



## Rubik's cube champion unveils his secrets

The world record holder for solving the Rubik's cube using only one hand has caught the attention of some major local innovators.

Antoine Cantin, 16, is slated to be a guest speaker at the fourth annual Innovation Nation, presented by the Centre for Surgical Invention and Innovation (CSii). The event takes place July 28 and features presentations from people who have achieved a high level of success in their fields, including health sciences, medical robotics and aerospace technology.

"When I first heard I was invited, I thought 'Wow, what am I doing here?' I'm just a kid who plays with toys," said Cantin.

His talent caught the attention of organizers in April when he beat the world record for solving a Rubik's cube at the Toronto Open Spring competition. It took Cantin 12.56 seconds to match all six faces of the cube (the previous record was 13.46 seconds).



Antoine Cantin set a world record for solving a Rubik's cube and will be a guest speaker at an upcoming medical conference.

"Antoine is going to be one of many that will keep the conference interesting for everyone who comes out," said Anvari, CEO and scientific director for CSii.

The list of speakers also includes Bob Young, owner of the Hamilton Tiger-Cats, Laura Fortino, gold-medalist on the women's hockey team, and David Saint-Jacques, an astronaut with the Canadian Space Agency.

"I'm not really comparable to these people, but I am pretty good at what I do," Cantin said with a laugh.

The young phenom plans to demonstrate his talent in front of the 300 to 400 people in attendance at the conference, which will be held at Liuna Station. He will also show some videos breaking the North American record and the world record.

Cantin is aware of the disconnect between the mandate of CSii – to develop intellectual property in the field of medical robotics – and his ability to solve a Rubik's cube in record time. But Anvari said that no matter what the challenge, the challenges people go through to get to the finish line are not dissimilar.

Cantin's biggest challenge was his 17-year-old brother, Andre. Andre was the one who passed the skill along to him, constantly challenging him in Rubik's cube races.

"At first I found it boring. But after awhile, all I wanted to do was beat him," he said.

He admits that the only thing it took was reading online, watching a few YouTube videos and practicing. He wants to beat the world record for solving a Rubik's cube with his toes, which is 42 seconds. He has already matched the record by crossing his fingers that he will find success at the next competition.

The conference will close with Anvari discussing future directions in health care robotics, including its use for rehabilitation centres and surgeries.

"We're pleased to host this conference in Hamilton because of its achievements in innovation throughout the city and that it continues to grow and that conferences like this will highlight our city's role in promoting innovation," said Anvari.

A robotics competition will follow the conference and will take place on the Tuesday, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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**Event Details:**

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<http://www.thespec.com/news-story/4691740...>

**Date:** Monday, July 28

**Time:** 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Location:** Liuna Station, 360 James St. N.

**Cost:** Free

**Registration:** Begins at 8 a.m. Registration is limited.

**More information:** [WWW.innovation-nation.ca/venue-accomodations](http://www.innovation-nation.ca/venue-accomodations)