Welcome to Kingston
Welcome to Queen’s

The Retirees’ Association of Queen’s is proud to be hosting the 13th Conference and Annual General Meeting of CURAC/ARUCC at Queen’s University from Wednesday, May 20, 2014, to Friday, May 22, 2015. We hope to welcome one or more delegates from each CURAC/ARUCC Association across Canada as well as retirees from the Kingston area. These documents contain information about Kingston and Queen’s, about reaching Kingston and Queen’s, about reserving accommodation for the Conference, and preliminary information about the Conference Program. A Registration Form for Conference attendees is being sent separately.

Strategically located where Lake Ontario flows into the St. Lawrence River and where the mouth of the Cataraqui River creates a large natural harbour, Kingston has been an important military and political centre since the French established a trading centre and fort here in 1763. In 2015 Kingston will be celebrating the bicentennial of the birth of Sir John A. MacDonald, who practiced law here before entering politics. There is information about the many museums celebrating Kingston’s heritage at the Tourism Kingston Website, http://tourism.kingstoncanada.com/. If you have the time, this area has many attractions worth visiting, from historic Upper Canada Village to the east to the wineries of Prince Edward County to our west.

Kingston is the southern terminus of the Rideau Canal to Ottawa, a UNESCO World Heritage site (See http://www.pc.gc.ca/eng/lhn-nhs/on/rideau/visit.aspx). A number of scenic lock sites on the Canal are within a short drive of Kingston. The Conference banquet will be held at the Discovery Centre of another of Canada’s National Historic Sites, Fort Henry (See http://www.forthenry.com/index.cfm/en/home/). There attendees will have a chance to test their gunnery skills in aiming and firing a cannon at a (simulated) American invader.

In 2016, Queen’s University will be celebrating its 175th birthday, so you will note “Queen’s 175” material around the campus and in the Registration packages. Convocations will be taking place in historic Grant Hall during our Conference, so don’t be surprised to see students and faculty in academic gowns, with the students accompanied by their proud families. Whenever the Chancellor is on campus, the Chancellor’s Flag flies atop the clock tower of Grant Hall.