

Masonic Window on a Century Ago

R.W. Bro. Doug Franklin

Haida Lodge No. 166

One hundred years ago, during the summer of 1916, the Great War was not going well for the British Empire and allied forces. During these darkest days, our soldiers, sailors and airmen faced a strong and well-equipped enemy. The first Battle of the Somme, from 1 July 1916 until 18 November 1916 was the most horrific in human history, with approximately one million men killed or wounded. On the first day of the offensive, the British Army suffered the most casualties in its history, with 57,470 killed or wounded. There were numerous acts of valour and heroism at the Front, and among those who distinguished themselves were many soldiers who were Freemasons.

It is difficult for us to imagine the world and its events of one hundred years ago. Of course, thousands of books and many more thousand memoirs have been written about the First World War. One could spend a huge amount of time reading only a selection of such writings. From the books of scholarly historians, including military historians, through to the diaries of generals and enlisted men in the trenches, a picture of the struggles, fears, sacrifices and victories is presented to us.

Looking through the distant window of time we, as Freemasons, may put our own perspective on that terrible war. The *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, A.F. & A.M. 1916* offers us such a view. Leafing through those pages brings to life how our Brethren endured the darkest year of the war, and also how they recognized their Brethren in service.

First, a little background. In 1916 our Grand Lodge convened its forty-fifth annual Communication in Vancouver. There were 77 Warranted Lodges, plus three Lodges Under Dispensation. The total membership in the Craft was 7,797. In the *Proceedings* under the Report of the Grand Secretary was a special section headed, "Members Who Have Enlisted for Active Service." This section runs to eleven pages, and includes the names of approximately 600 Freemasons of our Grand Jurisdiction known to be serving at the time. As V.W. Bro. W.A. DeWolf-Smith, Grand Secretary, noted, "This does not profess to be a complete list, but contains the names which have been sent me by the Secretaries of the Lodges." The list enumerates the Lodge number, name of Brother, Masonic Rank, Corps, and Military Rank. All ranks were represented, from Private to Major-General, including Surgeon, Bandsman, Trooper, Gunner, Chief Engineer and Steward. The said Major-General was R.W. Bro. Arthur Currie, Past Master of Vancouver and Quadra Lodge No. 2, Victoria.

The proportion of Brethren serving from their respective Lodges is both interesting and revealing. For example, many Lodges had 5 to 10 percent of their Brethren in active service.

One, Southern Cross Lodge No. 44, Vancouver, had nearly 30 percent Brethren serving. Another, DeWolf Lodge No. 78, Port Coquitlam, had 20 percent of its members in uniform. The highest proportion of serving Brethren in any Lodge was in United Service Lodge No. 24, Esquimalt, with 44 percent. This Lodge included, of course, numerous Brethren from the British Army, Royal Navy and Royal Canadian Navy.

The section of the *Proceedings* entitled “In Memoriam” included not only a listing of the Dead within the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, but also a “Roll of Honour” enumerating 16 Brethren who laid down their lives. Included is the name of Captain James Herrick McGregor of Victoria who died on April 25, 1915 while serving on the Western Front. Captain McGregor was Paymaster for the Manitoba Regiment, Canadian Infantry. He was born near Montreal, Quebec, in 1869, and graduated in Civil Engineering from McGill University. He moved to British Columbia and became the first registered Land Surveyor following passage of the Provincial Land Surveyors Act in 1891. He worked throughout the Province, and laid out the town sites of Telegraph Creek, Glenora and several others. By the early 1900s, he had settled in Oak Bay near Victoria. He was President of the Union Club in 1914 and forty years of age when war broke out, and he immediately enlisted. As Regimental Paymaster, he found himself in the midst of one of the earliest Canadian actions in the war—the Battle of Kitcheners Wood. Armed only with a walking stick, he stood by the infantry and gave them moral support as they made their famous charge and repelled the Germans. Capt. McGregor survived the charge, with only a wound to his hand. The next day, he was felled by a sniper’s bullet to the forehead.

