45TH ANNUAL REGIONAL CONVENTION APRIL 2 – 4, 2020





SITE SEARCH EFFORTS

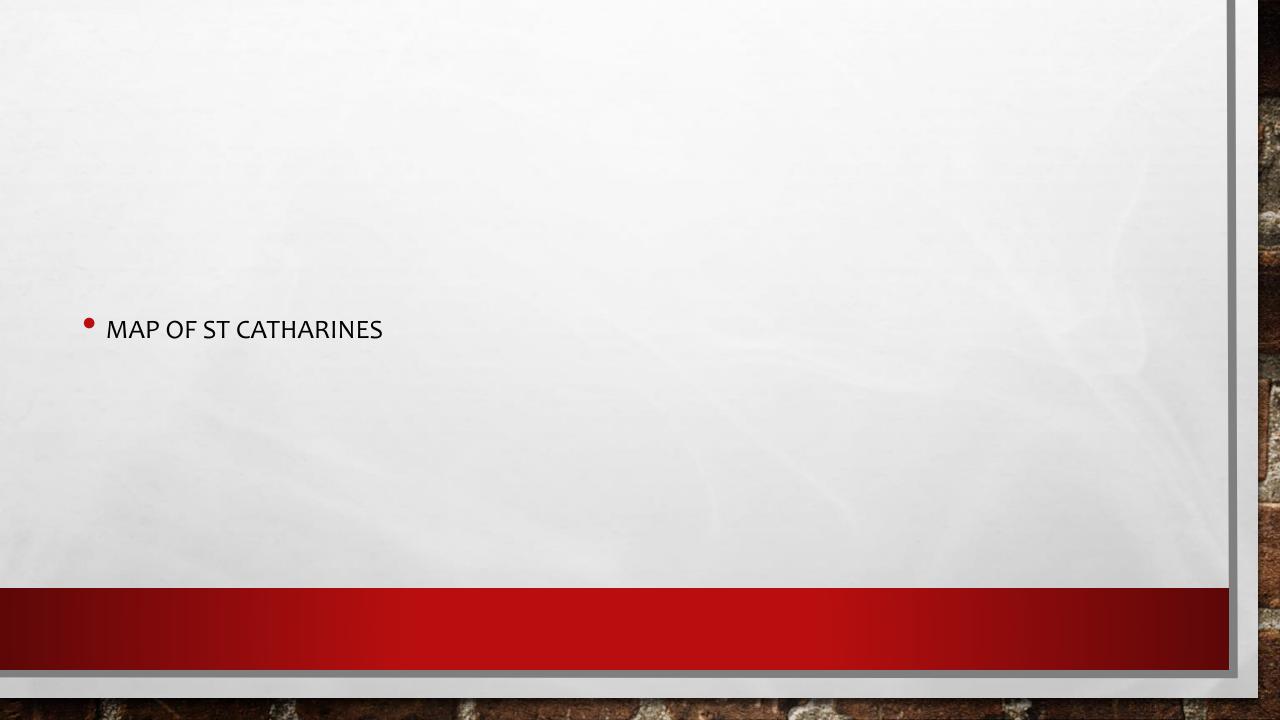
- Site Search Task Force
 JD Crowe, Cathy Stovold, Shelley Snoulten, Barb Jacobs, Diane Seaward,
 Colleen O'Dwyer
- Used International criteria that must be adhered to, including
 - stage size, hotel proximity, airport proximity, various technical requirements
- Considered total geographical area of the region
- Plus cost to the region and members

WELCOME TO ST. CATHARINES, ON

VIDEO

ST CATHARINES ATTRACTIONS

- Shopping outlets
- MANY restaurants within walking distance of contest venue
- Wine tours
- Niagara on the Lake
- Niagara Falls



FIRSTONTARIO PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE (PAC)





