

4. Doing field service (institutes, conventions)
5. Putting on workshops and seminars
6. Sponsoring short courses
7. Organizing and supporting regional councils
8. Doing research
9. Making recommendations on policy, curriculum content and materials, facilities, staffing, professional qualifications and working conditions
10. Reporting on new programs and continuing education opportunities offered by outside sources

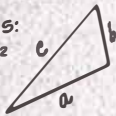
The institution by The Alberta Teachers' Association of specialist councils has had considerable impact on education in Alberta. The publications, inservice opportunities and conferences of specialist councils have been of an unusually high standard. The opportunities provided by councils for professional interaction and professional growth have been a positive outgrowth of the concept. The success of specialist councils rested specifically on the shoulders of Alberta educators who have commendably met the challenge.

[As of spring 1995, there were 23 specialist councils.]

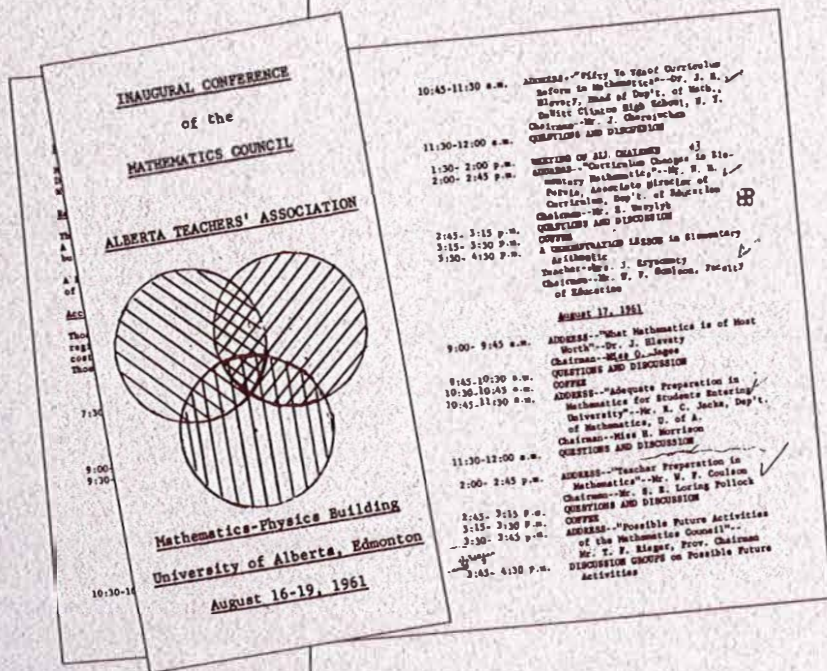
c. 500 BC

Roman numeral system uses letters as symbols for numbers.

Pythagoras:
 $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$



MCATA's Formation and Inaugural Conference



THE FIRST MEETING OF THE provisional executive of MCATA was held on October 29, 1960. Present at the meeting were T. F. Reiger (chair); L. D. Nelson, S. E. L. Pollock, Max Wyman, Helen Morris and L. J. Scott (secretary). The meeting was devoted to discussion of the proposed constitution for the new council and initial plans for the inaugural conference. This group met again in March and May 1961 to finalize the constitution and the conference details.

The following are the Report to Executive Council on the Inaugural Conference, submitted by T. F. Reiger and an article from the *Edmonton Journal* (August 17, 1961).

Report to Executive Council

"Math" Talks Begin

The Conference was held August 16, 17, 18, 19 in the Mathematics-Physics Building of the U. of A. Sixty teachers registered for the Conference.

Seventeen of these had accommodations in the University residence:

The main speaker was Dr. Julius H. Hlavaty, Head of the Mathematics Department, DeWitt Clinton High School, New York City. He is very prominent in school mathematics. At present he is a member of the Board of Directors of NCTM and Director of the Mathematics Commission, CEEB. He addressed the Conference three times and was very well received.

Other speakers were: N. M. Purvis, Department of Education; R. C. Jacka, Department of Mathematics, U. of A.; W. F. Coulson, Faculty of Education; S. A. Lindstedt, Faculty of Education; L. W. Kunelius, Department of Education. M. T. Sillito attended the Conference on August 16 and 17.

Other features of the conference were: a demonstration lesson in elementary mathematics, two films, group discussions on future activities of the Mathematics Council, a computer demonstration and a panel to evaluate the conference.

