

This article is based on the phrase “Esse quam videri”, which means “To be, rather than to seem”. The message deals with authenticity and integrity, and projecting yourself sincerely.

Esse Quam Videri

By VWBro Dan Zrymiak

I seek wisdom in classic literature. Unfortunately I do not speak nor read Latin, so I rely on summaries entered in Wikipedia for my knowledge. I was able to find a phrase that resonated not only with me, but with dozens of institutions, fraternal organizations, military groups, and other entities which have adopted this phrase as their motto.

Esse quam videri is a latin phrase meaning, “To be, rather than to seem.” In the last year, I have recognized the importance of authenticity and integrity and the risks that are present when these qualities and virtues are absent. This lack of authenticity has manifested itself in many ways:

- Automotive companies fabricating their test records to appear more environmental than they seem
- Professional athletes who enhance their performance with illegal substances or methods to gain competitive advantages
- Political candidates who communicate altered versions of their histories and opinions expressed to different audiences at different times, or when speaking in different languages

In our Craft, we learn that we are Freemasons first in our own hearts. This alludes to the core of our very essence, and cannot be altered. A brother in the RCMP disclosed to me that an intoxicated person can alter his speech, his stance, his breath, and his mannerisms to appear fully sober, but a blood test will reveal the alcohol in his system. Using that as an analogy, we should not look simply to adjust the visible indicators on the surface, but to address those maladies which affect us at our core. If we rely on characteristics that seem to be visible, the true nature will eventually be revealed to the detriment and disappointment of everyone.

In a work-related role, I had to communicate progress reports of a project I was leading. As in any endeavor, the updates were intermittently good and bad, but reflected our progress against the challenging conditions of the project. I was constantly pressured to adjust the wording or to divert emphasis on our accountability to affix blame on other participants. It got to the point that crafting and honing the messages consumed more time than the value contributed, and did not actually change the situation. A better use of our time would have been achieved with absolute transparency, acceptance and recognition of the situation, prioritization of the problems, and rapid recovery. There is considerably more peace of mind when the outcomes reported to the client match the actual situation. You cannot have quality without authenticity.

To be a Freemason goes beyond the visual evidence. A person in a tuxedo, rings, jewels, and an apron, who has memorized ritual phrases and ceremonial patterns, would seem to be a member of the Craft. However our fraternity is based on virtue, and a Freemason should always be considered to be at labor, even after returning to our normal attire. Being a Freemason means to be virtuous and contribute positively to society in your own way with your own strengths. I will defer to the Address to the Brethren for its apt and vivid description of the Ideal of a Freemason, and exhort everyone to aspire to these ideals.

Authenticity is achieved through a lifetime of craftsmanship. Many luxury items are differentiated by their counterfeit knock-offs and replicas by a valid form of authenticity, which guarantees the workmanship and reliability. The premium is justified with the knowledge that care and consideration were taken to not only present the appearance of completion and success, but the very substance to ensure its reliability and durability.

Another analogy would be the treatment of a used car, and the preparation for either a quick sale to a stranger or its successful operation to transport your children and/or grandchildren across Canada during the winter.

Quick Sale (Seems to be safe and reliable): The car is provided with a checklist of simple maintenance issues, the tires are inflated, and the exterior is cleaned and shined for display.

Family use (Actually is safe and reliable): The care is tested in various potential scenarios that the family could face. The spare tire, jack, battery, and other critical items are confirmed, along with a repair and first aid kit. Contingencies are made, and mileage points for subsequent oil changes and tune ups are prescribed.

To be whatever you aspire to be is authentic and ethical. It is also easier because you don't have to fear revelations and discovery. Without fear and secrecy, you can concentrate on being happy and communicating happiness to others.

M.W. Bro. William Carey Ditmars: Freemason and Builder

R.W. Bro. Doug Franklin

Haida Lodge No. 166

During the Masonic Year of 2015-2016, our Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Douglas Collins has challenged the Brethren of our Grand Jurisdiction to “Make your Masonic Mark.” Looking through the pages of our Masonic history, we find many insights and gems that, through the lens of our Grand Master’s theme, illustrate the accomplishments of the Brethren who have come before us. One such Brother was M.W. William C. Ditmars, who was both an eminent Freemason and a builder of our province, who most certainly made his Masonic Mark. Grand Master in 1915 – 1916, it is perhaps fitting for us to celebrate his Masonic achievements of a century ago.

Both the mother and father of William Ditmars hailed from Digby, Nova Scotia, and were descendants of United Empire Loyalist families. His father was Jeremiah Vanderbilt Ditmars (1834-1911) and his mother was Josephine Deborah Soulis (1835-1925). William was born in St. Catharines, Ontario, on November 12, 1865. He was educated in public schools there and, by 1891, he was employed by the John Doty Engine Company of Toronto. That year, he moved to Vancouver to serve as his company’s accountant in the bustling frontier city. The newly-formed John Doty Company manufactured steam engines for ships, and sought customers on the West Coast. In 1894, William moved to Toronto. In 1897, he was back in Vancouver, securing a position with Armstrong and Morrison which, three years later, became Vancouver Engineering Works. Demonstrating his business skills, he was offered a partnership in 1903. By 1924, William had acquired the entire firm. Among the many significant contracts completed by his firm were the first Fraser River Bridge in New Westminster, the Great Northern, Cambie, Granville and False Creek Bridges, seven bridges for Canadian National Railways between Lytton and Kamloops, the Columbia River bridge in Trail, and the Kettle Valley Railway Bridge at Hope. Undoubtedly, the greatest commission of his company was the substructure of the landmark Lions Gate Bridge in Vancouver, built in 1937.

William also had a sizeable number of offices in other businesses: President of Vancouver Granite Company Ltd., President of Grull-Wihksne Gold Mines Ltd., President of Bayonne Consolidated Mines Ltd. and Vice-President of Clayburn Co. Ltd. He was also credited with bringing the first automobile to Vancouver. In February 1899, he purchased a Stanley Steamer for his partner W.H. Armstrong.

William married Winnifred Calvert (1890-1945) and had two sons: William Calvert Ditmars (1913-1994) and Eric Soulis Ditmars (1915-1941).

Bro. Ditmars was initiated in Cascade Lodge No. 12, Vancouver, on November 25, 1901. He worked diligently within his Lodge, serving as its Worshipful Master in 1911. He was appointed District Deputy Grand Master in 1912. One year later, in 1913, he was elected Senior Grand Warden and, following his year as Deputy Grand Master, was elected and Installed as the Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of British Columbia in 1915. He was thirty-seventh Grand Master, and served during an exceptionally active period of Freemasonry in the jurisdiction. During his term of office, he constituted Concord Lodge No. 79 in Parksville, St. James Lodge No. 80 in Vancouver, and De Wolf Lodge No. 78 in Port Coquitlam. According to an established custom in Cascade Lodge, M.W. Bro. Ditmars was elected an Honorary Life Member at the conclusion of his term as Grand Master in 1916.

Beyond his significant contribution to Craft Freemasonry, Bro. Ditmars was also very active in the Concordant Bodies. In the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, he was Thrice Puissant Grand Master of the Vancouver Lodge of Perfection, Most Wise Sovereign of the Vancouver Chapter of Rose Croix and Commander-in-Chief of the British Columbia Consistory. In 1913, the Supreme Council of the A.&A.S.R. of Canada conferred upon him the Thirty-Third Degree. Later, Ill. Bro. Ditmars served as Deputy for the Scottish Rite in British Columbia. In the York Rite, Bro. Ditmars was First Principal, Vancouver Royal Arch Chapter and a Knight of the Red Cross of Constantine. He was also a member of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Royal Order of Scotland. Bro. Ditmars became a Noble in Gizeh Shrine Temple in 1908.

Active in the community, M.W. Bro. Ditmars was Honorary Chairman of the Vancouver General Hospital for a number of years. He was given Vancouver's Good Citizen Award in 1922. Sadly, his son Lieut.(N) Eric Ditmars was killed in action on Christmas Eve, 1941, when his Corvette HMS *Salvia* was torpedoed by submarine U-568.

M.W. Bro. William Carey Ditmars was called to the Grand Lodge Above on December 7, 1960, at age 95. He was interred in the Masonic Section of Mount View Cemetery. Although he is commemorated where he lies, his most visible monuments are the prominent bridges he built and which survive to this day. In our Masonic history, he was also a builder of symbolic bridges within his beloved Craft.

References

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Freemasonry in Action

Concord Lodge No. 79 - 60 year long service award

Our Grand Master MW Douglas C. Collins presenting a 60-year jewel to WB Ron Hill of Concord Lodge in Parksville, March

Freemasonry in Action
DeWolf Lodge No. 78



Members of DeWolf Lodge No. 78 attended with the Grand Master as he presented RWB Laurie Feenie with his 60-year jewel February 18, 2016

Freemasonry in Action

Grand Masters official Visit to District 5- February 20th, 2016



The Grand Master and his Good Lady



The Grand Master, DDGM and WM with the 60 year Long Service Award recipient Brother Alwin (Al) Nichol.

Freemasonry in Action

February 29, 2016

Buenos días.