PARTRIDGE THEATRE

REGION 16 HOTELS FOR 2020



- Hampton Inn
 - 89 Meadowvale Dr, St. Catharines



- Best Western Inn & Conference Centre
 - 2 North Service Rd, St Catharines



- Four Points Sheraton
 - 3530 Schmon Pkwy, Thorold

IMPORTANT HOTEL FACTS

- Rate at all hotels:
 - \$169.00/night plus HST& facilities fee
 - *Rate is based on single/double occupancy. There is a \$20 charge for each additional guest. There is a maximum of 4 guests per room.
- All hotels are of equal distance from the convention venue
- Free internet at all hotels
- Hot breakfast included at all hotels
- Free parking at all hotels

HOTEL COST COMPARISON

| Syracuse/St Catharines | Hotel Co | osts Comparison |
|------------------------|----------|-----------------|
|------------------------|----------|-----------------|

Syracuse Hotels (used today's conversion rate of \$1.32 to calculate CAD room rate)

| Rate USD | Taxes | Single USD | Single CAD | Double USD | Double CAD | Triple UDS | Triple CAD | Quad USD | Quad CAD |
|----------|------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|----------|
| 139.00 | Nil - tax exempt | 139.00 | 182.97 | 69.50 | 91.49 | 46.33 | 60.99 | 34.75 | 45.74 |

St. Catharines Hotels

| Rate CAD | Taxes | Single USD | Single CAD | Double USD | Double CAD | Triple UDS | Triple CAD | Quad USD | Quad CAD |
|----------|----------------------------------|----------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|------------|------------|----------|----------|
| 169.00 | 13% HST and 5% Facilities Tax | n/a | 199.42 | n/a | 99.71 | n/a | 74.34 | n/a | 61.66 |
| | Difference in o | cost to our members: | 16.45 | | 8.22 | | 13.35 | | 15.92 |

Breakdown by occupancy type:

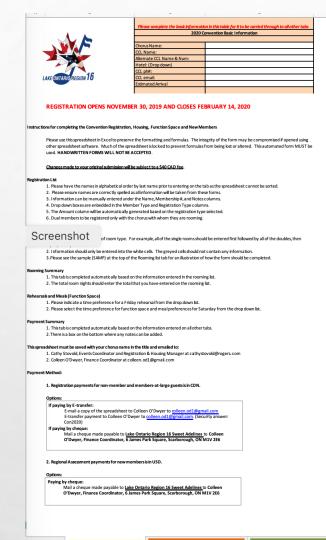
| Single Occupancy | Double Occupancy | Triple Occupancy | Quad Occupancy |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 169.00 Rate | 169.00 Rate | 169.00 Rate | 169.00 Rate |
| 21.97 HST | 21.97 HST | 20.00 Extra person fee | 20.00 Extra person fee |
| 8.45 Facilities Fee | 8.45 Facilities Fee | 189.00 Sub Total | 20.00 Extra person fee |
| 199.42 Total room rate | 199.42 Total room rate | 24.57 HST | 209.00 Sub Total |
| 199.42 Total/person/night | 99.71 Total/person/night | 9.45 Facilities Fee | 27.17 HST |
| | | 223.02 Total room rate | 10.45 Facilities Fee |
| | | 74.34 Total/person/night | 246.62 Total room rate |
| | | | 61.66 Total/person/night |

Prepared July 29, 2019

HOTEL RESERVATION PROCEDURE

HOTEL BOOKINGS

SLEEPING ROOMS must be reserved through THE CHORUS CCL using the online master registration & housing file (ROOMING LIST TAB)



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Informatio

Registration Lis

Rooming list

Rooming Summary

Rehearsals and Meals

New Members

Payment Summary

SLEEPING ROOMS

- Completed spreadsheet is submitted to the Registration and Housing Manager, Cathy Stovold, who will assign hotels based on number of rooms required by each chorus.
- Once the hotels have been assigned to you by Cathy, you will be advised, details will be provided to the hotel and the CCL will take over to sort out details directly with the hotel. ONLY the CCL may be in contact with the hotel.

