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Indigenizing University Mathematics: Conversations and Relationships

Indigenizing University Mathematics is a conference series, international collaboration, and knowledge community that has grown from a grassroots desire to understand what it may mean to Indigenize mathematical practices in university spaces. From the beginning, the Indigenizing University Mathematics (IUM) project has been a collaboration between mathematicians and Indigenous practitioners, with care for the integrity of the knowledge systems involved. The three conferences to date – the participants of which, both online and in person, have spanned every continent except Antarctica – have opened up the space for discussion of initially unfamiliar ideas, explored models for “how” in the context of discussions about “why”, and allowed a sharing of journeys in which Indigenous and mathematical ways of thinking come into deep relationship. With an established set of principles and community, the fourth conference planned for June 2026 in Vancouver will enable the instantiation and development of these ideas across multiple communities, engaging in particular with local Canadian place-based knowledge systems.