



President's Corner

Greetings, fellow members:
I have the privilege of writing to you as the Association's President for 2016/17.

I am pleased to report that at our recent Annual General Meeting held on June 8th, the re-appointments of Heather Grigg as Vice President and Mary Johnston as Past President were confirmed and I look forward to continuing our work together. We will be assisted by an excellent Council that welcomes as new members this year Helen Barton, Brian Beckberger and Carolyn Rosenthal. Both Brian and Helen have served on Council in the past. Beth Csordas has kindly agreed to stay on as Treasurer and Nora Gaskin from Council will take on the responsibilities of Secretary. In wishing all of these persons and the returning members of Council an enjoyable and successful year ahead, I also extend a very warm vote of thanks to Shari Mercer who has completed her term on Council and to Kathy Overholt who stepped down after three years of dedicated service as Secretary.

The year ahead promises to be a tranquil one. The new parking transponders have been distributed and by all reports are working well. The fact that we face the prospect of having to renew them annually is a nuisance but we shall seek to ensure that it is a minor one. We have obtained some relief from the current campaign to ensure that MacMail passwords are changed annually, but I urge you to address this issue as soon as possible.

Our activities including volunteering within the University and participating in local events will continue and I invite you to contact us if you wish to play a more active role in these activities.

Have an enjoyable summer.

Les King, MURA President

MURA Scholarship & Prize Fund

The MURA academic award endowment fund, supported by retirees and friends of MURA, currently provides an annual scholarship of \$2,000 and a \$550 part-time student prize to McMaster Gerontology students.

Donations since last fall have contributed \$3,800 of the \$15,000 additional funds needed to increase the scholarship to \$2,500 and the prize to \$750.

Please consider donating to the MURA Scholarship and Prize Fund to allow for this increased support to outstanding students.

You can make your gift online at <http://MURAscholarship.ca> or by calling Meggie MacDougall, Alumni Officer, Special Projects, at 905-525-9140, ext. 24667.

Contacting MURA

Mail Gilmour Hall B108, McMaster University
1280 Main Street West, Hamilton, ON L8S 4L8

Phone 905-525-9140, extension 23171
(voicemail is checked twice a week)

Email mura@mcmaster.ca

Web Site <http://mcmaster-retirees.ca/>

2016 MURA Annual General Meeting

Dr. Brian Baetz, a professor of Civil Engineering at McMaster, gave a very entertaining and informative address about the creation, history and current status of the **Cootes to Escarpment EcoPark System**, subtitled "Bordering on the Magnificent".



Brian bicycles from Dundas to the Mac campus through one of the nicest natural areas in Canada, the Cootes to Escarpment Ecopark System. In his presentation, Brian offered pictorial proof that McMaster truly does border on

the magnificent! If you missed it, you can view Brian's Powerpoint presentation by clicking [HERE](https://drive.google.com/open?id=0Bz8W0c4oneE4bVR1NTRXOVNuQmM). (<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0Bz8W0c4oneE4bVR1NTRXOVNuQmM>)

Brian has also written and directed a 42-minute film about the EcoPark which is posted on YouTube. You can watch it at <http://youtu.be/r570AVepYrs>.

Following Dr. Baetz's presentation, MURA President Les King called the business meeting to order during which vacancies on the 2016/17 Executive and Council were filled.

Executive

President	Les King
Vice-President	Heather Grigg
Past President	Mary Johnston
Treasurer	Beth Csordas
Secretary	Nora Gaskin

Councillors

Serving until 2017	Dianne Bird Phyllis DeRosa-Koetting Peter Sutherland
Serving until 2018	Gail Britton Dianne Coventry Nora Gaskin
Serving until 2019	Helen Barton Brian Beckberger Carolyn Rosenthal

The door prize was won by **Anne Sinclair** and a special prize draw took place for all those who had recently opted out of receiving the mailed version of *MURAnews*. **Alan Fraser** was the winner of the opt out draw. Congratulations, Anne and Alan!



