

Monthly news & updates

Help us get to 1,000+ members! (We're at 890 ...) Please remind your colleagues to sign up with RAQ for free

September 2020



Return to campus: Fall 2020 semester in a time of Covid-19

Life is certainly different for our first year undergraduate students in the Fall of 2020. The challenge, according to Ann Tierney, Vice-Provost and Dean of Student Affairs, is how to balance the tradition of a welcoming community, which has been Queen's hallmark, with the obligation to keep oneself and community members safe. **RAQ President Diane Kelly sat down in conversation with Ann Tierney - See [here](#) for the full interview.**

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And see Provost Mark Green's statement on continuing remote learning for the 2020-21 Winter term [here](#).

Launching RAQ strategic planning exercise

The RAQ Council has set up a Strategic Planning Group. Its members are Doug Boyd, John Holmes, Diane Kelly, and Alistair



'Zoom' into Fall 2020 Speakers' Series

RAQ is offering our popular Speakers' Series by Zoom until we can safely meet again in person. On Thursday, October 8, 2020 at 1:00 pm, Bhavana Varma, President & CEO, United Way (KFL&A), will speak about "*Changes in response to Covid-*

MacLean (Chair). Council approved the terms of reference which includes a review of past initiatives, a review of activities of comparable organizations, and recommendations for future initiatives. The review will also include a consideration of budgetary implications and broad consultation with the membership.

Extended deadline to opt into Manulife benefits

RAQ successfully advocated with Queen's administration to extend the deadline to opt into Manulife benefits. The new deadline is Friday, October 30, 2020. To sign up, please contact Manulife Customer Care Centre at 1-800-268-6195, (Monday to Friday from 8 am until 8 pm) prior to the new deadline.

The new plan includes an optional dental plan and an optional top-up of out-of-country emergency medical (to 100 % coverage). Queen's has negotiated new premium rates for these optional benefits that are extremely competitive.

19: How the social services sector is responding."

Registration is needed but a recorded version will be available for those unable to join online. Please visit the **[RAQ events page](#)** for details about confirmed speakers. And if you missed it, please **check out** Dr. Lisa Carver's talk to RAQ in September about the human-animal bond.



You asked, they listened

In response to the many questions RAQ members and RAQ Council had about the transition in benefits providers, Manulife and Queen's Human Resources teamed up to provide a comprehensive overview customized for Queen's retirees. Check out **[this link](#)** where you will find the online video presentation that covers where to go and whom to contact with questions, instructions about validations, and in-depth information about benefits coverage.