Today, we continue to admire the courage of our Brethren during that distant war. Our Masonic kinship with them is like an echo we hear when the beloved lessons of our Craft are delivered in our Lodges today, in the same words that they heard more than a century ago.

References

Proceedings 1916 Grand Lodge of British Columbia.

The Quixotic Gallantry of Herrick McGregor. Oak Bay Chronicles web site.

Almoners Fund Makes Donation

In February of 2016 Nechako Lodge #86 in Prince George formed an Almoners Committee. The Committee was charged with collecting food and cash donations from Nechako Lodge members, to be donated to a worthy Charitable organization in our community.

Our newly raised Master Mason, Brother Perry Nimco was charged with performing his first act of charity by donating the Funds contents to the local Salvation Army. On May 10th Brother Nimco, along with five other Nechako Lodge members presented Captain Neil Wilkinson with seventy-five pounds of food and two hundred and fifty dollars in gift certificates.



Congratulations go out to Chairman Calvin Joe and the Almoner Committee Members on this fine act of charity. The Lodge hopes to double its efforts this fall.

Freemasonry in Action

A letter from Mayor of Kelowna

(Bro. Mert Berkalp is a member of Melrose Lodge)

City of Kelowna



Office of the Mayor

March 16, 2015
File: 0130-01

Mert Berkalp
P.O. Box 46908
2405 Pine Street
Vancouver, BC V6J 5M4

Dear Mr. Berkalp:

It was brought to my attention recently that, in the spring of 2014 while driving through Kelowna, you and Suzanne Stewart-Patterson assisted a young woman in distress.

Suzanne reported that you noticed this young woman sitting on the side of the road and believed that she needed assistance. By encouraging Suzanne to alert the RCMP, you and Suzanne most likely prevented the young woman from harming herself.

I commend you for following your instincts and making the effort to assist one of our citizens. Your actions showed selfless concern for the well being of another person and that is the true definition of altruism. Please accept the enclosed pin as a small token of my appreciation.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'C. Basran'.

Colin Basran
MAYOR

Enclosure

Copy: Suzanne Stewart-Patterson (via email s.stewartpatterson@gmail.com)

Freemasonry in Action

Close call - Prince David Lodge 101



*Here's a few photos for you
No physical damage to the building, believe it or not, not even a broken
window!*

*Fraternally
Douglas Thibault
IPM Prince David Lodge 101*

Freemasonry in Action

True Resolution Lodge No. 16 in Vancouver.



MWB Douglas Collins, Grand Master of B.C. & Yukon joins MWB Gregory D. Wraggs, Sr., Grand Master of Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Washington and Jurisdiction, on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of amity between the two Grand Lodges. The Ceremony took place May 7, at True Resolution Lodge No. 16 in Vancouver.

Freemasonry in Action

1st Annual Art Berry Memorial Golf



On May 08, 2015 V.W. Bro. Arthur Charles Berry passed to the Grand Lodge above. Prior to his passing Art asked the Grand Lodge of BC and Yukon to support his cause in bringing all the Lodges in British Columbia and Yukon together to create a data base for the BC Organ Donor Program. With Grand Lodge's support Art prepared and forwarded packages

containing information on the BC Organ Donor Program to the Secretaries of each Lodge. A group of Brothers came together from Euclid Lodge # 158 in Parksville, BC in March 2016 and decided to create the *1st Annual Art Berry Memorial Golf Tournament*.

This tournament was held on May 03, 2016 to celebrate the 1st Anniversary of Arthur Charles Berry's passing. Within 3 weeks the tournament was sold out with 110 Brethren and their wives signing up to enjoy the day of golf, followed by a dinner.



During the evening's festivities a 50/50 draw, raffles, Silent and Live auction raised over \$5,000 in funds which were donated to the BC Organ Donor Program. Plans for the 2nd Annual Art Berry Memorial Golf Tournament are already underway to continue to fundraise for the cause that was such a passion in Art's life.

