

Retirees at Queen's - Strategic Planning Group

Digest of Questionnaire Results

This document is a precis of the results generated by the program which collected respondents' answers and which is available as a separate document (Summary of questionnaire responses. 21 Nov 20.pdf). Some of the data appearing in the Summary document have been recalculated here to provide a more accurate reflection of respondents' answers.

General Comments

In total, 322 members responded to the questionnaire giving a response rate of 35.5%, about average for surveys. Not everyone responded to every question so the response rates for some questions total less than 322. Some questions allowed people to give multiple responses so that results for those questions total more than 322 and percentages total more than 100.

It was the intention of the planning group to take in to account the issue of members living outside the Kingston area. Some questions provided an option for respondents to indicate that they lived out of Kingston. However, a number of respondents indicated that they felt that insufficient attention was paid to this issue.

Analysis of the results suggests that 41 respondents lived out of Kingston. It may be that some of those who chose not to respond to the questionnaire did so because they felt it was not relevant to them for this reason. The planning group intends to take this issue into account in its recommendations to Council.

In the general comments (Q20) a number of respondents expressed appreciation for the work of Cheryl and members of Council, for the Newsletter, and for the opportunity to express their opinions.

Demographic information

Dates of retirement ranged from 1969 to 2020 (Q1). Membership is equally balanced (Q6) between female (160) and male (160).

Age distribution (Q7)

Age	N	%
Less than 60	10	3
60-69	97	31
70-79	131	41
80 or more	80	25

Length of membership (Q2)

	N	%
Joined this year	136	43
1 to 5 years	73	23
More than 5 years	111	35

Former position at Queen's (Q3)

Staff member	136
Faculty member	168
Spouse	6
Non-Queen's retiree	8
Other	7

Continuing activity in home department (Q4)

Social contacts	150
Teaching	19
Scholarly activities	51
Administration	3
Other	40

The "Other" category (Q4) is mainly due to respondents who live out of Kingston.

Membership of social or community groups other than RAQ (Q5)

Seniors Association – Seniors Centre	84
City of Kingston Senior Activities and Programs	7
Queen's Institute for Lifelong Learning	8
None	137
Other	122

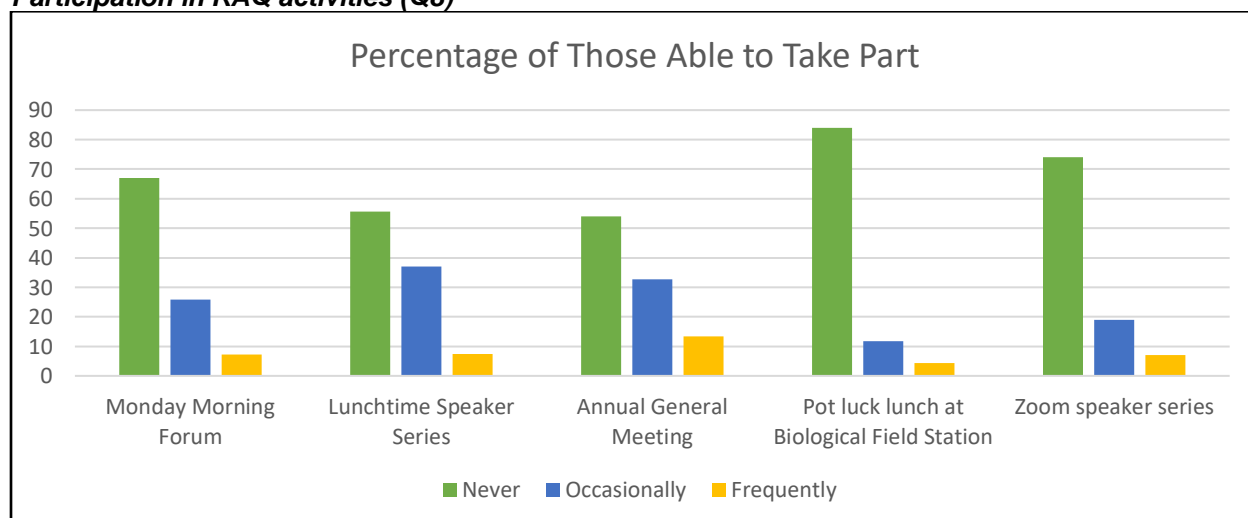
Of the respondents indicating "None", 74 had joined RAQ this year.

The "Other" category included 11 respondents who indicated that they did not live in Kingston. Some of them had responded in the other categories and the responses in the above table have been adjusted to reflect this.