SLEEPING ROOMS

- A credit card must be provided for <u>each room reserved</u>. Room charges will be divided amongst room occupants and each will pay their portion of the bill at check-out
- Members not staying in the block will be charged an assessment fee of \$100 per member
- All rooming requirements must be received no later than **February 14, 2020**. Rooms not reserved by this date will be released back to the hotel no later than February 28, 2020 for general sale and block rates will no longer be guaranteed

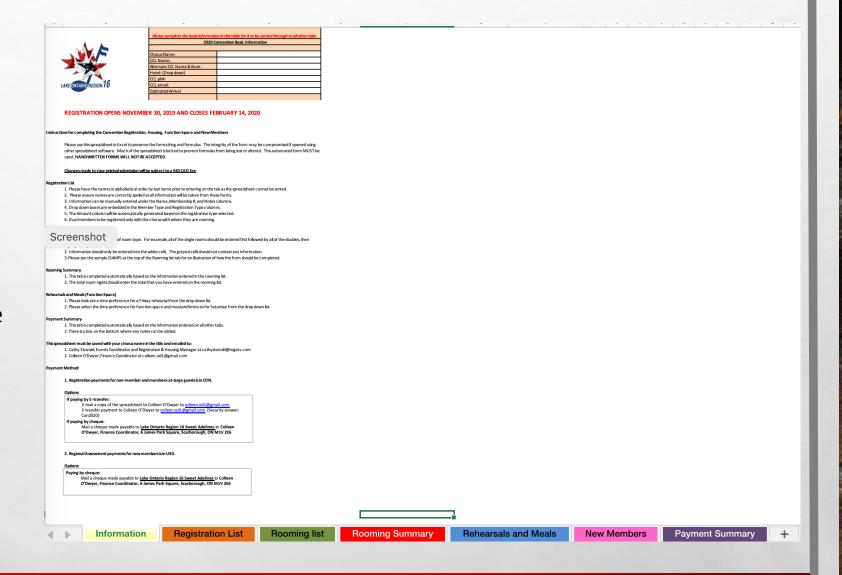
No \$\$ required at time of booking – Convention Team no longer collects on behalf of choruses and makes payments to hotels!!

REHEARSAL SPACE & CHORUS MEALS

REHEARSAL SPACE AND CHORUS

MEALS must be reserved through the chorus CCL using the online master registration & housing file

(Rehearsal and Meals tab)



REHEARSAL SPACE & CHORUS MEALS

- Function space may be requested for additional rehearsal time, make-up check or private meals.
- Once the function space has been assigned to you by the Competition Coordinator, Shelley Snoulten, details will be provided to the CCL and the hotel and the CCL will take over to sort out details directly with the hotel.
- Space is limited and will be assigned on a first come first served basis. Every
 effort will be made to accommodate your request. Full payment for
 contracted services is payable directly to the hotel.

REGISTRATION

(ALL EVENTS TICKET - AET)

REGISTRATION PROCESS – NEW!!!

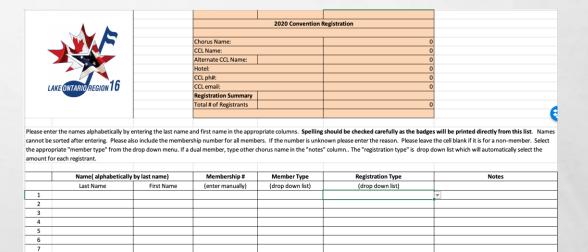
• Members' All Events Ticket (AET) now covered by Regional Assessment so no registration cost to attend Convention. To benefit from this privilege, members must have paid their Regional Assessment by the prescribed deadline.

 Members who have paid their Regional Assessment and unable to attend contest weekend will be provided with a complimentary webcast registration.

This applies to competing and non-competing chorus members as well as chapter-at-large competing and non-competing members.

REGISTRATION PROCESS

- REGISTRATION OPENS NOVEMBER 30, 2019 AND CLOSES FEBRUARY 14, 2020.
- The chorus CCL must complete the online master registration and housing file (Registration List Tab)
- Choruses will register as a block and all seating will be assigned seating. Blocks will be assigned based on the order in which the chorus registrations were received.



