

# Information Brochure

18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the London Group on Environmental Accounting

Ottawa, Canada, October 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Statistics Canada would like to welcome you to Ottawa. This document provides some useful information about the city, and will hopefully help you to have a pleasant stay.

## Arrival in Ottawa

Ottawa International Airport (YOW) is served by city bus number 97. This bus will take you to the city centre in about half an hour for a fare of \$3.30. A map of the 97 bus route is attached should you wish to take it. Route 97 departs from pillar 14 outside the level 1 Arrivals area. Bus tickets reduce the cost and are available at the Ground Transportation Desk located on level 1 at the central door of the Arrivals area. Taxis are another option, and a typical fare to the city centre is approximately \$30 and takes about 20 minutes.

Some useful information links from Citizenship and Immigration Canada can be found at the back of this document.

## Meeting Venue

The 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the London Group will be held in the ground floor conference room of the Jean Talon building on the Tunney's Pasture Government of Canada campus (marked "A" on the attached map). The location is to the west of the central business district, and is easily accessible by bus. City buses generally leave downtown via Albert Street and return on Slater Street. The number 95 bus is the most frequent and will get you to the Tunney's Pasture stop in a few minutes; the station is also served by the bus numbers 16, 86, 87, 94, 96, and 97 among others. The bus fare is currently \$3.30, and bus tickets are available in most convenience stores and pharmacies which reduce the cost to about \$2.60 (an adult fare is two tickets, which are currently \$1.30 each). Hang-on to your proof of payment ticket until the end of your ride. The attached city map shows the location of the Tunney's Pasture transit station with a red arrow.

For those who like to walk, it is also possible to reach the meeting venue by walking along the Ottawa River. There is a mixed purpose path that follows the shoreline with access to Tunney's pasture after the Parkdale Avenue traffic loop. The path can be reached from some stairs downtown on the north side of Wellington Street (near the white dot by the "B" on the map), which will allow you to walk under the busy Portage Bridge and continue west along the river (there are several paths under the bridge, but as long as you head generally west, you should be ok). The walk is long (approximately 45-60 minutes from the edge of the central business district) but it is well worth it for the fresh air and scenery. Note that bicycle commuters also use the path, so be aware of cyclists. The attached map shows the route for walking along the river in purple (it is also nice to walk there for a quick dose of fresh air during lunch hour).

## Accommodation

If you have not yet arranged accommodation, the following list is a selection of options from <http://www.tripadvisor.ca> (where you can also check the prices and compare reviews). Hotels closest to the meeting venue are marked with a “\*.” Note that the fall season is a popular time to visit Ottawa, and it can become quite busy once the leaves start changing colour, so it is advisable to book early.

- a. Albert at Bay Suites, 435 Albert St.\*
- b. Minto Suites, 185 Lyon St.\*
- c. Ottawa Marriott, 100 Kent St.\*
- d. Albert House Inn, 478 Albert St.\*
- e. ARC Hotel, 140 Slater St.
- f. Sheraton, 150 Albert St.
- g. Lord Elgin, 100 Elgin St.
- h. Chateau Laurier, 1 Rideau St.
- i. Hotel Indigo, 123 Metcalfe St.
- j. Westin, 11 Colonel By Drive
- k. Delta, 101 Lyon St.\*
- l. Radisson, 402 Queen St.\*
- m. Les Suites, 130 Besserer St.

## Tourist attractions

Parliament Hill is the most obvious attraction in the city. Gatineau Park is recommended for nature lovers (it is a 361 km<sup>2</sup> nature preserve to the north of the city just across the river in the province of Québec). There are also several museums in town including The Canadian Museum of Civilisation (in Hull across the river <http://www.civilization.ca/home/>), The Canadian War Museum (<http://www.warmuseum.ca/home/>), The Museum of Nature (<http://nature.ca/>) and The National Gallery (<http://www.gallery.ca/en/index.php>). For nightlife, the Byward Market area just to the east of Parliament Hill is a good bet. Most of the museums and the Byward Market are in the upper right section of the attached map.

Everything else you ever wanted to know about Ottawa can be found here:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ottawa>

## **Time**

Ottawa is GMT -4 during daylight saving time which runs until November.

## **Weather/Climate**

October is generally cool and sunny, with days around 13° C and nights around 3° C. Depending on the weather, the fall colours may be in view at the time of the meeting so be sure to look out the window on your way into the Ottawa Airport to see if we've had good timing or not.

## **Currency**

The Canadian Dollar is approximately equal to the U.S. dollar, and is about 0.81 EURO.

## **Tipping**

Wait staff in restaurants are generally tipped 15-20% depending on the quality of service. Taxi drivers and other service personnel can be tipped at your discretion.

## **Social events**

Two group dinners have been arranged.