Otro buen día en México. Love the mornings. Cool, quiet and most of all, nice watching the grey of the eastern sky slowly turn to a welcoming red. On our early morning walk we face east right into the awakening day. Down through the residential community of Obergon where most folks have still not stirred and those that have, are out sweeping streets and washing sidewalks. Buenos días to one and all. Then there is our butcher who is shaking out his shop and sometimes we stop as his first customer to get some bacon for breakfast. Today also demanded we stop at the bakery to get a selection of fresh buns which really are not so good for us but hey, fresh cinnamon buns, who can refuse. So now we are back, the coffee is perking, Sirius radio is humming away some toons, and I feel like writing.

It certainly has been a busy year with travel, guests and well, just stuff. We always enjoy sharing our love of Mexico with friends and family. In early January we had to make a trip to Autlán (1½ hrs up Hwy 80 into the mountains) to get a hotel room for Carnival which was starting in just a few weeks and we were having trouble communicating with our hotel. Language barriers aside, the city was going to be packed for Carnival and get in-line for a hotel room. Plus we had to arrange for someone to buy our tickets to the bullfight which also sells out. Success – now what - well, Guadalajara is only another couple of hours up the road. So off we went to the big city (4½ million people). We always love our visits to Guadalajara. We did have a purpose. We needed a lounging chair for our RV home.

Specifically, one small enough to fit in the RV and yet had to be really comfortable to fall asleep in while watching TV. And we found a Lazy-Boy to fit the ticket. Then there is always the market, etc. etc. while in Guadalajara.

Then back home to spend some time with friends and family. La Manzanilla Art Walk just up the coast from us; shrimps on the beach in the little village across the bay; and crusin' the market for Mexican curios. All fun. But after just a short time, it is another and we are back on the road again.

Back to Autlán. This time in the heat of Carnival. Huge – and I mean huge – party. Very exciting and lots of fun. The bullfight was amazing. One of the best we have seen. Starting with Pablo de Mendoza who is a 'Rejenador' who fights the bull from horseback. We have seen him a few times before but never better. He is a great showman to boot. He knew he had a good fight and in true Mendoza fashion, he dismounted and moved forward to gracefully praise the bull and then bent and kissed him on the forehead before stepping back to nobly deliver the coup de grâce. The crowd went wild!

The two Matadors also on the ticket were likewise extraordinary. One got hit pretty good by the bull and in true macho style he gallantly tossed away any offer of assistance and limped forward, bloody leg and all, to confront the bull. Guess who won? Then a Picador who 'fights' the bull from a padded horse with spears got tossed and the crowd cheered 'cause nobody likes the Picadors. After each corrida, the sell-out crowd was totally appreciative as only Mexicans can be with flowers being tossed around, sombrous fresbeed into the arena, Matadors strutting about, and of course, beer, tequila and gooey snacks in between. We were definitely in our glory.

At about 8:00 pm we stepped out of the Plaza de Toros into total and complete chaos. It is like the 'Battle of the Bands' gone wild. Brass bands everywhere hooting and bashing about, massive crowds and massive drinking. Mostly just piles of people standing around or like us, trying to move forward. In places small groups of four or five people would huddle around their – what we called – 'campsites' which consisted of large bottles of liquor, mix and bags of ice carefully guarded from the squeezing crowd. Then they would dance sauza-style around their 'campfire'. Like ancient pre-historic rituals updated for Carnival. It was all we could do to squeeze through laughing the whole way.

And so Carnival ends and we were back home but only for a few days and then – back on the road again. This time up into the mountains of the State of Michoacán and the very picturesque little town a Pátzcuaro. We have been here several times before but lately we have been avoiding Michoacán because of the 'troubles'. (Security has greatly improved and any problems are restricted to the Tierra Caliente area of western Michoacán or in a couple of border towns bordering the State of Jalisco.) It is sure nice to be back in Pátzcuaro if only for a quick visit because we have a mission. Paricutín volcano. If you remember from high school geography, Paricutín volcano grew out of farmer's corn field in February 1943



“The noise was everywhere, in the hills, the mountains, the plains but the worst noise could be heard under the ground beneath my feet. I continued working with my yoke, ploughing this field of mine. One of my bullocks trod on a hollow part and very hot steam rose from their hoof prints and I was deafened by what sounded like a boiling cauldron of stones and rocks.”

“I ran for my hoe to fill the hole. I was working like a madman really desperate now because it was not only steam that came out but black smoke. The dirt that I threw in there didn't fall, but flew upwards. Many people came from the village throwing dirt and stones but this horrible thing didn't allow anything to enter its mouth. Finally we brought some large Magueys complete with roots. We through thousands of shovelfuls of dirt, stones, sticks and whatever came to hand.”

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“Surprise and fright reached their peak and BOOM! The first scary explosion accompanied by an enormous tongue of fire sending the Magueys and all the other objects flying into the air. All of us there, men, women and children fell down, overthrown by a giant invisible force.”

“All the women ran, crying; children were drowning in their tears. We men were crazed, our nerves shot to pieces. With the black smoke and flames came many devils, flying through the air. There wasn't anybody who didn't trust themselves to God.”



It took almost ten years to build the mountain. The town of Paricutín was completely destroyed and then the lava moved towards the village of San Juan Parangaricutiro. The lava massed outside the village moving forward at 30 metres a day. Everybody packed-up and left taking their holy relics with them and leaving their village to its fate. San Juan was our destination.

We traveled west to the town of Angahuan (*19°32'25"N-102°13'41"W-Elev.7925'*). At the village entrance and we greeted by very cheerful vaqueros who had horses for hire to take us to the volcano. But communication was a little difficult because these village people do not speak Spanish – they speak the ancient native language of Tarascan and only a little Spanish. Made us realize we were sure in the mountains. Mounted-up we wandered through the pines and after just a short ride, we met the lava fields with the giant cinder cone of Paricutín looming above. We had to dismount here to scramble over the jagged lava fields to what is left of the village of San Juan. Just the remnants of the old church remain poking with eerie silence through the chaotic rubble of lava boulders. Crazy place let me tell you. We hung around there for quite a while sneaking peaks into the cavernous created by the lava boulders with relics of this sixteenth century church still trying to speak. A Great Day.

Day two in Michoacán was market day. The town we were staying in, Pátzcuaro, and the many little villages that surround nearby Lake Pátzcuaro, are famous for their many crafts. You name it, you can buy it here. The larger town of Quiroga seems to be the centre for all the goodies. It is easy to spend hours just wandering the stalls, enjoying the Mexican craftsmanship, chatting with proprietors (*thanks to Lynda's Spanish skills*) and maybe buying a few things. If you watch for it you can catch a peak of the old ruins of the pre-historic village of Tzintzuntán which was the centre of the Tarascan Empire and where, I am sure, a market flourished much like the one we are wandering. For a break – stop by a street vendor for pulled-pork sandwiches which are to die for and a glass of 'agua fresco' which is their flavoured jug water for the day and on our visit, it was Jamaica (cold tea steeped from Hibiscus flowers). Then a chance to relax a bit under the shade trees surrounding



the square and watch the world go by. There is always the regular vignettes of Mexican life unfolding before us to remind us why Mexico is our second home.

Moving on, we were off to our second adventure – a Monarch Butterflies Sanctuary (*'Santuario Mariposa Monarca'*) in eastern Michoacán. First, we had to move the base of our operation to the town below the Sanctuary so that we could easily climb into the mountains the following morning. The next day, we took off to the little mountain village of Angangueo and from there a steep – and extremely picturesque - cobblestone road taking us even higher into the mountains to the base of the Sanctuary. After paying our fee and getting our designated guide, we were greeted with 610 steps and 1½km upward trek to 9200 ft asl. The winter home of the Monarch Butterflies.



When the first few butterflies started to awaken we knew our labours would be rewarded and that we were getting close. As our upward path took us into warm shafts of sunlight between the trees their numbers dramatically increased and our anticipation now started to really grow. Finally, at the upward end of our destination we were greeted by a host of butterflies only now they are everywhere and landing on us. If you are really quiet you can feel them licking your skin. Little butterfly kisses. One climbed along Lynda's cheek and started murmuring sweet whispers in her ear. Truly unique. A time just to sit, watch and listen. And smile. In one shaft of sunlight there was a little brook where hundreds of butterflies came for a drink. We hunched-down to get a close look at their true beauty glimmering in the sunlight between tiny water rivulets. It's a wonder to behold. No words can describe the experience.



We got down the mountain from the Butterflies Sanctuary by early afternoon so hey, why not go and get lost. So we did. Cruising around the mountain we actually dropped for a time into the State of

Mexico and you could feel and see the influence of the big city just over the horizon. We made it back to our hotel just as the day was ending and just in time for barbecue chicken before calling it a day – and what a day it was.

Our next stop was Tlaquepaque; a suburb of Guadalajara noted for the arts and restaurants. At this time the arts were coming alive for the annual art show. The venue was this large multiroom facility a city block square. The primary purpose is for manufacturers to show their crafts for national and international corporate buyers. Crafts using a host of products from wood, ceramic, metal, paper-



maché - you name it; as well as wonderful paintings, designs and traditional motifs from all over Mexico. Easy to get lost. But we had a second purpose in Tlaquepaque – one of our favorite restaurants that serves these wonderful salads. Believe me a good salad is a wonderful thing after being on the road for a week

We also slipped into downtown Guadalajara to visit the las Cabañas Galería. The main attraction of this converted orphanage is the murals that adorn the chapel which were painted by José Orozco (1883-1949). He was one of the early post-revolution muralists of Mexico who brought social issues forward to the people of Mexico through murals; which is the most public form of art. His work is extremely powerful. This picture is from the Governor's Mansion and depicts Miguel Hidalgo who was the George Washington of Mexico's war of independence. Orozco is one of Guadalajara's favorite sons and we try and visit his works whenever we can.

