RICHARD HOSHINO

I was born and raised in Toronto, but proudly call Nova Scotia my home after four wonderful years of graduate school at Dalhousie University in Halifax. I have a B.Math from Waterloo, B.Ed from Queen's, and an M.Sc from Dalhousie. I am planning to defend my Ph.D. thesis at Dalhousie in 2006.

I am a Senior Project Officer for the **Canada Border Services Agency**, where my job is to use mathematics to improve the security and efficiency of the Canadian border.

I investigate policy problems from a mathematical perspective, such as improving port security and reducing waiting times at border crossings. Mathematics can be used to inform key policy decisions relating to the Canadian border.

While in high school I was actively involved in writing math contests. At first, these contests were a struggle, but I improved by reading books and writing practice solutions to these difficult problems. In my last year of high school, I had the honour of representing Canada at the International Mathematical Olympiad, where I won a silver medal.

In 2003, I had the privilege of being awarded an Action Canada Fellowship, a federally-funded initiative to identify and develop future leaders of Canada. Through Action Canada, I met wonderful young Canadians passionate about inspiring positive change, in dozens of different areas. Through this fellowship program, I developed a love of public policy, and left academia to pursue a dream position where I can combine two of my greatest passions: mathematics and public policy. I am now living in Ottawa, hired by the federal government under its Recruitment of Policy Leaders initiative.

During my graduate career, I founded a province-wide mathematics league for nearly 300 high school students, an in-service program for high school teachers across Atlantic Canada, and facilitated numerous teaching-related workshops for graduate students and university faculty. My passion to contribute mathematically has always been broader than just research. I love to teach, and have had the privilege of teaching mathematics at both the high school and undergraduate level, working with many of the top young mathematicians in the country. Needless to say, the learning has gone both ways!