



**UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
RETIRES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**

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WHERE ARE OUR MEMBERS?

The question often asked is “Where do our members reside when they retire?; how many remain in Saskatoon?” An examination of the Association’s membership list provides the following distribution.

Province/Country Number

Nova Scotia	1
Quebec	2
Ontario	13
Manitoba	4
Saskatchewan	291
Alberta	7
British Columbia	54
U.S.A.	7
Other countries	2

In summary, the vast majority (76%) of retirees have remained in Saskatchewan. However, as might be expected, the lure of the milder climate of the West Coast resulted in a significant movement to that location. Fifteen members now reside in Victoria, another eleven in the Greater Vancouver area, and thirteen more in various locations throughout Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. Of the Saskatchewan-residing retirees, two hundred and eighty remain in the Saskatoon area and nine in Regina. None of our members are located in P.E.I, New Brunswick or Newfoundland.

SHOULD WE JOIN CURAC ?

The current Canadian Association of Emeriti and Retired Academics is currently undergoing metamorphosis to a more formal structure to be called the **College and University Retiree Associations of Canada (CURAC)**. The new association is still in the development stage and will officially come into existence at a meeting to be held at Dalhousie University in Halifax in May 2003.

While the aims and purposes of CURAC remain to be defined at the May meeting, the web site of the new association provides some important areas that are likely to be given consideration at that time. They are as follows:

- a) **Communication:** Enabling retirees across the country to keep in touch with one another, and to learn from one another’s experience.
- b) **Information and watch-dog role:** Collecting information about how university retirees are treated with respect to pensions, benefits and continued links with the university or college
- c) **Lobbying:** Representing the interest and perspectives of university retirees on federal and provincial issues that concern retirees.
- d) **Research and discussion:** Providing a forum for the discussion of issues of concern to retirees; initiating and supporting research with respect to these issues.

The suggestion was also raised that the association might help to build contacts between retirees from different universities who had relocated to the same city or region. The sensitive issue of a fee/dues structure for the new association remains to be established. For those who wish to follow progress in the formation of CURAC their web site is: www.curac.ca

Our Executive Committee welcomes any comments or suggestions that you may have regarding the possibility of USRA joining the new association

HONOUR FOR DAVID KAPLAN

It is a pleasure to report that David Kaplan, Professor Emeritus of Music was recently invested as an officer of the Order of Canada. He received the honour from Governor General Adrienne Clarkson at a ceremony in Winnipeg. It is a fitting recognition of his considerable accomplishments as a musician and teacher, and of his overall contribution to the world of music.

IN MEMORIAM.

Thomas Clewes, Professor Emeritus of Electrical Engineering, passed away on October 1, 2002. He was a member of the College of Engineering 1969-84.

George Baxter, Professor Emeritus of Accounting, died on May 18, 2002 at the age of 64. He taught in the College of Commerce for 35 years.

Reginald McFarland, passed away on November 10, 2002. He served as a Professor in the Department of Music, and made major contributions to both the Saskatoon Symphony and CFQC radio programs.

Fergus Murphy, Professor Emeritus of Pathology, died on November 23, 2002. He served as Coroner for the Province of Saskatchewan from 1974 to 1987, and was a member of the Royal College Examining Board in General Surgery from 1976 to 1990.

Ronald Ridgway, Professor Emeritus of French and Spanish, died on December 1, 2002 at the age of 79. He served as Head of the Department of French and Spanish from 1965 to 1976.

George Thiessen, passed away on May 3, 2002 at the age of 91. He retired in 1975 as a faculty member in the College of Education.

CHRISTMAS RECEPTION

We sincerely thank President Peter MacKinnon for his generosity in again opening his home for the Christmas Reception. It was enjoyed greatly by the approximately one hundred and forty who attended the event.

ARTHRITIS SYMPOSIUM

The USRA is organizing a symposium on arthritis to be held in Place Riel Theatre (Room 241 Arts Bldg.) on May 24, 2003. Further details regarding registration and the program will be provided in a future Newsletter