Thus ended our swing through the Interior for this year – ten days and 2,200 kilometres. We traveled with our good friends Glen and Lois who like to wander as much as we do. Good times and lots of fun experiences. Like the unexpected roadside no-name town where we found the largest inventory of western boots of literally, every design known to mankind and racks and racks of them. To boot, right across the street there was a roadside buffet comida (lunch) with an array of unknown dishes to sample. And for only \$5.50 Cdn each. For us, it was the vignette for the day – but for sure, a good one. Now it is time to slow down for a couple of weeks and enjoy life on the beach. Still hot down here with daytime temperatures in the low 30's (90ish Fahrenheit). Time for getting into some books and Lynda is enjoying time cooking-up her next marvel. Tomorrow we are getting together with the folks in the RV park for our annual 'Saying Good-Bye Pot-Luck Breakfast' for this year.

For our contribution Lynda cooked-up very yummy:

- cranberry & fresh orange muffins
- apple strudel muffins
- fresh lemon pound cake

So after cooking all day, we got dolled-up and went out Papa Gallos for dinner. This is one of our old haunts from the first days we discovered Melaque back in the early 1990's so it was nice to sit and relax, enjoy the setting sun over the bay, and just enjoy each other's company. The next three weeks are for us. We are both well and happy.



Abrazos para todos,
Alan & Lynda

Our RV Home in Mexico

Freemasonry in Action

Salmon Arm Lodge No. 52



Members of Salmon Arm Lodge No. 52 join the Grand Master in presenting RWB Ken Dean a 60-year jewel of behalf of the United Grand Lodge of England January 26th. . RWB Dean served in the Second World War and was one of those involved in the series of raids known as the “Dam Busters” which were instrumental in changing the tide of the war. He is a recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross for his service.

Freemasonry in Action



Grand Master MW Bro. Douglas C. Collins, Grand Secretary RWB George Moore and Mary- Ellen Canning of St. Paul's Hospital who is presenting a certificate of appreciate to Grand Lodge for their annual contribution to the Lights of Hope campaign at St. Paul's, as part of our ongoing support of the hospital's work, particularly in the area of heart surgery and research.

Freemasonry in Action

Abbotsford Lodge #70. - Teddy Bear Club



Fraternal Greetings MWB Doug Collins

My wife Edna and I run a Teddy Bear Club on behalf of the Abbotsford Lodge #70. We present Abbotsford children who have been subject to trauma with a Masonic Teddy Bear. To assist with this, we work with the co-operation of the "Abbotsford News and the "Abbotsford Emergency Programme"

Freemasonry in Action

222 Gambians Receive - The Gift Of Vision



R. W. B.

Butch Montreuil (second from left) with Gambian family. Surgery recipient (second from right) sees his grandchildren for the first time as a result of his surgery. The Doctor who restored his vision joins this joyous occasion (gentleman on the far right) celebrating the miracle of his work and the generosity of those whose donations made it possible.

The Story

When R. W. B. Butch Montreuil travelled to Africa in 2012 to see first hand the work being done by *The Gambian Cataract Project*, he had no idea the impact his journey was to play in the lives of hundreds of African people. Deeply moved by his experience, Butch shared his story with his fellow Masonic brethren and approached R. W. B. Ron Yates, District 22 DDGM to get behind his vision of “making a difference”. His impassioned plea resulted in *The Gambia Cataract Project* being selected as District 22’s charity for 2013-2014.

With the donation of \$4,325.00 from District 22, a contribution from the Royal Arch Masons of BC, and a further donation of 2,000 Swiss Francs donated by an inspired family friend of the Montreuil’s, the project was able to provide surgeries and related medical care to 222 African people – changing their lives forever by giving them the gift of restored vision. Successful fundraising projects like this are perfect examples of how the Masonic code of values and conduct enrich the lives of many.

Deep, heartfelt thanks to all those who made this year’s charity project a success.

Brethren – as a result of your thoughtful donations, I, along with VV Bro Brian Porter, was able to make a delivery of a full trailer of non-perishable foods, along with a cheque in the amount of \$1,230.65 to the Kelowna Women’s Shelter!

Freemasons Built Powell River

Look closely, and you will find signs of Powell River's Masonic history scattered throughout the city. On the 100th anniversary of Triune Masonic Lodge, we are sharing some stories highlighting the ties that bind Freemasonry and the larger Powell River community.

This is part one of a three-part series.

BY KEITH CARLSON

16 • march 2016 • prliving.ca

Consider the Dwight Hall. Powell Riverites are rightly proud of the “Grand Old Lady” with its remarkable 5,000 square foot ballroom dance floor with horsehair underlay. Indeed, when it opened in 1927 there were only three other similar dance floors in all of British Columbia (the others being Vancouver's Commodore Ballroom, Victoria's Empress Hotel, and the Hotel Vancouver). Designed and built by Powell River Company planner (and Freemason) John McIntyre, the Dwight Hall has long been a focal point of Powell River's Masonic community.

Freemason's legends of the building of King Solomon's temple describe the significance of the numbers three, five and seven to Masonic architecture, as well as the importance of orientating certain rooms and windows to the cardinal directions. And while no one can say for certain whether McIntyre intentionally worked Masonic principles into the Dwight Hall's overall structure, to those who have been raised to Freemasonry's third degree, the similarities appear more than coincidental.

It is downstairs, however, on the Dwight Hall's lower floor, where there can be no mistaking the influence of Freemasonry in early Powell River. There visitors will find a specially built “lodge room” that has served as the meeting place of Triune Lodge for nearly a century. And while several fraternal organizations have shared the Dwight Hall lodge room over the years, there can be no question that it was specifically designed to conform with Masonic architectural principals.

If the Dwight Hall has explicit Masonic connections, other Powell River buildings reveal their affiliation to Freemasonry primarily through their namesakes. The old Westview post office (the MacGregor Building), for example, was named after Lt. Col. John MacGregor – the most decorated Canadian soldier of The First World War, and a member of Triune Lodge. Max Cameron school (and theatre) was likewise named after a prominent Powell River Freemason who as a professor at UBC wrote a report for the provincial government that literally transformed the way education was administered and delivered in British Columbia. Henderson Elementary School similarly was named after Dr. Andrew Henderson who served as field surgeon for Canadian troops during the Battle of Batoche against Louie Riel in 1885. He established Powell



POWELL RIVER'S BEST KNOW MASONIC PRESENCE: Is, of course, the Triune Masonic Lodge underneath Dwight Hall in Townsite. The influence of the Freemasons can be felt thruout the region... if you know where to look

photo courtesy of Ron Hutton

River's first hospital, where he oversaw the delivery of Western Canada's first universal employee medical program. Henderson was the first master of Triune Masonic Lodge. Other Powell River Freemasons played prominent roles in our city's development even if their names have not been immortalized on buildings. Triune Lodge member Evan Sadler, for example, designed and built the original St. Joseph's Catholic Church in the Townsite, and Freemason Robert Banham was Powell River's postmaster as well as the city's first government magistrate. During the Great War, Banham served on the home front with the second Canadian Dragoons. After the conflict, he helped numerous soldiers re-adjust to life back at home.

Ernie Liebenschel, another of Triune Lodge's charter members, operated Powell River's earliest coal delivery service and founded City Transfer. Later he played a central role in the development of the village of Cranberry – indeed some old timers still fondly refer to Liebenschel as having been the unofficial mayor of Cranberry prior to amalgamation with the Townsite and Westview.

Not all of Powell River's Freemasons, however, necessarily counted themselves among the community's economic and political movers and shakers. From time immemorial, the Masonic brotherhood has promoted the philosophy that all men are equal and should be judged only according to the quality of their character.

People from all walks of life, therefore, have had their names entered onto the rolls of Powell River's Triune Lodge, regardless of their financial or social status outside the Lodge. Thus, in addition to such local luminaries as Sheldon Brooks (the son of Powell River's Company's cofounder), William McBain (the first Mill Manager), and Dr. Andrew Henderson, on the list of Powell River's early Freemasons are found grocery clerks such as William Alexander, truck drivers, including Angus Matheson, plumbers such as William Loukes, loggers such as John Harper, and blacksmiths such as Charles Godfrey.

Many of these men's descendants live in Powell River today, where they benefit from the pioneering work of an earlier generation who helped to make our city what it is today.

Some Simple Golden Rules for Lodge Leadership.

Bro. Rudyard Kipling when discussing being a leader tells the story of meeting an old prospector who in a simple sentence summed up the cardinal issue of leadership. The old prospector pointed out "As long as you've only got yourself to think about you can think as much as you damn-well please. When you have other folks hides to answer for, you must quit thinking of your own amusement".