Anne Sinclair & Alan Fraser

New MURA Council Member

Carolyn Rosenthal retired in 2004. She did her graduate studies at McMaster, after which she spent 14 years at the University of Toronto, first in the Department of Behavioural Science and then in the Department of Occupational Therapy. She returned to McMaster in 1995 as Director of the Programme in Gerontology and a member of the Department of Sociology. She also served one year as Interim Associate Dean of Social Sciences. Her research interests focused on aging in the family context, including intergenerational relations in families, balancing paid employment and family responsibilities, and support and care for older adults. Among other professional activities, she was Editor in Chief of the Canadian Journal on Aging, a Board member of the Canadian Association on Gerontology, and a member of the Behavioural and Social Sciences Executive Committee of the Gerontological Society of America. She received the Distinguished Member Award from the Canadian Association on Gerontology and is a Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America.



Since retiring in 2004, she has been involved in several community activities. She was the founding president of the Hamilton Council on Aging and served on the board of that association for 6 years. She was a founding member of Hamilton Third Age Learning and is currently Vice President of that association. She participates in the University's PACE seniors' exercise program and is very grateful for that facility (and for the retiree parking benefit). Her non-fiction book group has been a mainstay of her life for the past 48 years. Spending time with her family without the worry of work deadlines has been one of the great pleasures of her retirement.

Your Money/Your Health

Coverage of Shingles Vaccine

Coming down with an outbreak of the shingles virus can be an extraordinarily unpleasant and even dangerous experience. The virus is the same one that causes chickenpox so if earlier in life you had the latter, the virus may lie dormant in your body for decades and then suddenly erupt. Thus many of us have had the shingles vaccine administered even though it is not 100% effective. We have learned from a number of retirees that there is considerable confusion about coverage for the cost of the shingles vaccine by McMaster retiree drug plans. Some retiree plans have this coverage, while others do not.

We have consulted with HR (thanks, Linda Piccolo) who provides the following advice about coverage.

“Did you know that you can find out whether a specified drug or vaccine is covered under your retiree drug plan by contacting Sun Life directly or by using your Sun Life app? All you need is your member ID [your former employee ID number] and the Drug Identification Number (‘DIN’). In some circumstances eligible drugs or vaccines may not be available for purchase through the pay direct drug card. If the vaccine is eligible under your retiree plan, Sun Life will reimburse the cost of the vaccine at the plan’s coinsurance, however, the physician’s administration fee will not be eligible.”

Please contact Sun Life Financial at 1-800-361-6212 to confirm drug or vaccine eligibility under your specific retiree benefits plan.

Organizing and Maintaining Your Mac Retirement Records

Do you know what you signed when you retired?

This may have included your choice of pension and group life insurance options, who you named as your pension and group life insurance beneficiaries, choices about your post-retirement medical and dental benefits, and tax option forms.

You should have a copy of these documents and keep them with your other important papers, such as your will and insurance policies. If you do not have them, the Human Resources Office will be pleased to provide you with a copy. Contact the Human Resources Service Centre by phone at 905-525-9140, ext. 22247.

Beneficiary Changes (Group Life and Pension) and Changes in Family Status

Have you thought about who you have designated as your group life beneficiary lately, and who your pension

beneficiary is?

Maintaining up-to-date designation forms is an important thing to consider, especially if you have had a change in family status.

You should also consider whether a change in your family status impacts your McMaster retiree health and dental coverage, or your co-pay amounts if you are in a co-pay benefit plan.

To make a change to your group life beneficiary designation please visit

<http://www.workingatmcmaster.ca/retirees/>

to print a copy of the Life Insurance Beneficiary Form. Once complete, please forward the original to Human Resources, CSB 202.

To inquire about a change of pension beneficiary or report a family status change, and for any questions or assistance, please email hrs@mcmaster.ca or call 905-525-9140, extension 22247. Please be sure to provide your first and last name and your McMaster ID number in all correspondence.

Retiree Benefits Reminder

The benefit year-end is June 30th. Please ensure all benefit claims dated from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 are submitted to Sun Life no later than 90 days following the end of the benefit year [September 30, 2016].

Late claim submissions will not be reimbursed.

Please review all responses you receive from Sun Life. Human Resources Services works with Sun Life to continually increase the accuracy of the claims approval process. However, we recommend that all retirees review their claim responses and follow up with Sun Life if there is any question regarding accuracy (e.g. denial of a claim due to excess of maximum limit).

Please contact Sun Life at 1-800-361-6212.

