

The University of Saskatchewan is launching a new full-stack, open-architecture quantum computer, positioning itself as a national hub for quantum research and innovation. Led by PIMS Site Director, Steven Rayan, and building on earlier PIMS-supported work in quantum topology, the initiative reflects years of collaboration that evolved into the Centre for Quantum Topology and its Applications (quantA). Backed by regional and federal funding, the project will expand research and training opportunities as well as highlight how foundational math research can drive large-scale scientific advances.

Initiatives such as this demonstrate how PIMS-supported research contributes to discovery and technological advancements. [...]



### [PIMS Hosts CNRS Leadership as CNRS and UBC Sign a Letter of Intent for IRC](#)

PIMS was delighted to host a high-level delegation from the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS). A key highlight was the signing of a Letter of Intent between CNRS and UBC to establish an International Research Centre (IRC), marking an important step toward deepening scientific collaboration and advancing high-impact research to address global challenges.

We are proud of our enduring collaboration with CNRS, including our role in establishing the first International Research Laboratory (IRL) in Canada. With only a small number of CNRS International Research Centres worldwide—just three in North America—this initiative represents a significant and exciting opportunity. [...]



### [PIMS at 30 Years](#)

For 30 years, PIMS has strengthened Canada's mathematical sciences ecosystem — advancing research, training the next generation of scholars, and connecting institutions across regions and disciplines. As a distributed institute, we bring together world-class researchers to foster collaboration and build vibrant research communities. From the PIMS–CNRS International Research Laboratory (IRL) to our K-12 education programs, we continue to strive to support innovation, connection, and impact across the mathematical sciences. [...]

## PIMS NETWORK DEADLINES

### [Closing Soon: Maud Menten Institute Summer School: Mathematics of Human-Environmental Systems and Climate Change Impacts](#)

**Deadline: May 1, 2026.** The Maud Menten Institute invites senior undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers interested in the mathematical foundations of coupled human-environment systems. Participants should have an undergraduate-level background in mathematics (equivalent to at least a minor) and some familiarity with biology. Location: University of Victoria; August 6-14, 2026. [...]

### [Call Closing Soon: PIMS Network-wide Graduate Courses](#)

**Deadline: May 1, 2026.** New PIMS Network-wide Graduate Courses are being considered for the 2026-2027 academic year. The courses utilize the PIMS network to deliver a variety of graduate-level courses in the mathematical sciences at PIMS member universities. This program benefits instructors by reaching a larger audience and students by offering a broader variety of courses. [...]

### [Nominations Call Closing Soon: PIMS Board Member - Mathematical Scientist Representative \(Saskatchewan\)](#)

**Deadline: June 15, 2026.** PIMS is seeking nominations for a Board Member in the category of Mathematical Scientist representing Saskatchewan. All members of the PIMS community are encouraged to put forward nominations, including self-nominations. Nominees should be mathematical scientists based in Saskatchewan. Nominations should include the nominee's name, institutional affiliation, a brief statement of qualifications and interest in serving on the PIMS Board, and a current CV. Please submit nominations to the PIMS Director at [director@pims.math.ca](mailto:director@pims.math.ca) by June 15, 2026.

### [Call for Nominations: 2026/27 PIMS Network-Wide Colloquium](#)

**Deadline: May 15, 2026.** Nominations are welcome for our flagship Network-Wide Colloquium Series, which brings internationally recognized speakers to audiences across our 10 member universities. Past speakers include [Teresa Tao](#), [Misha Chudnovsky](#), [Curtis McMullen](#), [Alessio Figalli](#), and [Ingrid Daubechies](#). Held monthly online throughout the academic year, the series highlights major advances and emerging directions in the mathematical sciences. We welcome nominations of distinguished researchers whose work demonstrates depth, originality, and impact. Please submit nominations to [Joshua Zahl](mailto:Joshua.Zahl@pims.math.ubc.ca) at [jzahl@math.ubc.ca](mailto:jzahl@math.ubc.ca). [...]

## FEATURE EVENTS

### [ELMACON 2026](#)

**Date & Time:** May 2, 2026 from 10AM to 3PM Pacific Time

**Location:** UBC Vancouver

**Details:** We are greatly looking forward to ELMACON – Western Canada's premier elementary math contest for Grades 5–7. This is a wonderful opportunity for young learners to experience mathematics as an exciting and engaging challenge. For further details visit the ELMACON website. [...]

### [Alberta Mathematics Dialogue \(AMD\) 2026](#)

**Date & Time:** May 7-8, 2026

**Location:** MacEwan University

**Details:** A conference dedicated to bringing together mathematicians, students, educators, and industry voices from across Alberta. Two days of research talks, plenary lectures, and focused sessions at MacEwan University in Edmonton. The event fosters discussion on education, outreach, and equity, diversity, and inclusion in the field, as well as showcases current mathematical research. Registration is now closed. [...]