A. The Golden Rule of Leadership

A leader does not expect thanks, rewards and praise. As the leader encourages Brethren to take on more responsibility the Brother will expect and should receive a "thank you". Perception in this case is so important. The Brother sees his action as being related directly to the leader's success and believes his involvement is a direct linkage to the leader. Thus, he has influence in the ongoing operation of the Lodge. The leader is perceived as doing what he does for the Love of the task and the group. In essence the follower expects tangible physical, emotional or psychological rewards where as the leader is perceived as gaining esoteric rewards and so needs little else.

B. The Golden Rules of Meetings

For Leaders it is well to remember the only meetings people wish had run longer are those magical ones that take place when lovers first set eyes upon one another. Never make the mistake of thinking our business meetings are that thrilling. Live to meet another day.:

1. Thou shalt Praise in Public, Criticize in Private;
2. Thou Shalt Not Use Group Pressure to Logroll Conclusions;
3. Thou Shalt Not Use Meetings to Destroy another Brethren's views, understanding or learning;
4. Thou Shalt Keep the Personal Distinct from the Discussion Content;
5. Thou Shalt Remember the Best Model for Meetings Is Democracy, Not Monarchy;

C. The Golden Rules of Engagement.

1. How do I like to be spoken to and I will speak to others with the same respect.
2. How do I like my opinion to be listened to and I will listen to others in the same way.
3. How do I like my work to be seen and I will see others work in the same way.
4. How do I like Brethren to show interest in me and I will show interest in them in the same way.
5. How do I like decisions that involve me to be made and I will make decisions about my Brethren in the same way.
6. How do I like my ego to be treated and I will treat my Brethren's ego in the same way.
7. How do I like my personal goals to be respected and I will respect my Brethren's personal goals in the same way.
8. How do I demonstrate my Integrity and support Brethren in their demonstration of the same attribute.
9. I will be adaptable and I will encourage Brethren to be adaptable to what is best for the Lodge.
10. I will be a good example of a Freemason and I will set a standard the Brethren will choose to emulate.
11. I will take responsibility for my decisions and actions and I will encourage my Brothers to take responsibility for their actions.
12. I will show my passion for Freemasonry and I will encourage my Brothers to find that passion for themselves.
13. I will be organized in a way that allows my Brothers to also be organized.
14. I will delegate and then follow so my Brothers will learn how to lead and follow

15. I will know my Brethren. Birthdays, spouses and children's names, concerns and struggles they have. This way I will be a catalyst for my Brothers to know each other?

D. The Golden Rule of Hero's

Every Lodge has them. The quiet leader. They do not wear medals or fringes. They are the Brother who arrives early and pitches in without being asked to set up the lodge. They are the Brother who when asked is always ready to help with a degree. They are the Brother who steps up to assist with a lodge function or entertainment. They are the Brother who writes a letter or visits a widow or sick Brother. They are the Brother who encourages the new member. They are the Brother who actively participates in meetings. They are the Brother who can always be depended on to complete a task. They are a Brother who loves the Craft. They are the Brother who believes in what we as Freemasons stand for. They are the Brother who behaves in ways that are consistent with our Doctrines. When they are not in Lodge we miss them.

They are the Brother who poses the question what can I do for you rather than want can you do for me? They are the Brother who asks little and gives much. They are the quiet leader. Very much part of our strength. A hero of the Craft.

We all know a Brother like this. The next time we see them we should say thank you.

E. Only the guy who isn't rowing has time to rock the boat. Jean-Paul Sartre

A Brother who creates obstructions in the Lodge does not see his behaviour as negative but rather rationalizes it as an attempt to save the Lodge. This type of follower feels rejected, passed over, not respected for their gifts or talents and is looking for ways to increase their own self esteem by being a negative leader.

You the leader must help the boat rocker to start rowing:

1. Seek out the positives in the boat rocker, helping him overcome his own feelings of self-doubt.
2. Listen to his ideas, even if they do not conform to the usual or your way of thinking. Suspend judgment while listening to his concerns or suggestions.
3. Do not exclude the boat rocker. Build mutual trust and respect by acting in a way that encourages all the Brethren.
4. Develop the ability to see positive attributes in all Brethren. This creativity gives you the capacity to see things that others have not seen and to be able to utilize the strengths of all the Brethren.
5. Never speak about the boat rocker to others. A Brother knows if you speak about a Brother negatively to them it is likely you will speak negatively to a Brother about them.

F. The golden Rule of Leadership Failure

1. The Officer fails to build strong relationships and teamwork with the Brethren of the Lodge;
2. The Officer does not know and hence fails to achieve the most important objectives expected of him;
3. The Officer does not have the required internal political awareness;
4. The Officer Is unable to form solid partnerships with the GL, Craft Lodges and other Concordant Bodies;
5. The Officers behaviours do not reflect the requirements of Freemasonry or his position;
6. The Officer takes too long to learn the requisites of his position.

The Burden of Leadership

By VWBro Dan Zrymiak

As Freemasons, we often aspire to leadership roles. Different attributes cause us to gravitate and be inclined towards positions of responsibility and authority. For some, the promise of influencing others is a prime motivator, while others are drawn in by the purpose of the task or endeavor. Depending on the scope and scale of the leadership role, one can derive direct and indirect privileges and benefits from such activities.

I want to share a personal experience, that occurred in an organization outside of Freemasonry, but which also has relevance and pertinence to the diligent administration of the Craft. I recently encountered a situation which revealed a potential governance risk. A person in a leadership position, over whom I have direct oversight, was potentially in a conflict of interest situation. An easy thing would have been for me to turn a blind eye, disregard the situation, and hope that no malady would befall the organization.

After consultation of the appropriate policies and practices, I contacted the individual and indicated the need to address the risks. I did not create new practices but simply enforced existing protocols which had been established for this purpose. Although my manner was respectful and presumed good faith, the individual in question was taken aback with embarrassment. The response was one of hostility and personal confrontation. I was frankly amazed at the reaction and patiently listened and let this individual communicate their frustrations.

We all learn that different people have preferences for how they wish to be engaged. There are always lessons to be learned and I have certainly gained my share of real-life education in the last year. However, we should never hesitate to step forward and “do the needful”. It is better to have an early confrontation to adjust the incorrect behavior of a subordinate, than to follow up with damage control and remediation after the fact. This is not only easier, in the long term it sends a clear message of vigilance and action which raises the overall standard.

So what is the burden of leadership? It is the recognition that sometimes the unpopular decision or action has to be taken for the good of the organization. These decisions are not made out of malice or vindictiveness, in fact the opposite is the case. It is different from a parent extending discipline to a child in that organizations and companies involve adults with their own will, assumptions, and perspectives. Even if what you do is correct and appropriate, there will be a portion of your subordinates who disagree.

Using a store as an example, there are incremental differences between patronizing the store, working at the store, managing the store, and owning the store. Leadership is ownership, not just of the enterprise but of the successes and the problems. Once ownership is taken of the problems the best approach is to identify these early and address them with care and thoroughness so that they don't overwhelm the positive and production parts of the initiative. President Harry Truman, who was also a Masonic leader, had a phrase, “The Buck Stops Here”. That is the burden of anyone who takes on leadership roles. While the patron, the worker, and the manager are at liberty to avoid the problems, the owner has no option but to see that any and all problems are addressed and resolved.

Freemasonry equips and prepares a Brother for enlightened servant leadership. Through the lessons of morality in ritual, the examples observed by other brethren, and the reinforcement of cardinal virtues,

leadership qualities are instilled within all of us. I am learning and as I manage through different situations, I am grateful for the positive influence of the Craft, and humbled by what I still have yet to learn. I hope that in imparting such events, I stimulate an interest among Brethren reading this to absorb and embrace Freemasonry in all of its parts, in order that at critical junctures, they may project the true effects of Freemasonry.

People notice the leader when he is piped in, and seated at the head of the table. I want to commend those who remain in the late hours, doing the needful without pomp or ceremony. The best leadership is exhibited not in times of crisis, but in peaceful times to avert and prevent the crisis from occurring. Why fix something if it ain't broke? That is the burden of leadership, and one I exhort to all Freemasons.

The Case For Change In A “Best In Class” Masonic Organization

By VWBro Dan Zrymiak

I am prompted to write this article in response to those who must face a resistance to change in an organization, particularly an organization which has recently achieved desired levels of success and prosperity. From this article, a logical approach could be made to overcome resistance to change in organizations.

It is important to identify and overcome the common objections to change. People resisting change fear the potential for disruption, complexity, and confusion that such changes may bring. The added cost and distraction from current priorities add credence to their fears, and can undermine an otherwise worthwhile initiative. If a change is to happen, the foundation of support must be established to enable the change to proceed.

The old maxim, “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it” cannot be applied to Freemasonry for the following reasons:

1. Success should not be confused with Good Fortune.

Success is the result of following a methodical approach to fulfill an explicit commitment. In the process of following this approach, Good Fortune may occur, providing opportunities and rewards above and beyond the initial commitment. The Good Fortune experienced may actually obscure critical problems. The distinction is that Good Fortune is not predictable nor repeatable while sustained success has a more consistent track record.

