

Dear PAA members,

I am starting to hear from lots of PAA members across North America about their excitement to travel to the PAA Annual Meeting in Prince Edward Island in July. On behalf of our Local Host Committee, I can tell you that we're excited to have you come and we look forward to showing you a great time here on "The Island."

I'm sending along this quick note today regarding accommodations. A number of you have reached out to either PAA staff or myself with questions about room availability at the Delta Prince Edward, our conference hotel. I wanted to pass along a few recommendations at this time.

- While our room block at the Delta for the "core nights" of the meeting (Sunday through Wednesday nights) still has a good number of rooms available, the "shoulder nights" in our block have been fully reserved. The Delta will not be adding additional rooms to our block at the current block rate \$259 CAD. If you are trying to reserve rooms at the Delta under our block, please only include nights between July 23 and July 26, otherwise you will get a note that "rooms are unavailable."
- Room prices for the Delta outside of our block are much higher (>\$400/night).
 Therefore, if you want to stay at the Delta during the meeting, you may want to
 investigate other accommodation options before or after the meeting, if you are
 staying for those extra days.
- We have secured two additional blocks of rooms at nearby hotels:
 - 1. The Holman Grand Hotel, located about a 10min walk from the Delta. This block currently has rooms available for Saturday through Wednesday nights for \$269 CAD/night. Our contract also allows for the same rate to extended for additional nights 2 days prior and 2 days following, subject to availability. Reservation Link:

- 2. The Rodd Charlottetown Hotel, located about a 15 min walk from the Delta. This block currently has rooms available for Saturday through Thursday nights at \$229-239 CAD/night. The Rodd will also extend the block rate for nights outside the block, subject to availability. Reservation Link:
- The University of Prince Edward Island is pleased to offer students attending the Potato Association of America Conference accommodations at a discounted nightly rate in both their Andrew Hall and New Residence buildings.

1. Andrew Hall 2-bedroom suites

Each Andrew Hall 2-bedroom suite has two large bedrooms with a double bed in each bedroom, private washroom, WIFI, AC, microwave and minifridge.

Nightly rate: \$139.99 (+TAX)

2. New Residence - 1 Bedroom Apartment

Each 1-bedroom apartment in our New Residence building features a double bed, WIFI, AC, kitchen, and private washroom.

Nightly Rate: \$129.99 (+HST)

3. New Residence - 2 Bedroom Suite

Each 2-bedroom suite has 2 bedrooms with a double bed in each bedroom, AC, private washroom, Kitchen, living room, WIFI.

Nightly Rate: \$169.99 (+ HST)

Students can make their booking via phone: (902) 566-0442, email: conference@upei.ca or by filling out an online form at https://www.upei.ca/conference/summer-visitors

Please make sure to mention you are with the Potato Association of America, event # 23079

 Whatever option you choose, we would recommend that anyone planning to come to the 2023 PAA Meeting to book their hotel rooms ASAP. Prince Edward Island, and specifically Charlottetown, is a busy tourist destination in the summer months. Since the COVID pandemic (and since this meeting was initially planned), room rates have increased dramatically and demand for rooms is very high, so booking refundable rooms early is your best bet to control costs and ensure you have accommodations.

 If you are renting a car for your stay, I would also recommend reserving your vehicle now. Rental cars have also been tight in PEI in the last couple of years. Those renting a vehicle may be able to find accommodations outside of downtown Charlottetown at a reduced rate, particularly if staying for a whole week or with a group.

Also, here are some things to keep in mind regarding air travel to Prince Edward Island:

 There is only one airport for passenger travel in Prince Edward Island: Charlottetown (YYG). While some details of summer flight schedules are still to be worked out, here are the currently available airports with flights to Charlottetown:

Toronto, Ontario (YYZ): multiple flights/day with Air Canada, Flair, Swoop

Montreal, QC (YUL): multiple flights/day with Air Canada

Calgary, AB (YYC): Wed, Fri and Sun with WestJet

Edmonton, AB (YEG): Thurs and Sun with Swoop

Ottawa, ON (YOW): Daily flights with Air Canada and Porter

Airlines, 3x week flights with Flair

Hamilton, ON (YHM): 4x a week flights with Swoop

More flight details are likely to be announced this spring ahead of the summer travel season.

Other nearby airports within driving distance of Charlottetown:

Halifax, Nova Scotia (YHZ): 3.5 hour drive to Charlottetown. Can travel to PEI by ferry or bridge. Will require a car rental. In the summer, has flights to Boston, Newark, Philadelphia, Washington DC, and Orlando.

Moncton, New Brunswick (YQM): 2 hour drive to Charlottetown. Will require a car rental. Services mostly Eastern/Central Canadian destinations.

Bangor, Maine (BGR): ~6.5 hour drive to Charlottetown.

Presque Isle, Maine (PQI): ~5 hour drive to Charlottetown. Flies to Newark (United)

We look forward to seeing you in PEI in July. A reminder to **complete your meeting registration** soon, so we can properly prepare events and catering!

Thanks! Ryan Barrett Chair, PEI 2023 Local Host Committee