REGISTRATION PROCESS

- Registration and Housing Manager, Cathy Stovold, assigns seating blocks and sends ALL AETs to the CCL in advance of convention weekend who then assigns them within her chorus (ie. sits competing quartets together, etc).
- A seating chart will be provided to assist in this task
- As ALL seats are assigned, there will be no VIP seating available during either contest.
- Reserved seats for competing quartets and Blue Ribbon Club on Quartet
 Contest day are no longer available

REGISTRATION PROCESS NON-MEMBERS AND MEMBER-AT-LARGE

- Do not pay Regional Assessment therefore must purchase an AET
- If registering with a chorus, CCL to include information in online master registration & housing file and follow payment instructions included in the spreadsheet

Prices

- \$75.00 CAD if purchased during the registration period
 - \$80.00 CAD if purchased after February 14, 2020
- AETs and name badges will be delivered to the CCL in advance of the event.

REGISTRATION PROCESS NON-MEMBERS AND MEMBER AT LARGE

• If registering individually, the online master registration & housing file must still be completed and submitted with payment following instructions included in the spreadsheet

• If purchased individually, tickets will be available for pick-up one (1) hour prior to the start of contest at the PAC Box Office

THEATRE - BEAUTIFUL NEW VENUE!

- First two rows will be blocked off for judging panel
- No backstage access from theatre
- Some changes in backstage pattern
 - Quartets will have photos at the theatre in first holding room
 - Quartets will enter stage right or stage left <u>OR SPLIT STAGE!!!</u> ... NO
 CENTER STAGE ENTRANCE!!!

BRIEFING AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

THURSDAY NIGHT BRIEFING

- Directors, Team Leaders/Presidents, CCLs, competing Quartets must attend for very important information regarding contest
- Will be held AT the Theatre (PAC) !!!
- Buses will run between hotels to PAC
- What we heard in the Post Contest 2019 Survey: Why Thursday Night????

INTERNATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

• Briefing must be held on Thursday in order to provide judges with list of competitors, contest songs, etc. Competition Coordinator meets with Judges after Briefing on Thursday night!

Friday morning is reserved for judging panel stage approvals

AWARDS

What we heard in the Post Contest 2019 Survey: International Awards presentation followed by Regional Awards. Why? Could they not be on another day or before the International awards? Awards segment is long!

- No! It's an International Requirement!
- Regional awards cannot take place in advance of the International awards.
 Panel Chair's discretion to reverse but rarely granted!

CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

WEBCAST! NEW VENUE - NEW FORMAT!

- Webcast will take place in the lobby of the PAC lounge style!
- After competing, traffic pattern leads out to the lobby
 - quartets escorted to webcast by a convention volunteer
 - chorus leaders escorted to webcast by a convention volunteer
- Opportunity for members to give shout outs in person!
- Members who are unable to attend the convention will receive free webcast REGISTRATION

MASS SING

- Friday, April 3, 2020
- Location to be confirmed option back of PAC



EDUCATION CLASS: TRYING SOMETHING NEW!!

Switch to SUNDAY MORNING!! Class with one or more of the judging panel!!

STILL IN THE PLANNING STAGES

- Welcome reception ?
- Saturday night hoopla?

HOPING TO PARTNER WITH TOURISM ST CATHARINES AND LOCAL VINEYARDS TO HOST THE BIGGEST CELEBRATION THIS SIDE OF SYRACUSE!!

BOUTIQUE

Looking to expand to the community of St Catharines at large to bring you exciting shopping opportunities!!

CONCLUSION

THINGS ARE A LITTLE DIFFERENT IN CANADA

It's The Law!!

As per AGCO Licensing Regulations, alcohol can only be consumed in licensed spaces. Alcohol consumed in licensed spaces MUST be purchased in the same space, ie. at a bar provided by the venue with licensed servers.

Adult beverages purchased by individuals may be consumed in guest bedrooms but **not** in public areas!

IT'S A LOT TO TAKE IN!!!

Eblasts will be sent out regularly to keep everyone informed.

- Convention Handbook and forms will be available on Regional Website
 November 1, 2019
 - Will contain all information you need to know including hotel assignments and important dates and deadlines

QUESTIONS