After contacting Sun Life, should you still have questions regarding your benefits, please contact the HR Service Centre at
Phone: 905-525-9140, ext. 22247

To find out more details on your benefits or how to submit claims electronically, visit:

Web: <http://www.workingatmcmaster.ca/retirees/index.php>

Welcome, Anna; Thank you, Michele



Anna Fleming likes helping people, and has a genuine interest in what's happening to those around her and making their experience better. That's why the Mac Class of '08 grad (Honours Biology with a minor in Business) went on to complete a Human Resources

Management certificate after graduation. It's also why she is now a Senior Advisor in the Mac HR Service Centre — and MURA Council's new HR representative. Some Facilities Services retirees will know Anna from when she worked as a groundskeeper in summers during her years as a Mac student; she also worked there as an office administrator.

MURA Council will welcome Anna to her first meeting in September, where she will represent the HR department and, indirectly, the University Administration. She will coordinate the gathering of information Council needs about retiree services and pensions & benefits, help investigate issues or ideas to better serve retirees, and help liaise with other University departments as needed.

We also extend a thank you and best wishes to **Michele Leroux** on behalf of 13 past MURA Councils, and all Mac retirees. Michele, who started at Mac as Manager, Retirement Support Services in 2003,

recently left the University to become Director, HR Shared Services, Hamilton Health Sciences. With the exception of two leaves to grow her family, Michele was MURA Council's HR representative for those years. We wish her well.



Here are some of the staff of the HR Service Centre. They work as a team on all services to active staff and retirees — hiring, pay processing, leaves of absence, benefits, pensions, inquiries.
Left to right. Back row: Alison, Christine, Matt, Beata; Middle row: Carolyn, Anna, Kathy; Front row: Silsila, Taylor, Cassandra, Alyssa

Report to the Hourly Retirees

It has been almost a year since I last made any report on the Hourly Pension Plan and for good reason: there is not a lot to tell. Fundamentally, the plan continues steadily along, following the ups and downs of the stock market. It has been a steady three paces forward then two steps back, which keeps us just steadily plodding along. Since retiring fifteen years ago, I have seen the value of my pension eroded by approximately 20% despite a few small catch-ups in the indexing of our Plan. This will not get much better until the pension plan becomes fully funded. With the present market, we cannot expect this to happen in the near future.

The University continues to put a considerable amount of extra cash into the pension fund to keep the plan solvent, as called for in the pension legislation. This ensures your pensions will continue for as long as you may need them. This will be some consolation to us all.

Another area of our retiree benefits that we must all keep aware of are the health care benefits. We are all given a booklet listing these benefits at our time of retirement and hopefully you will all keep abreast of them. For example, information about coverage of the shingles vaccine, which your doctor may be advising you to get, appears on page 3 of this issue of *MURAnews*. With respect to our benefits, keep in mind that there are many different groups of McMaster pensioners with variation in the benefits among these groups.

In closing, I will again invite any of the hourly retirees, as well as any other retirees, to get involved in any of the MURA activities you may be interested in.

*Hourly Pension Representative
Cliff Andrews*

Computer Tips & Tricks

Changing Your MAC ID Password

New Requirement to Change Passwords

Annually. You may have noticed announcements from University Technology Services (UTS) that MAC ID passwords will expire annually, so must be changed every year.



That said, UTS has informed MURA that retirees are not required to change their passwords at this time. The exception is retirees who have returned to McMaster in an

employment capacity. These retirees need to meet the same annual password change requirements as other active employees.

If UTS requires retirees to change their passwords in the future, they will give plenty of advance notice, but they recommend all users change their passwords annually.

Why have a MAC ID? MAC ID is a UTS-assigned identifier that is not the same as your student or employee number. Your MAC ID is the part of your current or former McMaster email address that precedes “@mcmaster.ca”, for example “smithjp”.

Retirees are entitled to have a MAC ID for life. It provides access to free services including a McMaster **email account***, on-campus **wireless service**, **library e-resources** and Virtual Private Network (VPN)**.

If you do not have a MAC ID, you may request one by contacting the UTS Service Desk at 905-525-9140 extension 24357 or by email at uts@mcmaster.ca.