2. Success attracts new challengers from competitors, partners, and customers.

Successful endeavors will definitely prompt competitors to realign their products and services to match and exceed the “best in class” deliverables. The effect of this change is that yesterday’s remarkable innovation is today’s standard expectation. The net effect is that the successful organization will always face new challengers from all sides.

3. Success promotes increasing expectations in features, flaws, and constraints.

Those features that are innovative and desired today will become standardized expectations in the future. The growth in expected features will prompt constant change. The tolerance of flaws will decrease as a result of increasing maturity of the outcomes. As the innovations are more widely adopted, the expectations for reliability and constant performance will be increased. Even after the desired features have been provided and the significant risks have been mitigated, there is still a desire to obtain the service at a continually reduced cost with greater flexibility of time. All three aspects of features, flaws, and constraints, will drive changes.

4. Success drives innovations in products, processes, and resources; and creates a desire for personal growth and fulfillment.

People involved in successful endeavors want to establish themselves as leaders and prominent figures in their respective fields. This desire for leadership stature promotes the adoption of best practices necessary to drive the organization to an ideal state of productivity, efficiency, and sustainability. This stature will attract other brethren who want to fulfill their respective Masonic goals among the “best in class”.

Most successful organizations do not operate in a vacuum, but are subjected to common business drivers promoting constant change.

1. Sponsors, investors, and creditors expect responsible financial returns.

Regardless of being in the public or private sector, organizations use other people's money for capital and operational commitment. This financial commitment is provided on the understanding that it will be prudently used and will result in a desired outcome. The foundation for such growth must be sufficiently robust to overcome the challenges and threats. The necessary expansion must also be managed to enable such growth.

2. Quest for leadership requires being and remaining "best in class".

A successful organization determines its scope, and commits to leadership within that niche. That obligation demands that the organization must respond to any external innovations in a positive manner, adopting those that are relevant and pose a potential competitive threat.

3. Sustainability requires mitigation of risks and flaws.

This driver prompts organizations to be vigilant in addressing and controlling the real or perceived threats. A breach of trust will undermine all of the prior efforts, and will take much deliberate effort to recover. It is therefore necessary to avoid this threat by constantly identifying and controlling such events before they occur.

4. Increasing Masonic maturity of brethren drive changes.

Over the last few years, participants (brethren, lodge officers) have taken initiatives to increase their personal credibility through education, mentorship, conferences, benchmarking, and collaboration. Through such efforts, brethren will be acquainted with ideal practices that can be applied to improve the efficiency and productivity of their respective tasks or areas of responsibility.

Having viewed the drivers justifying change, there is still a need to overcome the common objections to change. Listed below are the Threats of Stagnancy that may occur to an organization that does not embrace change in a timely manner. If the organization does not have the foresight to anticipate and address these threats in a preventive manner, they will be forced to confront such threats at a time of greater vulnerability and urgency.

1. Capital Threat

The failure to meet necessary business goals will result in a withdrawal of resources. This will force the organization to restructure in order to continue its operations, diminishing its opportunities and ability to function.

2. Competitive Threat

Participants from unexpected areas will undermine or damage existing fraternal relationships, forcing increases in efforts to retain existing brethren and attract new candidates. Responses to unanticipated competitive threats will distract from pre-existing plans and arrangements.

3. Technology Threat

The overall approach may be rendered obsolete, excessively costly, cumbersome, or incompatible in relation to alternative offerings. That will diminish viability and potential of the Craft.

4. Operations Threat

The Craft may find that its ability to provide Freemasonry to the brethren within the time and price range desired by the brother comes at too high of a cost, promoting losses and further risks.

5. Cultural Threat

Successful fraternal organizations applied a nimble, adaptable approach towards the fulfillment of their objectives. Culture determines the ability to respond to threats and opportunities, and is a gauge of competitiveness and future potential.

Having established the case for change, the next step is to determine how change should be conducted to obtain the best results. There are several successful models from which the following summary can be derived.

1. Determine an ideal state for the Craft (i.e. Mission and Vision).

There should be a point where the organization can adapt and challenge any competitor, building its future foundation for continued growth and success. This is the ideal state that should be the target of any changes.

2. Establish Purpose, Scope, Goals, and Objectives (i.e. Five Pillar Plan).

This is necessary to identify success criteria, and focus efforts on the most important areas. Establishing the clear boundaries will reinforce what is important, and promote leadership and innovation in these targeted fields.

3. Conduct due diligence and a gap analysis (i.e. Audit and Governance).

Any change must be supported by an objective benchmark and balanced scorecard. Recognition of potential vulnerable areas is necessary to determine priorities for action. Areas of superiority can be expanded as well to increase competitiveness, scope, and opportunities of the organization.

4. Work to resolve gaps and build on strengths (Feedback Reports and Improvement Programs).

Change must be targeted towards the fulfillment of organizational goals and objectives. Constantly drive positive changes to overcome threats before they occur.

A final point about Good Fortune. Good Fortune is the result of fulfilling the appropriate opportunity at the correct time. Embracing necessary changes will increase the ability of an organization to accept Good Fortune. Restricting such changes will diminish the benefits of Good Fortune. Good Fortune often reflects a sound approach, initiated by commitment, promoted by diligence, and obtained by embracing and adopting acceptance of positive changes. Good Fortune should not restrict change, but should encourage the ongoing adoption of constructive practices and innovative methods.

Why heart failure matters to you

It's the last stop on a painful and debilitating journey through heart disease. More Canadians are getting heart failure. And more are dying.

Here's a startling truth: Almost half of Canadians have been touched by a fatal disease that most of us know little about.



David Sculthorpe, CEO, The Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Heart failure is a growing – but largely silent – epidemic in Canada.

Depending on the severity of their symptoms, half of heart failure patients will die within five years, and most will die within 10 years.

Heart failure is the focus of the [Foundation's 2016 Report on the Health of Canadians](#). I hope this report will wake up more Canadians, policy makers and healthcare providers to the urgent threat of this devastating condition.

As we learned in a poll conducted for the report, almost half of Canadians have either been diagnosed with heart failure themselves or have a family member or close friend with the condition.

Think about that – half of us have direct experience with heart failure!

Yet, our poll showed that many Canadians understand little about heart failure and its impact:

- Almost one in five believe that heart failure is a normal part of aging;
- Almost half mistakenly think it can be cured.

Let me be clear: Heart failure is not a normal part of aging.

It's a chronic condition that gets worse over time. The heart starts to deteriorate after it has been damaged by a heart attack or other disease. Eventually it becomes unable to pump blood as well as it should.

There is no cure for heart failure. While lifestyle changes and medications can help many people manage their symptoms, advanced heart failure will leave you exhausted and breathless, unable to carry out the simplest task. You may be in and out of hospital, with your family struggling to manage your needs.

That's why finding a cure is critical.

It's also why I'm excited about the promise of regenerative medicine. The research Heart and Stroke Foundation donors are funding in this field is showing promise.

Simply put, regenerative medicine is about finding ways to repair or even replace damaged cells. For example, the work of [Dr. Paul Fedak](#) focuses on the heart matrix, the proteins that glue heart muscle cells together. Dr. Fedak and his team are working to create an organic "patch" that could heal and strengthen a damaged heart.

At the same time, [Dr. Kim Connelly](#) is investigating how to teach the heart to heal itself by using a patient's existing cells to grow new, healthy ones.

I urge you to read the report for a critical look at the burden of heart failure, on Canadians' health and on our healthcare system.

You'll meet people whose lives have been changed by heart failure. Plus you'll hear from some of the 69 top heart failure experts we surveyed, whose insights will help us address the urgent threat of heart failure.

Right now 600,000 Canadians are living with heart failure. And another 50,000 will be diagnosed this year.

We need to do everything we can to beat this death sentence.

**KAMLOOPS WELCOMES YOU TO THE GRAND LODGE OF BC AND YUKON'S
ANNUAL COMMUNICATION 2016!**

The Communication is being held on June 16, 17 and 18, 2016 at the beautiful campus of Thompson Rivers University. To view the campus and what the university has to offer, please visit their website www.tru.ca.

Accommodation on-site is available, on a first-come first-serve basis, by contacting the Thompson Rivers University Residence and Conference Center, 950 McGill Road, Kamloops, BC at:

- toll free: 1-877-225-8664 or
- local calls: 250-828-8999 or
- via Email: kamloops@stayrcc.com or
- online at: www.stayrcc.com/kamloops

For those guests staying in the Residence, a continental breakfast is included, along with on-campus free parking.

