

# Greetings

**M**ATHEMATICS IS A CORNERSTONE OF EVERY CHILD'S EDUCATION. Without a solid foundation in mathematics, a student's ability to succeed in daily life and the world of work can be seriously hampered.



As the Mathematics Council of The Alberta Teachers' Association looks back over 34 years of history, I congratulate each council member for your dedication to this important endeavor. Your commitment to professional development; a lively exchange of ideas, resources and technologies; and the promotion of high standards and teaching excellence is commendable.

Thank you for your contribution to the growth of mathematics teachers and students in Alberta—past, present and future.

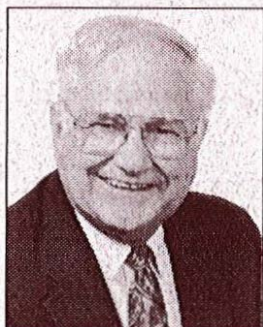
—Halvar C. Jonson  
*Minister of Education*

**I** AM PLEASED TO BRING GREETINGS AND CONGRATULATIONS to the Mathematics Council of The Alberta Teachers' Association from your colleagues across the province. This historic publication is a celebration of 34 years of history—34 years of professional development for teachers, 34 years of helping to provide excellent education for Alberta students, 34 years of contributing to the high quality of Alberta's public education system.

Specialist councils have had an especially critical role to play in ensuring and promoting the outstanding standards of teaching and learning that are part of the tradition of The Alberta Teachers' Association.

Best wishes to the Mathematics Council as you continue to benefit Alberta's math teachers and their students.

—Bauni Mackay, *President*  
*The Alberta Teachers' Association*



**I**T IS GREAT TO GIVE GREETINGS TO THE MATHEMATICS Council of The Alberta Teachers' Association in your 34th year during the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics' (NCTM) 75th anniversary celebration. Originally from Hamilton, Ontario, I look for opportunities to participate in activities in Canada, to go home again! This year is also the 50th anniversary of the Canadian Mathematical Society (CMS), and I plan to attend the summer meeting in Toronto. The Canadian Forum in May is being supported by NCTM through a \$10,000 (CA) contribution.

More and more, mathematics educators "south of the border" are recognizing the great potential for leadership in Canada. Canada has strong affiliated groups, MCATA among them, that are very active in promoting good mathematics and mathematics teaching throughout the provinces. Canadians are chairing and serving on NCTM committees and task forces; at least one

sits on the Board of Directors. MCATA has provided and continues to provide outstanding leaders in mathematics education.

More and more, we are recognizing that the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics is truly a North American Council. Best wishes and may you give another 34 years of outstanding services to the young people of Alberta!

—*Jack Price, President  
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics*

**T**HE MATHEMATICS COUNCIL OF THE ALBERTA TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION proudly presents *Thirty-Four Years and Counting*.



Congratulations to Art Jorgensen and Joan Worth for the outstanding job they have done in collecting, compiling and editing submissions for this 34-year history of the Mathematics Council. Thanks must also go to publications staff at Barnett House for the enthusiasm and energy, not to mention the endless hours of work, they expended in putting this together.

As you browse through this special publication, you will see many familiar faces—perhaps some of your former teachers, your mentors, your colleagues, your friends—these are the people who have been leaders in mathematics education in our province. Here they share with us their memories of the Mathematics Council's activities over the past three decades, as well as their perceptions of changes in the teaching of mathematics. Thank you to all who took the time to remember, to reflect, to search your files for photographs.

The greatest strengths of MCATA have always been the dedication and expertise of its members. *Thirty-Four Years and Counting* shows us how far we have traveled and pays tribute to those who have led us. Enjoy this look back at our history and celebrate with us our achievements.

—*Wendy J. Richards, President  
Mathematics Council*