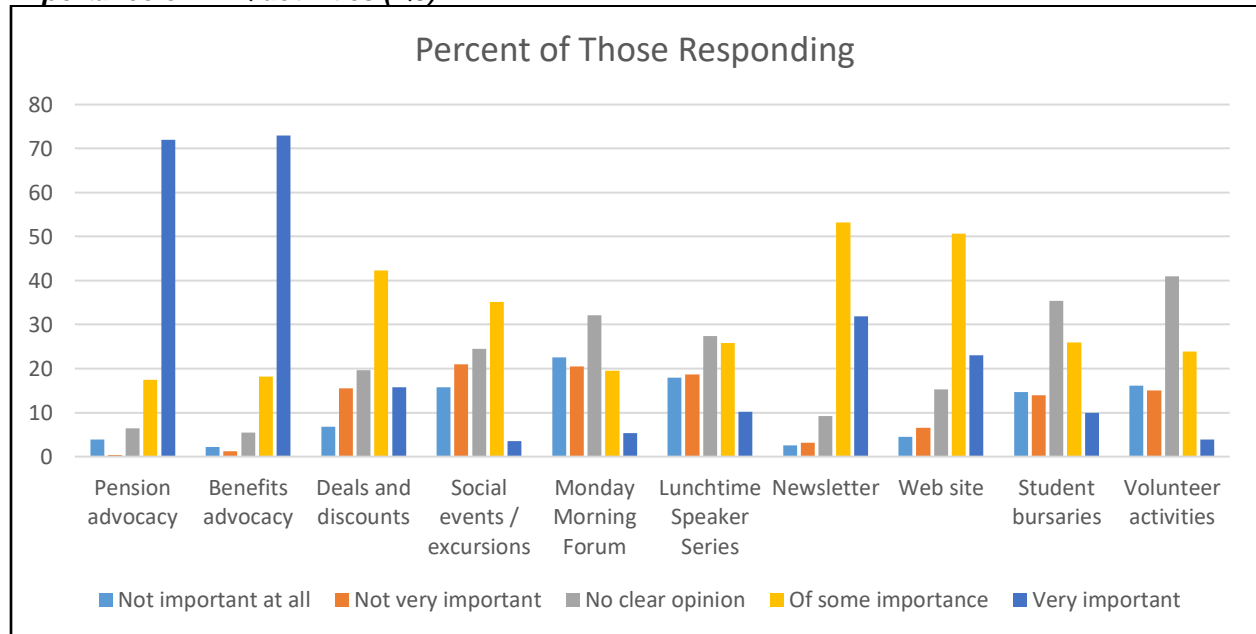
It is clear from the "Other" responses that members of RAQ are engaged in many community organisations and social groups. There is no substantial concentration of members in any one organisation. The type of groups with which members are associated can be roughly categorised as: community boards (17); church organisations (9); music (14); arts, theatre and heritage (13); both formal and informal social groups (23); educational initiatives (8); and health and exercise (25).

Current experience with RAQ

Participation in RAQ activities (Q8)



Importance of RAQ activities (Q9)

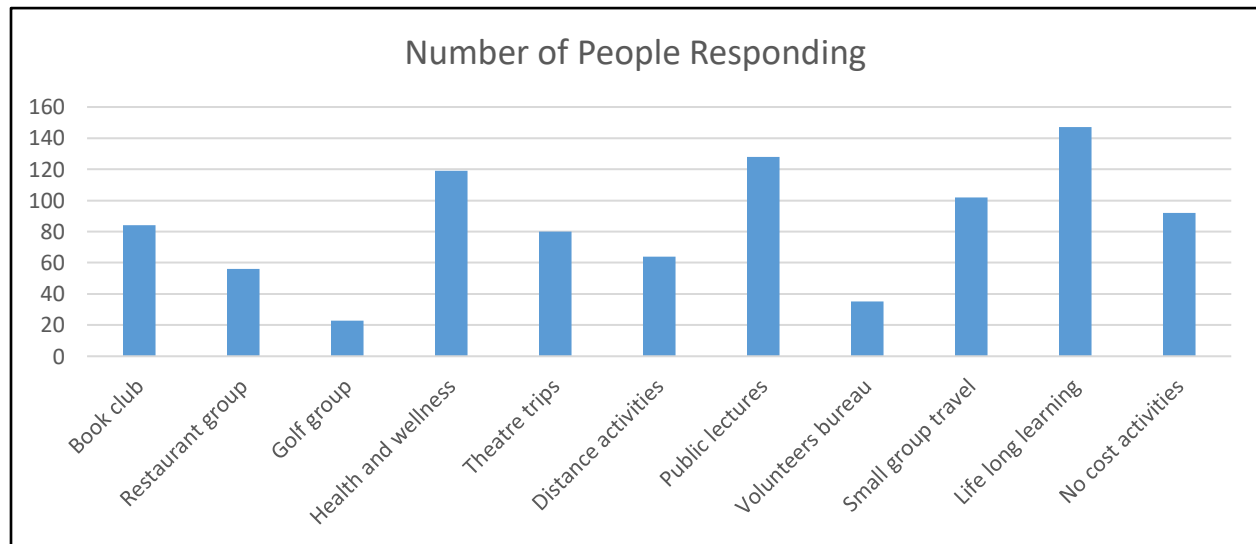


RAQ as a source of support (Q10)

	N	%
Not at all	9	3
A minor source of support	104	33
One of a number	125	39
An important source of support	77	24
My primary source of support	4	1

Future activities

Activities for RAQ to add in the future (Q11)



For the most part, other initiatives suggested (Q12) tended to reflect or emphasise answers to other questions.

Respondents prepared to take the lead in organising activities (Q14)

	N	%
Definitely	3	1
Probably	10	3
Possibly	86	27
Probably not	145	45
Definitely not	75	24

Respondents rated RAQ playing a larger role in supporting the transition to retirement (Q13) as 3.55 out of 5.

Support for additional contributions to the grant from the University (Q15)

	N	%
A small annual donation by members	168	52
A small surcharge on RAQ events	173	54
Neither of the above	37	11
Other	21	7

There was strong support (97%) in favour of RAQ collaborating with employee groups at Queen's with respect to advocating for pensions and benefits (Q16).

There was also strong support (94%) for RAQ partnering with community groups on issues relevant to retirees (Q17).

Additional benefits for RAQ to pursue in future negotiations (Q18)

	N	%
Access to Queen's Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP)	116	36
Access to Queen's courses	176	55
Support for continuing education and support	83	26
Other	25	8

Respondents rated a closer relationship with Advancement (Q19) as 3.18 out of 5.

There were 58 supplementary comments (Q20). These can be roughly grouped into comments on: RAQ; Advancement; distance from Queen's; groups and activities; the survey; benefits; and general comments.

Diane Kelly
 Doug Boyd
 John Holmes
 Alistair MacLean (Chair)