Additional rooms have been reserved at the Coast Kamloops Hotel and Convention Centre, 1250 Rogers Way, a short drive from TRU. Group rates are available from \$139, based on single or double occupancy. The Group Booking Code is **CKH-GFC2362**. Reservations can be made by:

- toll free: 1-800-663-1144 or
- local calls: 250- 828-6660,
- via Email: ckhinfo@coasthotels.com or
- online at: www.coasthotels.com

Other hotels in the area, and a short drive from the campus, that can offer comfortable accommodation include:

- Double Tree by Hilton, 339 St. Paul St. 844-778-9896 or 250-851-0026
- Best Western Plus, 660 Columbia St. 1-877-302-7878, 250-374-7878, or info@bestwesternkamloops.com
- Fairfield Inn & Suites, Marriott, 1475 Hugh Allen Dr. 855-603-1189, 778-471-0902, or fiskamloops@gmail.com

For those of you who wish to camp out with your RVs, we have three good campgrounds in the City that are within a reasonable drive of the venue:

- Kamloops RV Park, 9225 Dallas Drive (next to the BC Wildlife Park), 250-573-3789 or frontdesk@kamloopsrvpark.ca
- Silver Sage RV Park, 98-771 Athabasca St. East, 250-828-2077 or toll free 1-877-828-2077
- Knutsford/Kamloops RV Campground, 2721 Hwy 5A South, 250-372-5380,

toll free 1-866-777-1954 or knutsfordcamp@hotmail.com

Online registration will be available through the Grand Lodge website effective March 1st, 2016. As per the resolution at the 2015 Annual Communication, there is no cost for registration to attend the 2016 Annual Communication. We intend to open the Registration Desks in the Campus Activity Centre at 8 am on Thursday, June 16th. **PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR DUES !! AND PLEASE REGISTER!!**

The meetings for Lodge Secretaries and the Ashlar College AGM will take place on Thursday afternoon, times and locations to be announced.

Golf is being arranged by MW Bro. Tuckey and planned for Thursday morning at the Dunes Golf Course, 652 Dunes Rd, Kamloops, BC (www.golftthedunes.com) **Contact MW Br. Brian Tuckey directly:** Tel 1- (778) 257-2708 kamdunes@gmail.com.

Thursday evening will feature a BBQ on the scenic plaza outside of the Campus Activity Centre. This will be a casual country and western themed event, so you are invited to dress to fit the occasion. The menu will include BBQ ribs, beans, corn on the cob and various accompaniments. There will be entertainment and a no host bar.

For those guests staying in the Residence, a continental breakfast is included. However, for those guests who prefer a hot breakfast, they may purchase a ticket and partake of their breakfast in the Terrace Room of the Campus Activity Centre.

For those guests looking for a social setting to renew old friendships and make new ones, Hero's Pub, located in the Campus Activity Center, will be open on both Thursday (12-5 pm) and Friday (3-6 pm) for your convenience. Bar Service only! It is conveniently located adjacent to the registration room. In addition, Starbucks and Tim Hortons on campus will be open on Thursday and Friday.

On Friday and Saturday, Grand Lodge will be held in the gymnasium on the campus. It is a short walk from the Residence, a transportation service will be offered on-site between the Residence and the venue for the Communication for those who require assistance.

All lunches will be served in the Campus Activity Centre; the Grand Hall for Members, the Alpine Room for the VIPs and the Mountain Room for the Ladies.

The Grand Master's Banquet on Friday evening will feature an award-winning buffet prepared by the Culinary Department of the University. A Jazz Quartet will provide entertainment in the Rotunda before the Banquet, for the delight of all, and the Spectapella Quartet will perform after the Banquet. This will be a popular event, therefore the organizing committee recommends reserving your tickets early as it will no doubt be sold out (max 416 tickets). **Dress is Formal.**

A vibrant and entertaining Ladies' Program is planned. The details, as provided by Mrs. Susan Collins, are as follows:

Dear Ladies, Welcome to Grand Lodge 2016!! I do hope you have a chance to read this before you come to the Annual Communication. I am excited to see you all again and look forward to sharing this weekend with you.

Thursday the 16th – Registration for the men

This is pretty much a free day for the Ladies. If you are wishing to partake of refreshments you can go to Hero's pub, located on the 2nd floor of the Campus Activity Centre, which has a no-host bar.

In the evening we are having a *Western Themed BBQ*. You are welcome to dress up in anything western, but if you don't have anything western, wear comfy shoes and clothes. This event is to start at 5 pm with cocktails, and music by DJ Nick Carter to entertain us. The food will be ribs and corn on the cob and I do hope you will attend. It is a lovely time to touch base with those you haven't seen in a year or so. The evening is yours after the event. You may wish to rest or go to one of the hospitality rooms. Sweet Dreams!

Friday the 17th – This will be a lovely treat for the Ladies

The Lounge of the main floor of the Residence is reserved for the Ladies Hospitality Suite and will be available from 10:00 am to 11:30 am and from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

A luncheon for the Ladies will be held in the Mountain Room at the Campus Activity Center, starting at 11:30 am. A no-host bar will be set up for those wishing wine or other beverages; the menu is still to be determined. Please indicate when your husband registers for Grand Lodge if you are on a special diet, and we will do our best to accommodate you.

The entertainment at the Ladies' luncheon will be provided by a very talented local lady by the name of Chris Krushel. She has entertained the ladies at our lodge here several times and each time we have enjoyed her performance so much. I will not tell you what she is doing, as it is a delightful surprise.

After the luncheon, for those needing to stretch their legs there will be a guided tour of the lovely University Gardens, located just across from the Campus Activity Center. Many weddings and other celebrations have been held there and hopefully you will be able to join us.

In the evening, cocktails at 6 pm in the Rotunda outside the Grand Hall start off the Grand Master's Banquet.

Saturday the 18th – GARDEN PARTY!!!!

For all the Ladies who have to wait for hours for their husbands to be finished with Grand Lodge, a garden party is being held at the lovely home of Mrs. Linda Turner. Transportation will be leaving from the University Residence at 11:30 am. For those who wish to travel on their own, the Turner's residence is located at 2285 Highway 5A South, Kamloops.

The dress is casual so wear what you would wear for travelling; comfy shoes, a sun hat, and don't forget your sunscreen. You can meander through her lovely gardens, enjoy the scenery from Linda's delightful home and partake in some light refreshments.

Depending on when you have to leave your hotel rooms, there will be places to store your luggage at the University. After Grand Lodge has ended your husbands can pick you up at 3 pm, or you can go back by bus. The event is free, but is limited to 50 persons. Please have your husband register you when he registers for Grand Lodge, but because numbers are limited please register only if you intend to go.

If you are not wishing to attend any of the events during the time of Grand Lodge, Kamloops has a Casino near the Costco store, shopping at Aberdeen Mall, Walmart, and the Farmer's Market downtown in the 200 block of 2nd Avenue. You will be responsible for getting to these places on your own.

I am looking forward to welcoming you to Grand Lodge and do hope you enjoy stay here in Kamloops.

Best Wishes to all!

Susan Collins 'Grand Master's Lady'

For those guests looking for some after-hours entertainment, our new Cascades Casino at 1555 Versatile Drive, Kamloops, B.C. 250-372-3336 www.cascadescasinokamloops.com offers great food and entertainment, as well as the full amenities where Lady Luck can be tested, and hopefully bested! The Casino operates a free shuttle to and from their facility. Some of the hotels mentioned are a short distance from the Casino and other City amenities.

If you require any further information, please don't hesitate to contact us. We are looking forward to hosting you in Kamloops!

Revised 16

February 2016

2016 EXPRESSIONS of INTEREST for the OFFICE of JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN

RW Bro. Douglas Franklin

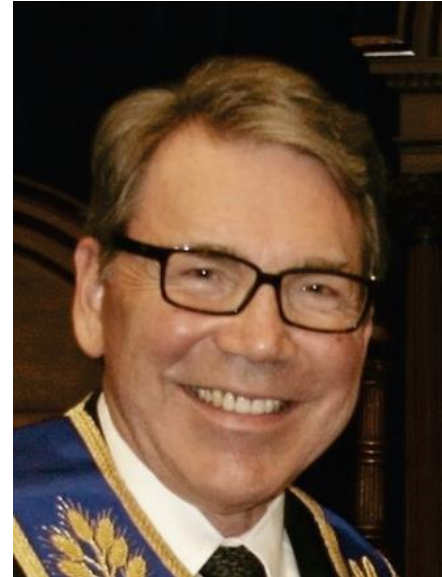
RW Bro. Doug Franklin was born on 12 May 1947 in Port Alberni and attended schools in Alberni and Vancouver. He graduated from the University of Victoria, and took in-service training with the Architecture and Engineering Branch, Parks Canada Agency, and the Banff School of Management. He had a thirty-year career in the preservation of historic architecture. He was a consultant in British Columbia from 1977 until 1983, and then served as an executive officer with the National Trust for Canada in Ottawa from 1983 until he retired in 2007. He has written one book and coauthored two others on historic architecture.

RW Bro. Franklin was initiated, passed and raised in St. Andrew's Lodge No. 560, Ottawa, in 1986, and served as Worshipful Master in 1993-1994. He was District Deputy Grand Master of Ottawa District 1 in 2002-2003. The Grand Master appointed him publisher of the Ontario Masonic Education journal *Reflections*, a position he enjoyed for three years. He is a past president of the Ottawa Masonic Choir.

When he returned to Victoria in 2007, he affiliated with Haida Lodge No. 166 and served as Worshipful Master in 2011-2012. He was Education Officer for District 21 in 2009-2010. From 2009 until 2013, RW Bro. Franklin was a member of the Grand Lodge *ad hoc* Committee on Organizational Analysis. He has served on the Committee on Rituals since 2012, including three years as chairman. He has been chairman of the Board of Ashlar College of Freemasonry since 2013, and a member of the *ad hoc* Committee on Governance since 2014. He is a member of Victoria Lodge of Education & Research.