At MURA’s request, retirees have been confirmed as having access to the Mosaic portal, McMaster’s administrative information system. Using Mosaic, you can change your MAC ID password, and also set up personal challenge questions so you can reset your password in the event that you forget it.

Verify Your MAC ID: If you are not sure that your current MAC ID or password is functioning, go to <http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/macid/>, then click on “Verify my MAC ID”.

Before changing or resetting your MAC ID password, UTS recommends clearing all saved instances of your MAC ID password. Saved passwords are often found in, for example, email programs/clients and VPN login credentials. For information on clearing saved MAC ID passwords go to <http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/macid/clearpwds/>.

Changing Your MAC ID Password: Go to <http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/macid/>, then click on “Change MACID password”.

The password change screen lists the password complexity rules that must be followed.

UTS has excellent information on password safe practices, including examples of weak and strong passwords, and ideas on how to construct a strong password that will be easy for you to remember, but hard for others to guess. This is available at:

<http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/security/ITsecurity/safe-practices/passwords.html>

It is also possible to change your MAC ID password using Microsoft Outlook Web App (OWA) at <https://macmail.mcmaster.ca>, but the Mosaic portal at <http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/macid/> provides more support, such as setting personal challenge questions to use if you forget your password.

Personal Challenge Questions: To set up or update your questions, go to <http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/macid> then, near the bottom of the page under “Ongoing Maintenance”, click on “Establish or change your personal challenge questions”.

Resetting a Forgotten MAC ID Password: Go to <http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/macid> then, near the bottom of the page under “Ongoing Maintenance”, click on “Forgotten MAC ID Password”.

Technical Support and Help

! If you require assistance please contact the UTS Service Desk at (905) 525-9140 extension 24357 and press #6 for retiree assistance, or email to uts@mcmaster.ca.

! The UTS Service Desk is located on the McMaster Campus in Burke Science Building Room 245. The suggested hours for walk-in support are Monday to Friday, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

* Retiring employees may choose to keep their McMaster e-mail account. Retirees without an email account can request one online at <http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/appforms/emailappretiree.pdf>

** VPN allows you to connect to the McMaster University network from any off-campus computer and appear as though your computer is on campus. It also provides extra security by encrypting data to and from your computer. More information is available at <http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/network/vpn/>

Retirees in the McMaster Online Directory

Retirees may choose to be included in the online McMaster Faculty & Staff Directory, <http://telecom.mcmaster.ca/directory.cfm>.

Here's how to add yourself to the directory, or to update your record as needed:

- Go to <http://telecom.mcmaster.ca/login.cfm> and log in using your MAC ID and MAC ID password. (See the accompanying article 'Changing your MAC ID Password' [p. 5, above] for a description of MAC ID, and how to request one.)
- Select "Faculty and Staff Directory" from the left menu bar.
- On the "Faculty and Staff Directory" tab, search to find out if a record already exists for you.
- Use the "Update Directory" tab to add yourself to the directory or change your record.
- Fill out the form - mandatory fields are identified by a red asterisk (*).
 - For an Add, the 'Record ID' box fills in automatically. Don't try to change it.
 - For a Change, enter your 'Record ID', found on the detail screen of your existing record.
 - For 'Department', choose "McMaster University Retirees Association (MURA)" from the drop-down list; leaving 'Sub Dept' blank. Or select your pre-retirement department if you are still actively associated with it. Enter "Retired" or another suitable phrase in the 'Job Title' box.
 - 'Building' must be provided. Enter "OC349" if you are off campus.
 - For 'Extension/Phone Number' use either your home phone number or a McMaster phone extension. This field cannot be left blank.
 - Enter your email address, whether it's an "@mcmaster.ca" one or from another service provider.

Both optimists and pessimists contribute to society. The optimist invents the aeroplane, the pessimist the parachute.

George Bernard Shaw

- For 'Departmental Coordinator', if you are using MURA as your department, choose "Terri Jones – Human Resources Services" from the drop-down list. (Terri is an executive assistant in Human Resources Services, which acts as MURA's Coordinator for the directory.) If you are still actively associated with your pre-retirement department, choose the Coordinator for that department.
- For 'Coordinator's Email', enter tjones@mcmaster.ca if you have chosen MURA as your department; otherwise enter your active department coordinator's email address.
- Click the 'Submit' button. You will see a screen confirming the details of your submission, and the system will send an email to your selected Coordinator.
- Your new or updated directory listing will take effect within 7 – 10 business days.