The first dinner will be held on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at The Mill St. Brewpub which has a nice location on the Ottawa River. Most of the meals they offer are in the \$15-\$20 range. You can check-out the menu here: <http://ottawa.millstreetbrewpub.ca/content/main-menu>

The second dinner will be on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at The Lone Star Texas Grill in the Byward Market (it will not exactly immerse you in Canadian culture, but it is a fun location with good food). Their menu is available here: [http://www.lonestartexasgrill.com/pdf/Locations/LoneStar\\_Menu\\_A.pdf](http://www.lonestartexasgrill.com/pdf/Locations/LoneStar_Menu_A.pdf). Again, most meals offered are in the \$15-\$20 range.

A message will be sent closer to the meeting date to ask for confirmation of attendance at these two functions so the final booking can be arranged.

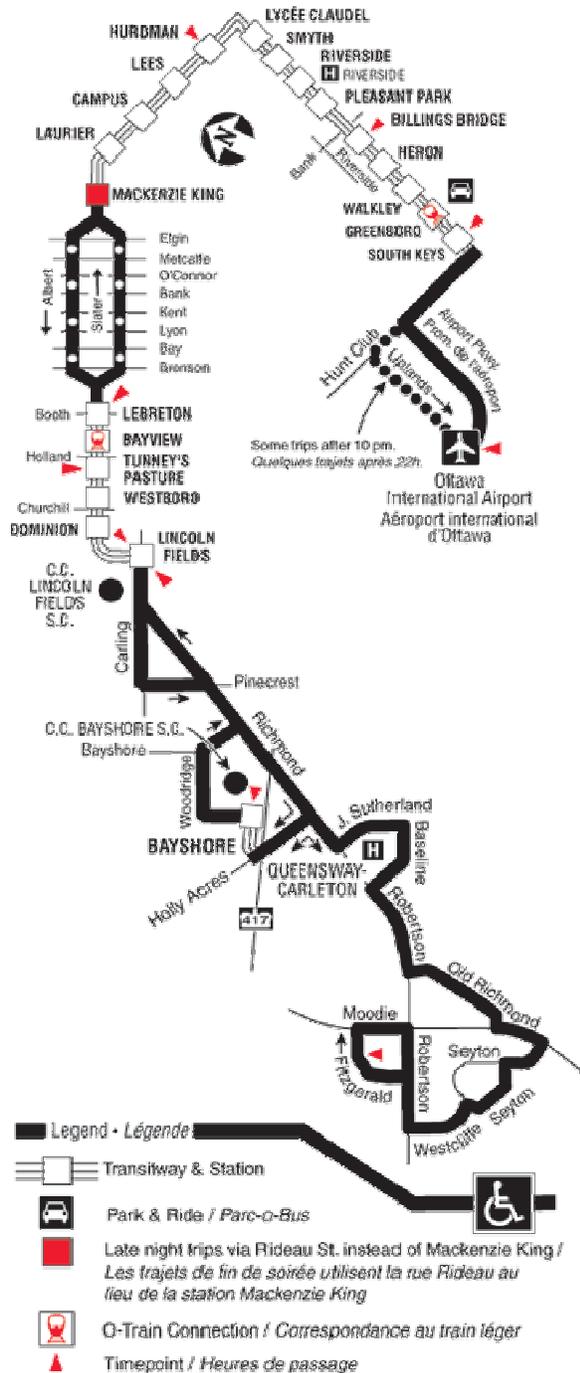
Lunches during the meeting are currently planned to be provided by Statistics Canada in the cafeteria of the Jean Talon building.

## **Other questions?**

If you need any further information, please contact: Joe St. Lawrence

(email: [Joe.St.Lawrence@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:Joe.St.Lawrence@statcan.gc.ca)).