RW Bro. Franklin was a trustee of the Esquimalt Naval Museum (1980-1983) and the Maritime Museum of British Columbia (2007-2009). He is a member of the Union Club of British Columbia and the Victoria Round Table Club.

Doug and his wife Lisa have a blended family of four children—Ross, Kimberley, Matthew, Krystle—and seven grandchildren.



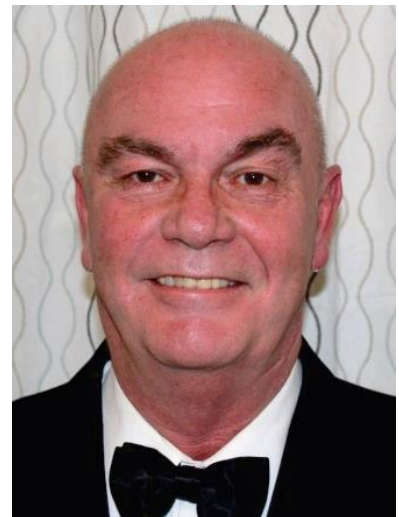
RW Bro. Donald W. Mackenzie

RW Bro. Don Mackenzie was born on 4 April 1951 in New Westminster and educated in Maple Ridge. Working for Columbia Bitulithic Ltd in 1974, they became his first customer when, in 1977, he started his own trucking company, D. Mackenzie Trucking, low bedding and transporting construction materials. Almost forty years later they are still a customer. In 1993 he purchased Elliott Brothers Trucking and then Fraser Valley Transport in 2001, running a fleet of trucks across Western Canada and the US. In 2005 he started Fraser Valley Truck Parts, selling used and rebuilt heavy duty truck components worldwide.

His future plans include working less and playing more. It is his goal to lead into the future and to help sustain this great institution for generations to come. He believes Freemasonry is more relevant today than ever before, even with the challenges in declining membership. Membership retention will be his focus. He believes that if we take care of the members we have and make them feel welcomed and engaged, the impact will be a positive one. He also hopes to encourage improvement of ritual work within all lodges in the jurisdiction.

Grand Lodge has given this jurisdiction, and the lodges within it, assistance in building upon programmes such as the Five Pillar Plan and the lodge mentorship programme. His participation as Junior Grand Warden will be no less than doing all he can to uphold these programmes, attend all visitations and increase visibility and transparency of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon.

RW Bro. Mackenzie was initiated into Prince David Lodge No. 101 in 1992, serving as Worshipful Master in 1997 and other offices as needed since then. A fourth-



generation Freemason, he is also the fourth member of his family to serve as Master of Prince David Lodge. Last year he affiliated with Tuscan Lodge No. 138. He was appointed DDGM for District 28 for 2013-2014 and currently serves on the Bursary Committee.

Married in 2006 to Rita, they have a blended family of three sons, two daughters and eight grandchildren.

RW Bro. H. Russell Morrison

RW Bro. Russ Morrison was born on 3 August 1951 in Vancouver. He was educated in the Vancouver School system graduating from Templeton Secondary in 1969. After a short stint at Vancouver Community College, RW Bro Morrison was employed by CN Rail, where he took his electrical apprenticeship. A chance to further himself, he resigned from CN and hired on to BC TEL/TELUS as a Switchboard installer. This was the beginning of a long and varied career. He progressed from Installer and then moved into management, starting as an instructor, and then he moved to the Safety Department, Operations, Quality Assurance and Partner Relations.

He retired in 2009 and four months later was lured back as a Safety Manager for AFL Global a company that does work for TELUS. He retired in May 2015 after 41 plus years in telephony.

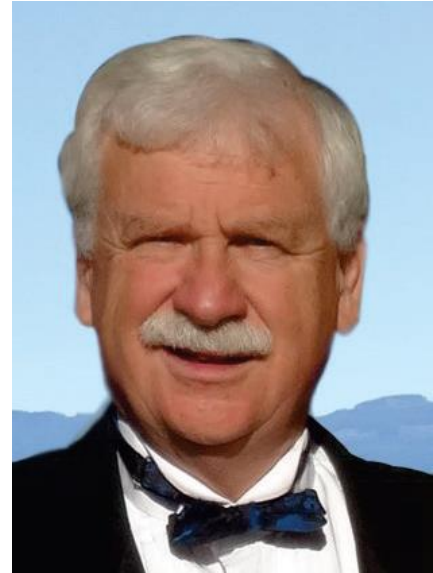
RW Bro. Morrison was raised in North Star Lodge No. 167, Surrey BC, in 1989. He served as Worshipful Master in 1999-2000 and was treasurer for the year 2002-2003, and is currently the lodge secretary.

He has served as District Education Officer three different times from 2002-2004. He was secretary of the District Masters and Wardens Association for three years, 1997-2000. He was Grand Marshal in 2009-2010 and District Deputy Grand Master for District 2 in 2013-2014.

He has served on many Grand Lodge committees, as a member of the *ad hoc* Member Survey Committee in 2007-2008, the *ad hoc* Electronic Survey for Master Masons 2009-2010, and the Ritual Committee twice in 2011-2012 and from 2013 to the present. He is also a member of the Education Committee, working to get a comprehensive speakers bureau up and running.

Married to Kimberly in 1977, they have two sons. Braden is married to Alexandria and they currently have two children, Adaline and Brendan. They live in St. Albert, Alberta. Their younger son, Trevor, lives in New Westminster.

RW Brother Morrison keeps active with golf, gourmet cooking and spoiling the grandchildren.



Membership - We're All in this Together

**Presented at The Vancouver Grand Masonic Day, Saturday, February 27, 2016
by RWB Barry W. K. Burch, Junior Grand Warden**

MW Grand Master and Brethren

It's great to be a Freemason especially on a day like today. As was stated at our last Grand Lodge Communication (GLC) my family gave me permission to invest the next 4 years in our noble Craft. To date that has represented 248 days or about 17% of that investment.

So what are the returns to date. I have been very busy ... carrying the GM's suitcases, polishing his shoes and returning the empties. (I don't get to keep the money) Our Deputy Grand Master (DGM) has suggested that as Junior Grand Warden (JGW) I should act like a sponge. By that I hope he means soaking in as much information as possible as opposed to imitating Sponge Bob Square Pants.

When not attending to the GM my time has been focused on learning as much as I can:

- Daily reading and researching on Masonic issues and successful programs
- Participating in the 5 Pillar Plan Review process
- Active participation on 3 Grand Lodge Committees - Governance , Protocol and Community Relations each of which will be reporting at our upcoming GLC
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Observations

After 20 months of continuous service to our Grand Lodge as the Grand Director of Ceremonies and now as your JGW I have a number of observations - a few of them being:

- There are high quality Masonic brothers throughout our jurisdiction - it is a joy to be so well met wherever you go
- Some parts of our jurisdiction feel their reality is not fully understood by Grand Lodge - a common problem with provincial organizations and one we want to improve upon
- Our greatest asset is our membership - when a brother leaves the Craft we need to understand why and where we can do better
- There are some brothers for whom communicating happiness in our Craft is a challenge - the problem is not Freemasonry - each of us has to find ways to resolve those issues and bring those brothers into the joy most of us experience
- There is antipathy by some towards Grand Lodge. I haven't fully comprehended what that is about - I do take it to heart and want to understand it so it can be rectified
- The governance of our jurisdiction is comprised of many inter related parts - modifying some affects others - any modifications undertaken need to comprehend the whole
- There is nothing better than a Masonic Degree or ceremony done well
- A dedicated Freemason working in harmony with his brothers solves a lot of challenges
- There is good work being done in our jurisdiction - increased clarity in the overall direction and improvements in coordination and communication would see even better outcomes
- The governance of our jurisdiction is comprised of many inter related parts - modifying some affects others - any modifications undertaken need to comprehend the whole
- Freemasonry is a world in itself largely practiced unnoticed in the world at large.
- In reviewing 5 Pillar Plan (5 PP) the Membership Pillar seems to be lagging behind

My Priority for the Next 3 years

At this point in time I see membership development as the priority for my attention. We all know our numbers are declining. Since 2010 on average we raise 215 brothers a year although in 2015 it was only 153. I realize in the following numbers there will be some duplication however for that same time period we have been averaging 333 demits, 173 suspended non payment of dues and sadly 272 deaths. Since 2010 we have lost about 3,000 memberships. Encouraging new members to our Craft and retaining those who join us are important to our survival because those new brothers are:

- Providing a new source of energy and interest
- Increasing the range of knowledge and resources available to a Lodge
- Providing the necessary financial capacity to support a Lodge

Our Craft needs to get younger, more diverse and more visible - all subject to passing through a suitably stringent West Gate. One way to help accomplish that outcome is to increase our profile in our communities. Freemasonry is competing with other organizations and interests for the limited time that our potential target audience has to give. How we are viewed or what I would call our Masonic brand is formulated by what we say and do, what events we attend, the causes we support, what is said about us in the media and increasingly how we portray ourselves on social media. If you have established your Masonic credentials online it is essential that you follow the same standards as you would in all other aspects of your life.

The most visible manifestation of Freemasonry in a community is the state of the Lodge building. What conclusions do citizens draw from a building in disrepair. Are our Festive Boards of good quality, is the food and table setting something you would serve at your home for entertaining guests. Perhaps some of us could spend time and effort at improving our Lodge's existence.

