



Canadian Mathematical Society
Société mathématique du Canada

**2018 CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICAL
OLYMPIAD TEAM**

**2018 MATH TEAM CANADA'S LEADERS AND CONTESTANTS
FACT SHEET**



2018 Canadian IMO Team – Contact Information

James Rickards

Leader
Graduate Student, McGill University
Algebraic Number Theory
Email: jamesarickards@hotmail.com

Calvin Deng

Deputy Leader
Princeton University
Email: use.a.moe@gmail.com

Vincent Chan

Deputy Leader Observer
University of Calgary
Email: vincent.chan02@gmail.com

Thomas Guo

Email: tyuo@exeter.edu

Nicholas Sun

Email: nsun48@gmail.com

Howard Halim

Email: howardhalim@gmail.com

William Zhao

Email: williamzhaoisawesome@gmail.com

Victor Rong

Email: vr011121@gmail.com

Zixiang Zhou

Email: zhouzixiang2004@live.com

James Anton Rickards - Leader



James Rickards was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba. James represented Canada at the IMO in 2011 and 2012, earning two silver medals. In 2016 he graduated from Trinity College, Cambridge. Rickards is currently pursuing a PhD in algebraic number theory at McGill, under the supervision of Prof. Henri Darmon.

Participating in the International Mathematics Olympiad (IMO) program opened up many doors and opportunities for James, so he enjoys staying involved. He has been on the Canadian Open Mathematics Competition (COMC) Problem Selection Committee since 2013, was an Observer for the Canadian IMO team in 2015, and Leader of Math Team Canada in 2017.

In his spare time, James enjoys all outdoor activities, as well as cooking, games, and watching hockey.

Calvin Deng - Deputy Leader



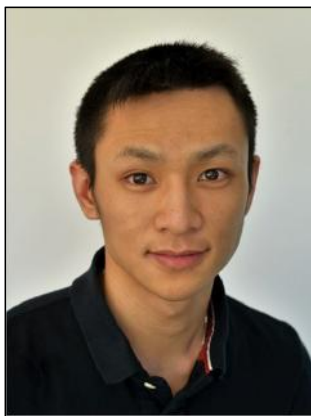
Calvin Deng was born in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. He is a first-year Ph.D. student at Princeton University studying mathematics.

Previously, Calvin was on the Canadian IMO team in 2012 and 2013, earning two gold medals. He credits his participation and success in math competitions in leading him to where he is now.

In addition to mathematics, Calvin enjoys playing ultimate Frisbee, basketball, foosball, and various card and board games.

Calvin is really looking forward to being on the other side of the Canadian delegation this year!

Vincent Chan - Observer



Vincent Chan was born in Calgary, Alberta. Vincent double majored in Pure Mathematics and Applied Mathematics at the University of Waterloo, continuing there to pursue his master's degree. He completed his PhD in Mathematics at UBC in 2014 before returning to Calgary and teaching at the University of Calgary. Vincent has worked with many students in math camps, outreach programs, and competition coaching, which has inspired him to pursue an education degree.

In his spare time, Vincent enjoys puzzles, games, and all sorts of physical activities - parkour, martial arts, obstacle courses, and various sports.

Thomas Guo



Thomas was born in Toronto, Ontario, and is currently a grade 9 student at Phillips Exeter Academy in Exeter New Hampshire. Thomas first became interested in math in grade 3, after his chess teacher encouraged him to take math classes. Although Thomas has taken extra math classes, he has stopped playing chess. Excelling at his first contest, Gauss 7, Thomas was motivated to continue pursuing math. Thomas began participating in math competitions, including the Canadian Mathematical Olympiad (CMO) and the Canadian Open Mathematics Challenge (COMC) winning the top prize in both contests.

“I am very happy to have done so well in them. I like solving challenging problems with nice logical solutions, so naturally I enjoyed these CMS competitions.”

Thomas is very excited for the upcoming IMO, and says he feels honoured to be part of *Math Team Canada*.

In his spare time, Thomas enjoys computer programming, ice hockey and playing video games.

Howard Halim



Howard Halim has always loved problem solving from a young age. He participated in his first math contest in grade 6. He found out about the IMO in grade 8, and made it his goal to be on Math Team Canada. Ever since then, he's been practicing to get better at math competitions.