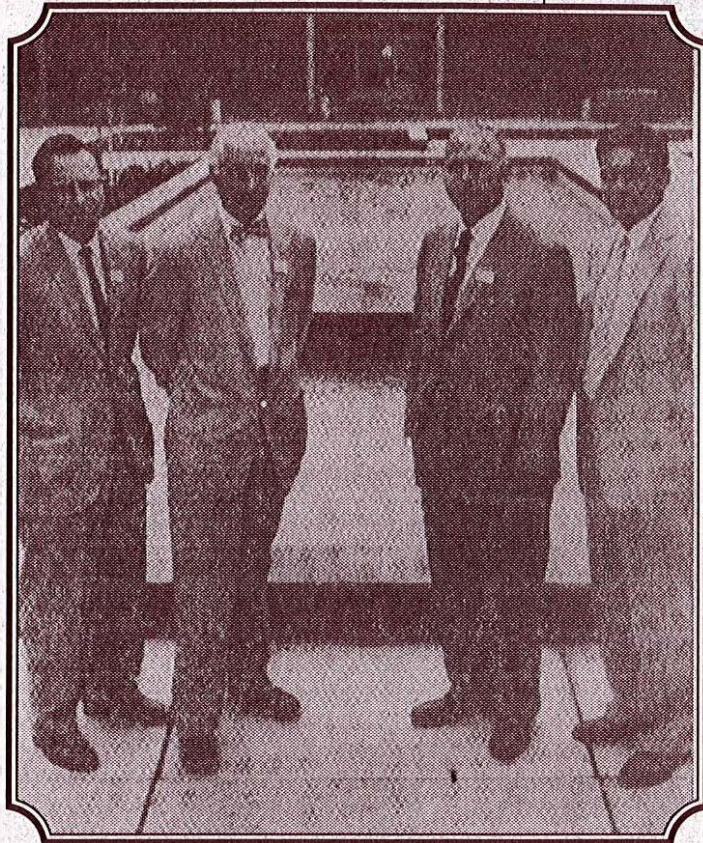
A constitution based on the approved model was adopted. Officers elected were:

President:	John Cherniwchan, Clover Bar
Vice-President:	Eugene Wasyluk, Thorhild
Secretary-Treasurer:	Olive Jagoe, Calgary
Past-President:	T. F. Reiger, Picture Butte

Five directors are to be appointed. These together with the above officers will constitute the Executive Committee. The membership fee was set at \$5.00.

The Council plans to issue a newsletter.

Respectfully submitted,
T. F. Reiger



COUNCIL MEETS—John Cherniwchan of Clover Bar High School, left, was nominated Wednesday as president of the Mathematics Council of The Alberta Teachers' Association. The council this week is holding its inaugural conference at the University of Alberta. Seen with the nominee are special guest speaker Dr. J. H. Hlavaty, head of the mathematics department, DeWitt Clinton High School, New York; T. F. Reiger, who was provisional president of the organization; and University of Alberta vice-president Dr. L. H. Cragg, who addressed the gathering. Sessions will continue until Saturday.

The inaugural conference of the Mathematical [sic] Council, Alberta Teachers' Association, opened Wednesday in the University of Alberta Mathematics-Physics Building.

John Cherniwchan of Clover Bar High School was nominated by the council nominating committee to replace T. F. Reiger as president. Mr. Reiger has been head of a provisional executive.

c. 450 BC

Zeno's paradoxes

300 BC

Euclid develops
deductive system of
mathematics.

c. 300-200 BC

Hindu
mathematicians
use number system
based on 10, have
symbols for 1 to 9.

Other members nominated to stand for the first elected executive were Eugene Wasyluk of Thorhild, and Miss Olive Jagoe of Crescent Heights High School, Calgary.

The conference received greetings from many dignitaries, notably John A. McDonald, president of The Alberta Teachers' Association.

Eleven such councils have now been formed in the province in the major educational instruction areas.

Dr. L. H. Cragg, vice-president of the University, who also lectures in chemistry courses, told the convention that as a scientist he is

compelled to realize that mathematics is the key to science.

Guest speaker at the conference is Dr. J. H. Hlavaty, head of the mathematics department at DeWitt Clinton High School, New York.

Dr. Hlavaty is presenting papers entitled Fifty Years of Curriculum Reform in Mathematics, What Mathematics Is of Most Worth, and Implementing Curriculum Proposals.

The conference continues until Saturday.

Reprinted with permission from the Edmonton Journal, August 17, 1961.

Council Logos

THE STRIPED, VENN-DIAGRAM logo has been a Mathematics Council identifying symbol since the very beginning. About 1961, "new math" programs were introduced in elementary and junior high schools (in Seeing Through Arithmetic and Seeing Through Mathematics series respectively). Venn diagrams were used extensively, particularly in junior high school math, so it was certainly a design of and for the times.

The three circles represent students, teachers and the mathematics curriculum, with the intersection of the three representing MCATA. This logo is still seen in the masthead of the Council's newsletter.

The Council's MCATA letters logo evolved over the years and was first seen superimposed on the Venn-diagram logo. This letters-only logo later became a stand-alone symbol and can be found on such documents as the Council's letterhead and membership brochures.