Some say they are not concerned about what others think - we know what we are. If our profile in the community is not an accurate reflection of who we are and what we stand for then the chances of having good men pursuing membership in our Craft is reduced. **Currently with only 6,832 brothers in BC & Yukon I think we can all agree that more good men would be beneficial.**

The world around us has changed - our challenge is to communicate our ideals to worthy men - we need to carefully consider how to adapt our current approaches so the target audience we are trying to reach will be most receptive. One way to increase our profile within our social circles is to find opportunities to inject what Freemasonry means to us in conversations with family, friends and associates. I intend to do that more often.

Our Grand Master has supported the DGM, SGW and myself in developing a 3 year plan to build on the progress realized over the past several years. The DGM will be speaking about this in his Address to the GLC in June and the SGW and myself will be explaining our support for continuing the plan in subsequent Masonic years.

I am currently reviewing a number of membership development approaches undertaken by other Grand Lodges. There are some good ideas that I think can be adapted for use here and I will be recommending those are included in our 3 year plan. A comprehensive, coordinated and continuous approach to membership is needed.

The basis for any improvements in Freemasonry starts with each of us. I welcome your input and suggestions for dealing with this most critical issue. We are all in this together and your

input would. As an initial opportunity I am asking you today to respond to the following 3 questions:

What are 3 things I need to do to become a better Freemason

What are 3 things your Lodge needs to do to be better able to attract and retain members.

What are 3 things Grand Lodge needs to do to facilitate improvements to our membership

We are all in this together. I would be happy to receive your responses please email them to me at:

barry.burch@freemasonry.bcy.ca

I will report back on the responses received.

So if the GAOTU is willing and the brethren are in agreement I look forward to working with you on our membership challenges to move our jurisdiction forward over the next 1,212 days.

Thank you brethren

Worshipful Master,

Thank you for the opportunity to reflect upon my experiences in Freemasonry and to express them in open Lodge.

When I first heard of Freemasonry, I had no idea what it was about, though from what I could tell, it was a fraternity to help make good men better. A happenstance meeting with a brother, allowed questions to be asked and the answers shared explained that it was a mystical organization with rituals, symbols, and good people, but you need to join if you want to know what it is really about, for there are secrets. I took a chance and applied and since then it has been a rich experience of wonder.

As a launch point for my reflections, I recently re-read my application letter and reviewed my reasons for petitioning membership with the Fraternity:

1. A desire for knowledge to help gain greater self-awareness and self-mastery in order to be of better service to my family and fellow man.
2. A belief that Freemasonry possesses the tools to help transform one to realize their full potential, leading to a life of greater meaningful contribution, creativity, and ideally the attainment of wisdom, freedom, truth, and harmony with Universal Law.
3. A search for a network of positive role models, mentors, and friends to help stimulate understanding, awareness, and growth. A desire to be associated with men that strive to improve each other, in an environment of philosophical discovery and exploration, leading to greater actualization and development.

I recall being so nervous as I walked up those stairs for my initiation, greeted by the Tyler, not knowing what was beyond the closed doors of the Lodge. I did not gain any relief from my anxiety as I was stripped of my clothes, blindfolded and slip-shod with a cable tow around my neck. I passed through these Lodge doors in darkness and was guided around the Lodge while profound words were spoken to me and I was prompted to say things and do things in return. It was very intimidating and disorienting... and so shocking when the light was finally revealed as the blindfold was pulled from my eyes. A most unforgettable and beautiful experience.

I have met some very fine men from my Mother Lodge and Sister Lodges. Respectful, honorable, kind, and caring men. Masonic brethren care about each other, not only about physical well being, but particularly about one's heart, hopes, and dreams. The things that really matter. I am learning that we are all on this spiritual path moving towards something greater, and all moving at our own pace of comfort and effectiveness; some faster, some slower, yet all moving forward uprightly and with humility before God, for there is no standing still in this life. I am thankful for the patience and understanding of my Brethren, for everyone's situation is unique in their various stages of life and circumstances.

When I began this path, I had no idea what to expect, what a Mason was, or what a Mason did. Since then, I have to admit that the surface of this rough ashlar has only been scratched by the chisel. Not from a lack of trying to understand, but rather from the immense quantity of rich and diverse content in Freemasonry. One of our most precious assets is our attention, for this quality allows us to learn and behave, which is especially important when one is starting out. During Lodge, I try to listen to the words and watch

the actions of others in order to one day, perhaps, know what to say, what to do, and how to do it. I am grateful for the grace of the Worshipful Master and expert Brethren for clarifying my questions, guiding my actions, and prompting my hesitation as I work my way towards greater light. Even now, it seems there can be so much happening in the Lodge that I am not aware of, or something new that I have not seen or experienced before, yet could it be that this is not unlike life outside the Lodge as well? So much happening within and beyond our awareness. Always a plus factor. Always something more. Not only does the meaning of the spoken words matter, but more particularly, the unspoken seems to matter even more, for the words and actions may merely be carriers of what is truly in men's hearts, which in the case of a Freemason, is brotherly love, virtue, honour, and morality. All this stimulates wonderment and curiosity to understand and learn more, to integrate the words, symbols, and actions into their vital purpose of harmony and truth, for there is faith that underlying all the diversity and complexity, there is actually elegance and simplicity.

When I began I did not know how much focus there was upon memory work in Freemasonry or why it was so important. Maybe for some memorization comes rather easily and it takes only a couple of readings to store the words permanently in memory; however, I spend a fair bit of time to memorize something and it takes so little time for the words to fade away once my attention is upon another matter. As I was trying to learn the working tools for interest and ritual, I repeated the words over and over, until they finally started to come together...and during the process of effort something happened. New ideas and realizations flashed into awareness... which I imagine could only come about after repeating these words aloud perhaps hundreds of times. I was pleasantly

surprised to notice a sense of peaceful and comforting familiarity settling in, underlying the rhythm of the words being repeated. It is not enough to just read something once or twice or even ten times, for it seems there is something else greater beyond the words themselves, hidden in plain sight. Freemasonry does possess many tools and symbols to contemplate upon to help good men become better. From what I can tell, the working tools that are presented during the degrees are pretty much all one needs to move through life in a most effective and harmonious way. The 24 inch gauge, common gavel, chisel, square, level, plumb rule, scarret, pencil, and compasses, are tools which we as Freemasons apply figuratively to our morals and also to our actions, which by the Grace of the Great Architect of the Universe, leads to results. Word by word, syllable by syllable, meaning by meaning, the Masonic tools chip away at the rough ashlar, making changes inside, which most likely are only the beginnings of change, the result of which, with great hope, is yet to be revealed.

Thank you, Worshipful Master

The preceding paper was passed on to eBee for publication by the Secretary of Sentinel Lodge #146, RW Bro. Rick Hahn, who felt the message in this paper is too good not to be shared with the Brethren of our jurisdiction.

The author, Bro. Garry Tarasoff, was Initiated, Passed and Raised in Sentinel Lodge #146 in 2010 - 11. He is currently Junior Deacon in Sentinel Lodge. The paper came about because the Lodge's Education Officer asked the Lodge's newer Brethren to write a short paper about their interpretation of Freemasonry and what it has meant to them so far.

Thoughts on an Entered Apprentice Degree

When I truly began this journey in earnest three months ago, I didn't realize how profoundly this would change my life in such a short span of time. The more I read and reread the material that was given to me when I was accepted as an Entered Apprentice Freemason, the more excited I became about this new phase of my life. As I reflect over my initiation in to the Craft, and then witnessed again just two weeks later when I visited a fellow lodge, I was struck by what a journey it really is. And what stood out for me the most over this time is that this truly is a journey from darkness to light. From ignorance into a state of enlightenment as it were.

Every time I studied the memory work that I had been entrusted with, every time I read the material that accompanied it, a different part would ring true with me and it would stop me in my tracks, figuratively speaking. One time it was the realization that I was stripped of all my earthly goods so that I could focus on the "inner man" and the knowledge that we are equals inside the lodge. This was reinforced by the fact that the all the words that I spoke, were spoken by all my fellow brethren in front of me now, and by all of the fellow brethren that had come before them and before them, and before them.

The uses of the gauge and the gavel also struck a chord with me. The reminder that time is indeed precious and we need to use it wisely, as well that we must also use the gavel to smooth our stones into that work of beauty that lies inside all of us.

Finally, I was humbled and honored by the fact that I was asked to join all of you in your individual journeys through the craft. As taught in our first Grand Principle of Brotherly Love, we are all brothers and are therefore all family and would support each other out of fraternal love and friendship and not just obligation.

Thank-you my brethren for helping and supporting me on my first steps along this journey. I will continue to lean on you for support, but I will also be there for you each in turn.

Ed Note: "The above piece by Brother Tarasoff is an example of what our Brethren get from the Craft. Good news stories are always important to see because these Brethren are those we will rely on to carry the Craft forward. This article was presented to Mount Hermon Lodge by Brother Morgan Collins upon proving up following his Entered Apprentice Degree. We hope that in future we will be able to get copies of similar pieces from other Brethren that we might be able to reflect the opinions of some of our newer Brethren as they proceed in their journey."