** If you would like to be included in the Online Directory but do not have an email address or access to the internet, please contact Terri Jones by phone at 905-525-9140, extension 23275

** If you need help with using the online form, please contact the UTS Service Desk at 905-525-9140, extension 24357.



Interested in Travel? Check out the 2017 McMaster Alumni and Friends Travel Program

Working with reputable travel partners, the McMaster Alumni and Friends Travel Program offers a variety of trips, enhanced by knowledgeable lecturers and experienced travel directors.

For a complete list of trips planned for 2017, visit discoveryourmacadventure.ca.

To request a 2017 travel brochure, additional information or to be added to the mailing list, contact the Travel Alumni Officer at 905-525-9140 ext. 24882 or mactrav@mcmaster.ca.

Volunteer Opportunities

Hamilton Police Services Opportunities

Volunteering with the Hamilton Police Services might interest you as a way to contribute to, and stay connected with, your community.

Crime Prevention Volunteers

Hamilton Police Service regularly engages community members in community policing programs to assist with functions such as monitoring traffic light, speed and seatbelt violations, and helping with safety and education programs.

This volunteer program is currently under review, with a list of opportunities expected to be available later in the summer. Information will be available at Community Policing Centres as well as at Central Station, 155 King William St., Hamilton, or by contacting the CPC Volunteer Administrator at (905) 546-3397. MURA will provide an update as soon as possible.

Victim Services Volunteers

Victim Services Volunteers have a very important role in providing emotional support for victims of crime and trauma. Volunteers are not professional counsellors or therapists. They are community-minded citizens who are excellent listeners and are both compassionate and empathetic. Volunteers receive an extensive training program followed by ongoing professional development training.

APPLICATIONS FOR THIS POSITION ARE DUE JULY 31, 2016

To apply, send an email to vsbrecurring@hamiltonpolice.on.ca

Police Advisory Committees

There are also vacancies on Police Advisory Committees from time to time in. If you are interested in joining one of the Police Advisory Committees, please call as follows:

- ! Chief's Citizen Advisory Committee, 905-546-4700
- ! Central Superintendent's Advisory Committee, 905-546-4945
- ! East End Superintendent's Advisory Committee, 905-546-2901
- ! Mountain-Dundas Superintendent's Advisory Committee, 905-546-3804

City of Hamilton Recreation Volunteers

Are you interested in contributing to your community by sharing your time and expertise with the City of Hamilton's Recreation Division?

Recreation centres and arenas across Hamilton run a variety of programs including gym, swim, and arts for all

ages. You might be able to providing volunteer support and be involved in your community at a recreation facility near you. Here are some areas of opportunity:

- ! Event Support or Facility Setup - Cleaning program areas, preparing supplies and program materials, pre-cut program crafts, organizational set up and take down of program areas
- ! Greeter — Assist with general patron inquiries, show patrons to their program rooms, welcome patrons into the building, information sharing
- ! Program Support — Provide program assistance to staff working in recreation programs and support activities for patrons (e.g. games, crafts, songs, sports, fitness, and aquatics).

Applications are accepted all year, and will be accommodated based on operational need.

To apply, please fill out the application form at <https://www.hamilton.ca/jobs-city/volunteer-opportunities/recreation-division-volunteers> and email it to recreation@hamilton.ca, or call the City of Hamilton Recreation Department at 905-546-3747 for information and assistance.

MURA Special Event Guided Tour of Special Exhibits at the Art Gallery of Hamilton

Please join MURA members and friends for a docent-led tour at the Art Gallery of Hamilton at 2 pm on Friday, September 9th.

In addition to the rest of the gallery, you will be able to view two special exhibits that end in mid- to late-September:

[The Artist Herself: Self-Portraits by Canadian Historical Women Artists](#)

[Embracing Canada: Landscapes from Kriehhoff to the Group of Seven](#)

Cost will be \$8 per person, payable on the day. All are welcome. To register, please contact Mary Johnston at johnston@mcmaster.ca or 905-627-1409.

News from Parking Services

Parking Transponder Exchange Program

(Retiree parking permit holders who have not parked on campus in the past few months should take note.)

