



# Kingston Mills Bridges

**Rideau Canal National Historic Site**

## **Weekend Work on the Swing and Fixed Bridge**



*Kingston Mills Fixed Bridge Rehabilitation*

**December 12, 2016** – Work on the Kingston Mills Swing and Fixed Bridges is progressing well. In order to capitalize on the good weather we have been experiencing, work will continue over the weekends of December 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> and December 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The contractor will be observing the City of Kingston's noise by-law to ensure low levels of noise on Sundays.

### **Background**

In September 2016, work began on the Kingston Mills Swing and Fixed Bridge project, with the demolition of the old fixed bridge and preparations for its replacement. The demolition is now complete and concrete footings, abutments and aprons, which all form the base for the fixed bridge, have been built. Contractors have also formed the concrete wing walls, installed support beams and laid the concrete deck.

Work on the swing bridge is now underway as well. The demolition has begun and repairs are expected to begin in the upcoming weeks. The project remains on schedule to be completed by mid-May 2017.

Parks Canada would like to thank the community for their cooperation and understanding as we complete this important infrastructure work. These historic investments will mitigate health and safety risks, halt the loss of nationally significant built heritage and stimulate the economy in communities across the country.

### **About Kingston Mills Bridges**

In 1784, to support new Loyalist settlers, the British Government built a saw mill and grist mill at what is now known as Kingston Mills. In 1824, plans for locks along the Cataraqui River were developed to accommodate navigation. As the project advanced, a new plan was adopted that would raise the arch dam, reducing the need for locks between Kingston Mills and Lower Brewers Mills. Historically, the dam provided a basin of water required to operate the grist mill located downstream. Presently, it supports a hydro generating facility.

Beyond its historical importance, Kingston Mills, one of 24 lockstations on the Rideau Canal, is a prime example of engineering mastery. The four limestone locks each have a lift of 3.6 metres and utilize manual methods of opening and closing the lock gates – with push bar, swing bar and endless chain mechanisms.

### **For More Information:**

For up-to-date news on infrastructure work along the Rideau Canal, please visit our website: [www.pc.gc.ca/rcInfrastructure](http://www.pc.gc.ca/rcInfrastructure). If you would like to be added to our community engagement list and receive updates on this project, please e-mail [RideauCanal.info@pc.gc.ca](mailto:RideauCanal.info@pc.gc.ca) and include “Kingston Mills” in the subject heading.