### [Science Rendezvous 2026](#)

**Date & Time:** May 9, 2026 from 10AM to 3PM Pacific Time

**Location:** UBC Vancouver – Multiple locations

**Details:** PIMS is proud to support Science Rendezvous at UBC, a free, family-friendly celebration of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Building on its success and welcoming over 3,000 visitors in 2025, the event offers a day of hands-on activities, interactive exhibits, demonstrations, and public lectures led by UBC scientists. Open to all ages, it's an opportunity to explore, learn, and engage with science in fun and accessible ways. [...]

### [Changing the Culture 2026](#)

**Date & Time:** May 15, 2026 from 9AM to 3PM Pacific Time

**Location:** Simon Fraser University Harbour Centre

**Details:** The annual Changing the Culture Conference brings together mathematicians, educators, and school teachers to help bridge the gap between those who practice mathematics and those who may feel disconnected from it. The event fosters collaboration and dialogue across all levels of math education. Registration is free. Sign up before May 12th. [...]

### [Capstone Conference: Mathematical Modeling for Renewable Energy and Environment](#)

**Date & Time:** May 25–29, 2026

**Location:** University of Victoria

**Details:** This conference brings together researchers from a broad range of active research areas related to energy transition and climate change where the common element is weather. We aim to highlight varied mathematical models of weather-related phenomena and encourage exchange of ideas among distinct research areas. Registration for the conference is now closed. [...]

### [PIMS CRG Special Guest Lecture: Judith Sayers](#)

**Date & Time:** May 27, 2026

**Location:** University of Victoria

**Talk Title:** First Nations Leadership in Clean Energy and Climate Action

**Details:** Dr. Judith Sayers is President of the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council and a leader in Indigenous economic development and clean energy. An adjunct professor at the University of Victoria, she has over two decades of experience advancing sustainable energy initiatives. Dr. Sayers has helped shape policy and build partnerships that support Indigenous communities. She is a recipient of the Order of Canada and numerous clean energy honours. [...]. Please [RSVP](#) via [Eventbrite](#).

### [Western Canada Linear Algebra Meeting \(WCLAM\) 2026](#)

**Date & Time:** May 30–31, 2026

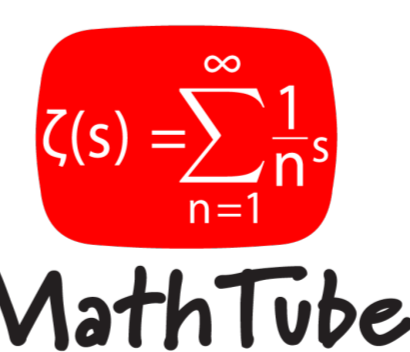
**Location:** Capilano University

**Details:** A biennial conference bringing together researchers and students from across Western Canada and beyond. The program will include keynote lectures, contributed talks, and a poster session showcasing interdisciplinary applications of linear algebra. WCLAM aims to foster collaboration and knowledge exchange while highlighting CapU's commitment to STEM research and teaching. Registration for the conference is now closed. [...]

## MEDIA

### [Missed a Lecture?](#)

Watch *Anytime on MathTube*. Explore a rich archive of videos and lecture notes across the mathematical sciences, including PIMS Seminars & Colloquia, at [www.mathtube.org](http://www.mathtube.org).

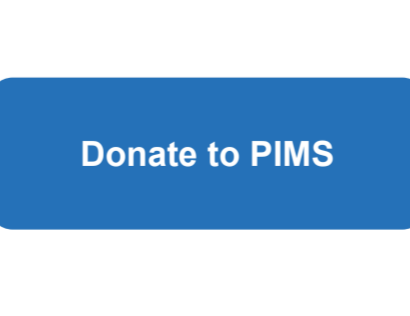


## ABOUT PIMS

Founded in 1996, the Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences (PIMS) promotes discovery, understanding, and collaboration in the mathematical sciences. With a network spanning Western Canada and Washington State, PIMS supports research, training, and outreach through Collaborative Research Groups, Postdoctoral Fellowships, and competitive event funding. Our mission is to advance excellence in mathematics while fostering equity, diversity, inclusion, and global partnerships.

### Your Support Makes a Difference

PIMS education and outreach programs reach educators and students through summer schools, math contests, and teacher workshops. Learn more about how your support helps us strengthen mathematical education and engagement.



Stay up to date with events across the PIMS network through our online calendar. Follow us on LinkedIn and Instagram for weekly highlights on courses, lectures, and upcoming activities.



Mailing address:  
Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences  
The University of British Columbia  
4176-2207 Main Mall  
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z4  
Canada  
[unsubscribe@pims.math.ca](mailto:unsubscribe@pims.math.ca) [update subscription preferences](#)

We acknowledge with gratitude that PIMS central office is located on the unceded, traditional, and occupied territory of the Coast Salish peoples. This includes the territories of the xwmxwəwəyən (Musqueam), Skwəw̓mənen (Squamish), and Səlilwəta'ən (Tsleil-Wautash) Nations.

[www.pims-math.ca](http://www.pims-math.ca)