



Kingston Mills Bridges

Rideau Canal National Historic Site

Update: Swing and Fixed Bridge Repairs



Kingston Mills Fixed Bridge Rehabilitation

November 18, 2016 - 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 are currently forming the concrete wing walls and will install support beams this week.

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 steamboat navigation. During the excavation of swamp lands, nearly 100 men were infected and 13 men died of malaria. As such, Colonel By adopted a new plan to 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. 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 and include “Kingston Mills” in the subject heading.