Respectfully submitted by W. Bro. Ralph G. Rayne

Freemasonry in Action

Cariboo Lodge No. 4,



On his Official Visit to District 4 South, MWB Douglas Collins was joined in Barkerville by MWB David Abel, Grand Master of Saskatchewan (r) and MWB Bob McSween

Freemasonry in Action

Cariboo Lodge No. 4,



At his recent visit to District 4 North, Our Grand Master had the privilege of sitting with two fathers and their sons, all members of the same Lodge.

From –l-r- -Seated- Bro. Kevin Germaine, RWB Clifford Finch- DDGM District 4 North-
Grand Master MWB Douglas Collins, WB D’Arcy Bell

Standing- VWB Howard Germaine, WB Denys Bell

Why the Work Matters

RWBro Glen J. Notman, PDDGM,

Hamilton District C, The Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario from "Reflections — The Newsletter of the Committee on Masonic Education, Vol. 29 No. 4," published in *Ontario Mason Magazine*, Winter 2016.

Brethren, I firmly believe that the Work is our unifying cornerstone and when each of us puts effort into doing the Work well, everything else — the fellowship, the pride, the purpose, — comes naturally. But what do I mean when I say "cornerstone"?

According to Wikipedia, the cornerstone is the first stone set in the construction of a masonry foundation. This is important, since all other stones will be set in reference to this stone, thus determining the position of the entire structure. The cornerstone I am referring to is the crucial piece that gets laid in setting the parameters for a foundation.

The setting of the cornerstone is precise, and all of the subsequent lines and angles of the building are referenced from it. Our Work sets the standard for the bearing of the beams and walls in the construction of the entire Lodge.

So in plain terms, when I say that the Work is the cornerstone of Masonry, I am saying that it forms the beginning of our foundation and unites all of us; that every Brother has a responsibility to take ownership of doing the Work well and in making a good impression on you, your Brethren, and your candidates.

Louis Pasteur said "Chance favours only the prepared mind." By this he meant that sudden flashes of insight don't just happen — they are the products of preparation. Preparation, therefore, is the key to success. So how does the Work prepare the mind?

It takes effort to make the Work easier to manage. You need to engage in a form of meditation, clear your mind of other thoughts and focus on what is written. This focus, and the practice of the words, brings a sense of freedom when the concept is finally grasped.

How many of us have struggled with a few words, or a part of the degree? You had to repeat, practice and verbalize, when Eureka! Suddenly, we get the underlying meaning and intent.

The Work prepares us for life as men. It builds a mind well constituted for facing the daily travails of our lives. The concepts prepare us for seeking insight, growing awareness and learning to appreciate the lives around us; to cultivate harmony, practice charity and live peaceful lives.

In the Work we are taught to consider the harmony of the Lodge as paramount, not just getting along with each other, but striving together. The Work, when done well, brings us all together, united in a common focus. It enables a level of trust, alignment and support amongst men that is inspiring to observe, and exhilarating in which to participate.

This month, due to all the unfortunate circumstances that a Master faces on degree night, a Lodge had to call on members from four other Lodges to perform a degree, and they did it well.

Watching someone who stands up for their first time to deliver a portion of the Work, you can see all the Brethren in attendance lean in, trying to “will success” on their Brother, wanting nothing more than to see him deliver without issue. It is their passion for doing the Work, and doing it well, level and square, which prompts those “encouraging” sideline whispers. When you put the effort into doing the Work well, in a timely fashion, in harmony with each other, so that all parts are done equally well, then we see confidence grow. Then, your Lodge has time and energy to do more, to meet, discuss, and grow deeper fraternal bonds, making attendance in Lodge a pleasurable and desirable experience for all of us.

The Work teaches us honour and integrity as individuals. We first hear the words and vow to uphold them, then agree to take a part in delivering portions of the Work. then mentor others to help them understand it. The life lessons it offers are vast. Who amongst us did not pause and gulp when facing the tray of benevolence in the North East and heard, “He has nothing!”, then felt the relief of replying in the affirmative to, “Would you give if it were in your power?”