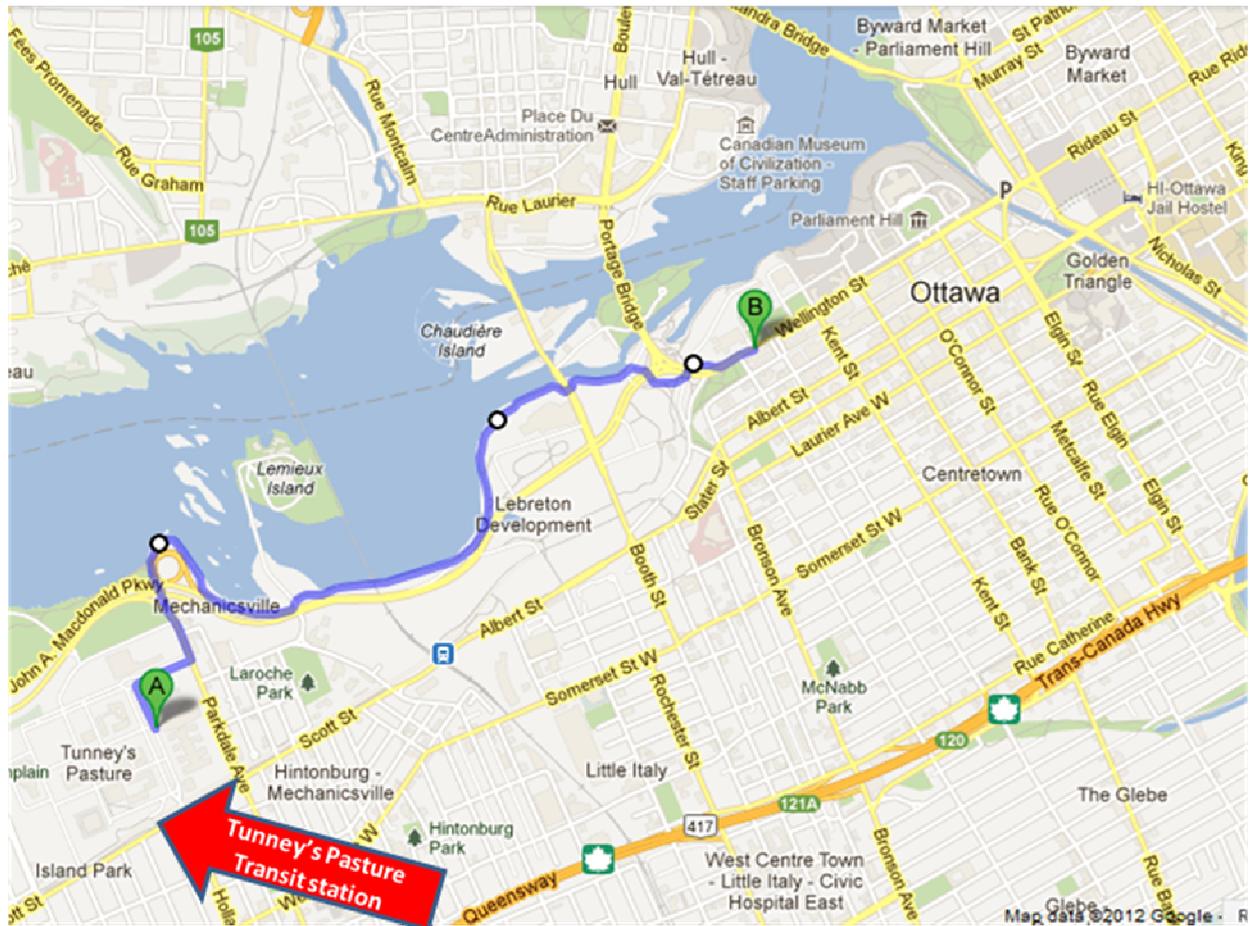
## Airport Bus Route 97 Map



Check <http://www.octranspo1.com/> if you wish to coordinate with the bus times on the day of your arrival or departure. There is a schedule option on the left side of the web page. Simply select the timetable for bus 97, pick the date, choose the direction (either starting or ending at the airport), and

you will see the arrival and departure times for the bus for all stops.

## City Map



River walk (about 45-60 minutes) —————

“A” is the meeting venue, the Jean Talon Building at Tunney’s Pasture

Generally, buses will leave town via Albert Street and will join an express transitway that follows Albert and Scott Streets to the Tunney’s Pasture transit stop. Buses will return to town via the transitway and then Slater Street. (Albert and Slater Streets are both one-way in opposite directions.) From town, you will arrive on the north side of the transitway at the Tunney’s Pasture Station. Stairs will take you up to street level, from where you will see the Jean Talon Building in the direction of the river. To depart, catch the buses to town on the south side of the station at the transitway level.

**NOTE:** If you use tickets or cash to pay for the bus, the driver will dispense a proof of payment from the cash collection machine. Hang on to this until the end of the ride, since occasionally inspectors will check and ask to see it (this is VERY rare, but it is best to be prepared for the possibility).

## Meeting venue: Jean Talon Building

View from the transit station



View from the river walking path at Parkdale Ave.



## **Information from Citizenship and Immigration Canada**

Participants will need a valid passport or an appropriate travel document to enter Canada.

Citizenship and Immigration Canada web site:

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/index.asp>

Information on visiting Canada:

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/index.asp>

Do you need a Temporary Resident Visa (TRV) to visit Canada (see for list of countries):

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp>

Visiting Canada - Important information for visa exempt travellers (including US Citizens):

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visa-exempt.asp>

## **Citizens of the United States**

US citizens should visit the [Department of Homeland Security website](#) for a list of acceptable documents to re-enter the US.