



Burnaby, BC:

Led by internationally recognized Mathematicians, Drs. Jonathan and Peter Borwein, Simon Fraser University's Centre for Experimental and Constructive Mathematics (CECM) received a 2000 Federal Government CFI grant to develop an experimental research and teaching lab. Known as 'Colab,' this facility was to pursue not only new areas of theoretical math research, but also new methods of teaching using state-of-the-art interactive technology.

The facility is made up of two areas; the 20 person interactive Colab with touch screen plasma monitors and video-conference capabilities for world-wide research networking; and a 12 person 'drop-in' lab for graduate students pursuing specialized math research. The 1500 sq.ft. basement space was consciously 'disorganized' using angled partitions to create a more dynamic setting for researchers and to maximize exposure to limited windows, views and natural light. Bold paint colours contrast with generous use of natural wood millwork and subtle carpet finishes to create a comfortable workspace for researchers. A unique feature of the Colab is the custom designed meeting table with a flat, interactive plasma screen for group study, fully integrated with information technology. Construction cost, \$300K, 2002.