

From the 1996 Conference Chair

Math: Making Connections

On November 1–3, 1996, a successful MCATA annual conference was held in Red Deer at the Capri Centre. On Friday, a preconference math symposium attracted 50 delegates to discuss math issues for the coming year. Conference delegates started to arrive Friday night and enjoyed connecting with old friends at a drop-in social. As delegates registered, they took in the opportunity to look over the “Bright Ideas” display which was located behind the registration table. The display left no doubt they were attending a math conference! A popular gathering point proved to be the large display board which showed the sessions that were being offered at the conference.

By Saturday morning, 385 delegates had registered for the conference and were enjoying the opening address by Pat Rogers from York University. Sessions continued throughout the day until 3:30 p.m. As well as attending some of the 60 sessions offered at the conference, covering K–12 and beyond, many delegates attended the “Make It— Take It” sessions on Saturday afternoon. Publishers and other displayers

provided an excellent opportunity for delegates to obtain the latest products to take back to the classroom Monday morning. A number of delegates also visited Notre Dame High School in Red Deer on Saturday afternoon to see the latest in “high-tech schools” in Alberta.

Sessions that seemed to attract the most interest were those dealing with the changes in math education brought about by the Western Canadian Protocol and the new Math 33 program. Assessment issues attracted many delegates; the math-tech prep program that is being developed in central Alberta also attracted a lot of interest.

By Saturday night it was time to unwind. An enthusiastic group of delegates took in the comedy entertainment. Due to poor weather overnight some delegates left early, but most stayed for the Sunday sessions. The conference closed with a keynote speech by Katherine Heinrich from Simon Fraser University. And, due to the generous support of our sponsors and displayers, many delegates returned home with some extra gifts.

Graham Keogh

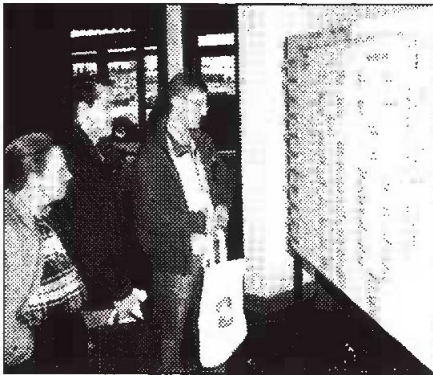


Graham Keogh, 1996 Conference Chair



Colleen Williamson, Program Chair

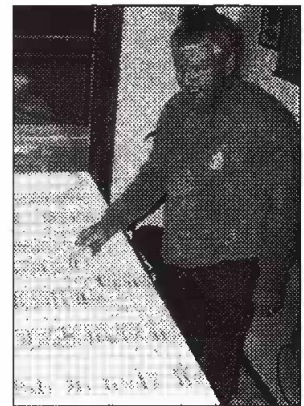
1996 Conference Photos



*Participants from Fort McMurray:
Claudette Guimond, Michael Jodoin
and Derek Brown*



*Larry McGovern (St. Michael
School, Calgary) and
Georgene Miko (Calgary)*



*Pat Cavanaugh preparing
the display board.*



*Laurie
Berezowski
(Rimbey)
registering
with Carol
Davis.*



*Anil Padayas (Spirit River) receives his
registration materials.*

Keynote Addresses



*Keynote Speaker
Pat Rogers*

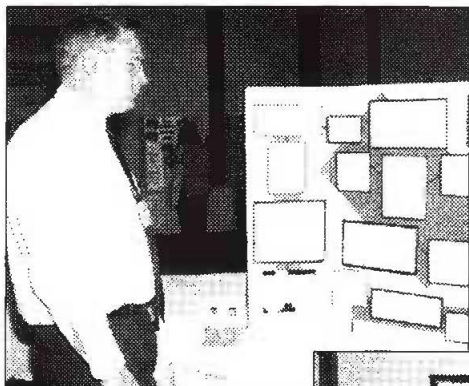


*Keynote Speaker
Katherine Heinrich*



Audience at keynote—recognize anyone?

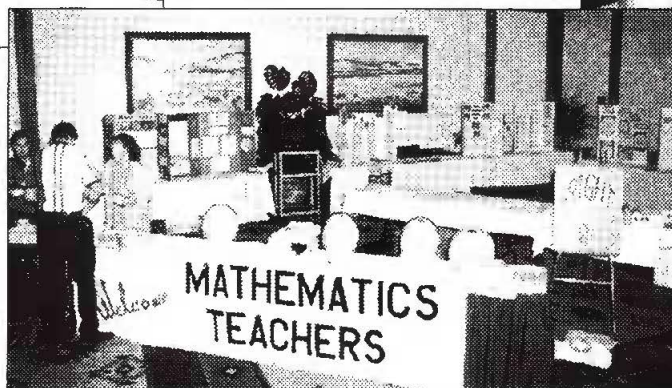
Bright Ideas



*Roland Gauthier
(E. W. Pratt High
School, High
Prairie)*



*Joe Milne
(Brownfield)*



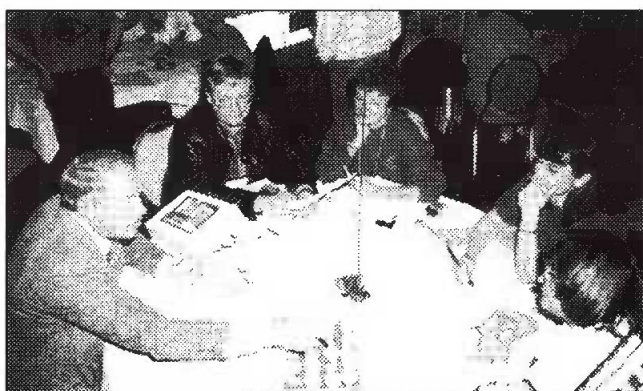
Math Fair: Make It—Take It



Gerry Varty discusses statistics analysis using a computer with interested group members.



Lisa Steel and Bob Hart demonstrate the use of Texas Instruments calculators.



John Morrow from Spectrum demonstrates Probability Kits.



Katie Pallos Haden shows off fraction blocks to her group.