# Public Lecture

## Sponsored by: Vancouver Institute & Canadian Mathematical Society

**20:00 – 21:00: Saturday, December 4th, 2010**
Coast Plaza Hotel & Suites - 1763 Comox Street, Vancouver

**RON GRAHAM**, University of California at San Diego
*Searching for the Shortest Network*

Suppose you are given some set of cities and you would like to connect them all together with a network having the shortest possible total length. How hard is it to find such a shortest network? This classical problem has challenged mathematicians for nearly two centuries, and today has great relevance in such diverse areas as telecommunication networks, the design of VLSI chips and molecular phylogenetics. In this talk, I will summarize past accomplishments, present activities and future challenges for this fascinating topic.

### Ron Graham

Ron Graham is a world renowned leader in the development of discrete mathematics, an area of great importance to modern computer technology. He spent many years at Bell Laboratories, where he served in various capacities including Chief Scientist. He is currently Chief Scientist at the California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology and Professor of Computer Science and Engineering at the University of California, San Diego. Professor Graham has won numerous prizes, including the American Mathematical Society's Steele Prize for Lifetime Achievement and is a member of the US National Academy of Sciences. He has also served as President of the American Mathematical Society and President of the International Jugglers Association.

### Map and Directions
1763 Comox Street