

# 43<sup>rd</sup> Actuarial Research Conference

Hosted by the University of Regina  
August 14 – 16, 2008  
Regina, SK, Canada



**THE CITY OF REGINA** is located in the south of the prairie province of Saskatchewan. The north of Saskatchewan consists of boreal forest and Precambrian shield with 100,000 lakes. However, the south, around Regina, is known as the breadbasket of Canada because of the flat grain fields consisting of some of the best farmland in Canada. Saskatchewan is dry, sunny and hot in the summer. In the south, Saskatchewan borders on Montana and North Dakota. Saskatchewan is close to a rectangle in shape, in an effort to please geometers.

Regina is the capital city of the province of Saskatchewan and the city has a population of approximately 200,000 people. Regina, also referred to as the Queen city, is the sunniest capital city in Canada. To save time in adjusting clocks, Regina stays with the Central Standard time zone year round.

Regina is a pleasant city to visit with many enjoyable facilities such as art galleries and restaurants. Special unique attractions include features such as the provincial Legislature Building, the Royal Saskatchewan Museum and the Saskatchewan Science Centre. Of special note is the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Depot Division and Heritage Center. Depot Division is the home of the RCMP, the Mounties, because this has been the training academy for our national police force for over 133 years.

Starting in 1944, Saskatchewan leader Tommy Douglas led the fight for public hospitalization and medicare, and he was voted the top Canadian for his efforts in a recent poll. Other famous Saskatchewan people include Gordie Howe, Joni Mitchell, Leslie Nielson, Art Linkletter and Grey Owl.



**THE UNIVERSITY OF REGINA** was established as an independent institution in 1974, but predecessor organizations date back to 1911. It is a medium-sized institution, with approximately 12,000 students. The University includes nine faculties and 25 academic departments, offering a wide array of degree programs at undergraduate and graduate levels.

The 2008 ARC meeting will be held at the main campus of the University which is located in the southeast area of the City of Regina.

This campus is located in Wascana Centre, one of the largest urban parks in North America. Recently the campus has experienced impressive physical expansion and it now houses a dynamic institution in a region of climatic extremes.

**THE ACTUARIAL SCIENCE PROGRAM** at the University of Regina was created as an addition to the Department of Mathematics and Statistics in 2001. The program has been very popular and successful with students and has helped local employers meet their needs for actuarial staff. The basic offering is currently an “Advanced Undergraduate” degree program. Generally 75 to 100 students are declared as actuarial science majors. Several local actuarial employers offer sponsorship including scholarships and employment opportunities.

A unique and popular feature of our degree program is the Internship option. Students who succeed in participating in this option work in an actuarial role for a year to 16 months between their third and fourth years of education. This has served both students and employers well.

The Actuarial Program is delivered by two full-time actuarial faculty members, with the support of statisticians for certain additional courses. Students are enjoying success on the professional examinations and in their working careers through this new program, the only one of its kind in Saskatchewan.