Parking Services replaced gate antennae equipment in June of this year and introduced new transponders to improve the level of service and address reported problems with some of the old transponders. You will not be able to gain access to any McMaster parking lot with an old transponder.

The new transponders are available at the parking office (either the ET Clark Centre or the Campus Store located in Gilmour Hall) during regular office hours. Be sure to bring either your Working at McMaster photo ID card or your driver's licence for identification purposes.

The new transponders are 'window buttons' that can be transferred from vehicle to vehicle.

New Retiree Permits and Renewals

Parking Services will continue to refer any first-time/new retiree permit requests to Human Resources to verify status with the University prior to issuing a permit. Once verification has been received and noted on the applicant's file, the retiree will be eligible to continue to renew their parking privileges. Permits will be set up for a 12-month period, but can be renewed every year.

For more information, contact:

McMaster University Parking Services
ET Clarke Centre, Room 102
(905) 525 9140 Ext. 24232
E-mail: parking@mcmaster.ca
<http://parking.mcmaster.ca/>



MURA Christmas Lunch

Mark **Monday, December 5, 2016**, on your calendar for MURA's annual Christmas Lunch.

The lunch will be held in the CIBC Banquet Hall on the 3rd floor of the Student Centre on the McMaster campus.

Look for more details and a reservation form in the Fall issue of *MURAnews*.

Recent Passings

Dr. Ian Begg, Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour, June 27/16
Dr. Ronald Browne, Anaesthesia, Apr. 15/16
Dr. John P. Campbell, History, Mar. 31/16
Dr. Joel Elkes, Psychiatry, Oct. 30/15
Dr. John Hunter, Obstetrics & Gynecology, May 17/16
Dr. Pavlos Kanaroglou, Geography & Earth Sciences, May 13/16
Mrs. Sofija Koren, Facility Services, June 24/16
Mrs. Alwina Orechwo- Lawson, University Libraries, May 8/16
Mrs. Kathleen Steele, Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour,
Dec. 10/15
Dr. Paul Walton, School of the Arts, May 3/16

Welcome New Members

Dr. Christopher J. Allen, Medicine
Dr. Jane Aronson, School of Social Work
Mr. John Boase, Facility Services
Dr. Roy Cain, School of Social Work
Mr. Kim D. Clark, Computer Services Unit
Ms. Rebecca Clifford, Kinesiology
Mrs. Rena Cornelius, Engineering
Dr. Martin Dooley, Economics
Ms. Sara Gallo-O'Toole, Engineering
Mrs. Marguerite Gilbert, Surgery
Mr. Richard Hamilton, Geography and Earth Sciences
Dr. R. Brian Haynes, Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics
Mr. Vincent Heczko, Facility Services
Prof. Nancy Heddle, Medicine
Dr. D. Ann Herring, Anthropology
Mr. John Hudak, Material Research
Mr. Simon Hughes, Hospitality Services
Dr. Tsuneko Iwai, Linguistics and Languages
Ms. Judy Kovacs, Computer Services Unit
Ms. Shirley Lampman, Pediatrics
Dr. Lonnie J. Magee, Economics
Dr. Mark R. McDermott, Pathology
Mr. Brian G. McEntegart, University Technology Services
Mrs. Janet McSwain, Medicine
Mr. David S. Ouellette, Library
Mrs. Elizabeth Penney, Biology
Mrs. Grazyna Pietruszczak, Health Sciences Library
Mrs. Sheila Sammon, School of Social Work
Dr. Eileen Schuller, Religious Studies
Ms. Deborah Sloane, Medicine
Dr. Richard Stubbs, Political Sciences
Mrs. Radmilla Vukovic, Facility Services
Dr. Donald Wells, Labour Studies
Dr. Hua Wu, Research & High Performance Computing
Mr. Matthew Yardley, University Technology Services
Mrs. Weijia Zhu, Biochemistry

Report from the 2016 CURAC Conference

I travelled to Saskatoon on May 25th to represent MURA at the 14th annual meeting of the College and University Retiree Association of Canada (CURAC). MURA is one of 41 member associations in CURAC, a non-profit federation of retiree organizations at colleges and universities across Canada. The annual conference provides an opportunity for retiree associations to share information, exchange ideas and explore issues of common concern.