The hard work paid off this year, as Howard earned second place on the CMO and qualified for the IMO. This is his first time participating in the IMO, and he is very excited and honoured to be part of the team.

Howard likes doing math Olympiad problems because he enjoys finding simple and elegant solutions to solve difficult problems. He also loves to see his problem-solving ability improve over time. He especially likes geometry and combinatorics.

In his spare time, Howard's hobbies include competitive programming, solving puzzles, and playing chess.

Victor Rong



Victor was born in Toronto, Ontario and is currently a grade 11 student at Marc Garneau Collegiate Institute. Victor began doing math at a young age with the encouragement of his parents. Math became a major hobby of his, and this led him to compete in math competitions since grade 4. Victor is particularly fond of synthetic geometry. Although Victor confesses to being nervous about the upcoming IMO, he says he is happy to have made it this far.

“Many CMO problems are feasible for those fairly new to competitive math and at the same time can be challenging to experienced students.”

Victor competed in the 2017 Canadian Open Mathematics Challenge (COMC) and earned a Silver medal (Best in Canada, Grade 10). Victor also earned 1st Place (Canadian Division) in the Canadian Mathematical Olympiad (CMO).

In his spare time, Victor enjoys competitive programming and card games.

Nicholas Sun



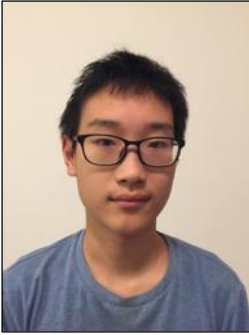
Nicholas (Nicky) Sun was born in New Brunswick, New Jersey to Canadian parents. He is currently a homeschooled grade 12 student living in Naperville, Illinois.

Sun started participating in math competitions in 5th grade, starting with the AMC 8 and AMC 10. After participating in *Mathcounts* and USACO, Nicholas fell in love with math and computer science, and has pursued them ever since, enthralled by the creativity and beauty found in problem solving. Throughout his high school career, Nicholas has attended IMO training camp, USACO camp, MOP, and received honorable mentions on the USAMO, USAJMO, and CMO.

Nicholas is excited for the upcoming IMO in Romania, and is honored to be part of Math Team Canada. He will be attending the University of Waterloo in the fall of 2018.

Besides working on competition math problems, Nicholas enjoys programming, solving puzzles, listening to music, and playing video games.

William Zhao



William Zhao was born in Toronto, Ontario and is currently a Grade 10 student at Richmond Hill High School. William became interested in math at a very young age.

As a child William enjoyed reading non-academic math books, which led to his interest in mathematics. Even now, he enjoys reading about the history and development of mathematics.

William was a member of the 2016 IMO Team earning a Gold medal. William also received honourable mention in the 2017 Canadian Mathematical Olympiad (CMO).

He is excited to be a member of Math Team Canada, to learn more about Brazil and to compete with mathematicians from other countries.

“I am very interested in the IMO contest itself as it gives a measure to how much I’ve improved this year.”

William hasn’t yet decided on which university he would like to attend in the coming years, but he does want to earn a Ph. D. in Mathematics before he turns 25.

In his spare time, William enjoys experimenting with graphing software, and playing extended rounds of the mathematics game ‘Make 24’, as well as computer programming, table tennis and basketball.

Zixiang Zhou



Zixiang Zhou was born in Beijing, China in 2004. He and his family immigrated to Canada in 2007. Since 2014, he attended University Heights Public School in London, Ontario. He is currently in grade 8.

Zixiang first became interested in math in grade 1. He quickly learned most of elementary and secondary mathematics from school, Math Challenge at Western University, and online resources. From grade 6 onwards, he began to participate in several math contests such as the Math Kangaroo contest, the

Caribou contest, and the Euclid math contest.

In the Canadian Open Mathematics Challenge (COMC) 2017, Zixiang was awarded the Best in Canada for the grade 8 and under category. In the Canadian Mathematical Olympiad (CMO) 2018, he achieved a Honourable Mention.

“I am very excited to represent Canada at the IMO. This is my first time participating in the IMO, and I hope that I will do well.”

In his spare time, Zixiang enjoys competitive programming as well as math. He is also a member of the Canadian team for the International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI) 2018.