Finally the Work unites us all as Brothers. We are brought from darkness into the light, from ignorance to awareness, from Mister to Brother, to learn the most important concepts of enlightenment, as we all work together to build our prepared minds. The words of the Work, and their intent, enable each of us to reach a balance of mind, of word and of deed, as Men, as Masons, and as Brothers.

Mahatma Gandhi said, “A man is but the product of his thoughts. What he thinks, he becomes.” Make a personal commitment, study the words we are given. To do the Work well, you need to put in the effort, and you need to see it done well. I encourage you all to visit, to share and to practice. The Work is our cornerstone, use it to find your Eureka moments and give your Craft Lodge a firm foundation

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5 Powers of Freemasonry for Members

By VWBro Dan Zyrmiak

Freemasons in 2016 may reflect fondly and longingly on past decades when membership enrollment numbers were higher, and feel powerless to restore such lofty levels of involvement. In times when brethren may feel powerless against competing attractions of technology, work commitments, and endless forms of entertainment, I thought that it would be best to look within our Craft and draw strength from the powers that already exist within Freemasonry.

This has been adapted from a similar presentation for another organization, but in many cases the logic and rationale is more evident and compelling in support of Freemasonry than for any other personal or professional organization. My intent is that if asked to describe the benefits of Freemasonry, we can elaborate beyond the standard phrase, “making good men better”, to something more persuasive.

The benefits of Freemasonry can be summarized as 5 distinct powers, which not only support the brother involved within the Craft, but the Craft itself and the communities and society to which the Craft belongs.

1. Power of Accessibility

Freemasonry permits installation and affiliation to anyone of mature age, under the tongue of good report, and free by birth. This permits our Craft to be accessible to anyone regardless of stature, education, income, age, community, and is open to all theistic men regardless of nationality, culture, creed, or doctrine.

Accessibility also refers to the universal availability of Masons and Freemasonry in general. Even if there is not a meeting, where Masons are there can be a gathering or even an ad hoc lodge. This power reinforces inclusiveness and promotes universal tolerance and acceptance throughout the world.

2. Power of Prestige

Freemasonry makes reference to the Order of the Garter , the Golden Fleece, and Roman Eagle within its ritual. The prestige of Freemasonry is not only showcased by its buildings and artifacts, but by the reputations and legacies of past and present members who have aspired to the pinnacles of power, academia, business, and other pursuits. The prestige reinforces the importance of living to and abiding by high standards in work and life, and of conveying that dedication to others.

3. Power of Precision

Precision reflects refinement and a clear focus and direction of effort. This power should also remind us that Freemasonry offers many attributes and challenges to address the different capabilities of others. While some are natural leaders and organizers, others can display their dedication through oratory and ceremonial performance. For those who are blessed with actual craftsmanship and skills in the various trades and services, Freemasonry has the ability to accommodate those capabilities as well. There are many ways to be distinguished within the Craft, and this power allows men to grow and flourish in their own best manner.

4. Power of Mobility

Mobility reflects the capacity to change, either geographically or personally. As Freemasonry exists throughout the known world, it supports and enhances relocation. As Freemasonry is a fraternity of personal growth (as referenced by the figurative transformation from the rough ashlar to the perfect ashlar over time), there is also a personal mobility across different levels of personal Craftsmanship. A person who has spent time in Freemasonry cannot claim to have had the experiences of the same year repeated multiple times, as each year bring change, growth, and maturity. A Freemason in good standing is welcomed and embraced at concordant bodies and other warranted lodges in good standing. Through this mobility, Freemasonry is available to a brother at every point and stage of his travels.

5. Power of Rewards

When I created this model for a professional organization, the rewards could be communicated in terms of a financial advantage showing cost recovery and return on investment. However within Freemasonry, the rewards are not explicit but more intrinsic. The rewards depend on the values and principles of the brother in question. Whether it is the pride of seeing a protégé (particularly a child or relative) advance in the Craft, or alternatively reaching new levels of Fraternal authority as a DDGM or Grand Lodge officer. Freemasonry is not a charity, but it embeds charitable activities within the programs which also bring many rewarding experiences. Whether it is from personal achievement or a lodge transformation, Freemasonry provides the impetus to sustain involvement over decades and generations.