Our hosts, members of the University of Saskatchewan Retirees Association, provided a warm prairie welcome to conference delegates. Meetings took place on the large U of S campus, a beautiful setting with mature elm trees and fine architecture. The conference banquet, held at the historic Bessborough Hotel, was a truly special affair with great food, good company and a very entertaining speaker.

The U of S Retirees Association chose the theme "The Changing Post-Secondary Education Landscape" as the theme for the conference program. This provided a perfect context for three presentations related to the University's commitment to enhancing Aboriginal student success, to fostering meaningful relationships with Aboriginal communities throughout Saskatchewan and to incorporating Aboriginal content into course and program curricula. Conference delegates visited the new Gordon Oakes Red Bear Student Centre, a beautiful building incorporating design principles and motifs important to the Aboriginal community but intended as a gathering space for the entire campus community. The centre also functions as one of the university's supports designed to ensure the success of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students. U of S has a particularly large and growing indigenous student population, with almost 11% of students identifying themselves as Aboriginal, but the issues discussed were relevant to many other universities across Canada.

Other sessions during the conference focused on the evolution of universities and colleges, seniors' issues, pensions and benefits, and community engagement.

Mary Johnston

Through MURA's membership in CURAC (the College & University Retirees Associations of Canada), MURA members are offered discounted rates on home and automobile insurance with Economical Select.

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Contest closes March 31, 2017 at 11:59 p.m. ET (earlier closing dates for some prizes). ©2016 Economical Insurance. All rights reserved. All Economical intellectual property, including but not limited to Economical[®] and related trademarks, names and logos are the property of Economical Mutual Insurance Company and/or its subsidiaries and/or affiliates and are registered and/or used in Canada. All other intellectual property is the property of their respective owners.

Let Us Know If We Can Stop Mailing *MURAnews* to YOU

Please help MURA's budget by opting out of the postal mailing of *MURAnews*. Email Helen Barton at barton@mcmaster.ca or call her at 905-528-8951.

You can print your own *MURAnews* from the PDF copy we send by email, or just click the link in the email and read online.

Retiree Association of Mohawk College (RAMC) Invites You to Join Us and Enjoy
“Cinderella: The Panto”
At St Jacob’s Playhouse, St Jacobs
Wednesday, December 7, 2016



“The enduring fairy tale gets a clever and contemporary makeover in this glittering stage production that features all the classic elements you remember – the pumpkin, glass slipper, masked ball ... plus some unexpected and surprising new twists! With its winning combination of incredible musical numbers, fun-filled comedy, double entendres, outrageous costumes, and audience participation, Cinderella will cast its magical spell on everyone from the age of 3 to 103.”

- 9:30 am** Our coach leaves Fennell Campus, Entrance to Mohawk College, McIntyre Auditorium.
- 11:15 am** We arrive “**At the Crossroads Family Restaurant**”, Elmira, for our delicious buffet luncheon.
Buffet includes 2 soups & bread table; 2 salad tables with tossed salad, toppings, mixed salads; 3 hot buffet tables with 4 main dishes, rice, veggies, potatoes; 2 dessert tables with several varieties of home made pies; ice cream bar
- 1:00 pm** Our coach takes us to St Jacob’s Playhouse, St Jacobs.
- 2:00 pm** Our show begins.
- 5:30 pm** Estimated Return Time to Fennell Campus.

COST: \$90.00 ea. for RAMAC members and partners; \$95.00 ea. for non-members
We only have place for 30 so apply EARLY to reserve your seats!

Please apply using the form below by **Friday, October 14, 2016**. There is no refund on cancellation; however, substitution arranged by the ticket holder (or from the waiting list) will be accepted.

Please make cheque payable to **RETIRES ASSOCIATION OF MOHAWK COLLEGE**, dated no later than **Friday, October 14/16** and mail to: **Donna Dunlop, 123 San Francisco Ave., Hamilton, ON, L9C 5T8; Phone (905) 388-2394; Email: bddunlop@rogers.com**

St Jacob’s Pantomime, CINDERELLA
Buffet Lunch & Show: Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Please reserve _____ seats @ \$90.00 each for RAMAC members and partners and _____ seats @ \$95.00 each for non- members.

TOTAL: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ **EMAIL:** _____