

2014 Presidency Salon-de-Provence

A word from the Mayor

Salon-de-Provence is preparing to experience an exceptional year. A year to be spent under the stars of the Ariane Cities, with the honour of holding the 2014 CVA Presidency, following on from Mulhouse Alsace Agglomération (in 2013) and the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen (2012). This Presidency provides a real opportunity to invigorate and bring added value to our town, while also promoting regional development.



It is in partnership with the Air Base (BA 701) that we hold this CVA Presidency. Indeed, our town's membership of the Community of Ariane Cities draws on the town/air-base pairing, underlining the sound and close relationship between our institutions. I should moreover like to thank General Modéré and General Pollet for their involvement and unfailing support which has enabled us to meet this formidable challenge.

Accordingly, the theme we have chosen to characterise this year – “Civil and military, shared space” – itself bears witness to this close and loyal cooperation.

The 2014 CVA Presidency will be an opportunity to make accessible to the general public, and notably its youngest members, some of the wonders of science and technology, and space activity especially. They will be able to develop a better understanding of the various areas it covers and of Europe's prominent position in a sector which is impacting our daily lives in increasingly numerous and diversified ways.

The Presidency will also allow us to highlight the extraordinary richness of our Region in terms of aeronautics, whether as regards training, research or the economy. One notable feature here is the Flying Capabilities Campus (FCC). This international initiative designed to “Make it fly!” has been set up at the Air Base and exploits the capacity for innovation of the many aerospace-sector actors operating in the Provence-Alpes/Côte d'Azur (PACA) Region.

To do all this, a rich and ambitious programme will set the tempo for 2014.

I would like to thank all of you who will be joining us on this fabulous venture and look forward to seeing you on 23 January, alongside astronaut Jean-Loup Chrétien, for the inaugural evening.

The Mayor, Salon-de-Provence