Are these powers enough to keep a brother engaged and motivated to continue a journey within Freemasonry? Every brother has to find their own relevant and pertinent examples within these themes, and construct their own distinct narrative. The best part about Freemasonry is that there is no expiry date; we have the rest of our lives to understand and master these particular powers.

Sick and Visiting

By VWBro Dan Zrymiak

In May 2016 I had the opportunity to spend a significant amount of time attending to my biological brother who was hospitalized for multiple injuries and afflictions. This was the first time I had spent as a visitor in some years, and those visits were to my parents as they endured the stages of their terminal illnesses. I had my own hospitalization a few years ago, but at that time I was the recipient of sick and visiting gestures.

It is different when it is a brother, either biological or fraternal. With a brother, there is a connection that goes beyond empathy; that could be me requiring care and attention. I am sharing some perspectives on some fresh considerations that a brother should have when visiting, particularly if the patient will be hospitalized for a longer duration. These are my personal suggestions and not meant to override any official medical treatments. They are just meant for the added care and comfort of the brother whom you are visiting, and to make the Sick and Visiting experience an uplifting event.

1. Wear your Square and Compasses

You are a brother and this is first to remind yourself of your personal commitments. Hospitals have been recipients of Masonic charity, and Freemasons should be looked upon favorably. There may also be others in the Craft who may extend assistance and support once they know the fraternal connection. There is nothing to lose and everything to be gained, particularly in the care of a brother. Wear it on a shirt, a ring, or a cap. Proudly show your Craft, and the devotion to your brother which is a hallmark of our fraternity.

2. Project an Attitude of Gratitude

Everyone has their own style. In my case, it involved offers of dark chocolate or Italian cookies (which were appreciated and graciously accepted by the staff). With gratitude comes appreciation and a growing rapport with those who must perform unpleasant but necessary duties and procedures as part of the care. This might also instill a more positive and prompt response when special needs are requested. Hospitals are not hotels, and patients are prioritized based on the risks and impacts of their particular conditions. Still, a little gratitude could go a long way.

3. Bring fresh soap, shampoo, underwear, and a shirt

In a hospital, hours can turn into days, before hygiene is considered. The standard industrial soap and shampoo may not leave that feeling of freshness. As long as the items are not too fragrant, a personal soap and shampoo would be therapeutic, and multiple changes of clothes can help to restore confidence and wellness. Even if the patient has arrived with clean underwear, it may not remain clean and freshly laundered undergarments can actually prevent infections or bacterial growth for those hard-to-wash areas.

4. Provide water, good tea, and cups of fresh fruit and vegetables

As an alternative to the hospital pipes, which may well be laced with lead and asbestos, a fresh sparkling bottled water or distilled water will be a delightful alternative. Even the best hospitals don't always keep the Earl Grey, Chai, or Chamomile tea available for patrons (again hospitals are not hotels), so a

few bags of tea can be more enjoyable than the industrial cauldron of Red Rose, brewed by the gallon in the cafeteria. I found that the local grocery stores sold fresh fruit and vegetables in convenient plastic cups, which could then be stored in a refrigerator on the ward. This gives the patient 24/7 access to healthy snacks and inspiring flavors.

5. Supply lots of interesting reading material

This is a tip that supports both the patient and the visitors. With my brother, since he wanted to know what was new in the world, I brought a range of magazines and newspapers which included the New York Times (weekend edition), Esquire, The Economist, and his favorite, Mad Magazine (two editions). This fills the time and stimulates interesting discussions. When the brain is activated, that will make it more attentive to healing and wellness

6. Condiments, spices, and treats

Hospitals are not hotels, and cafeterias are not gourmet chefs. After 3 or more days of chipped beef on toast with a side of mashed potatoes and frozen vegetables (vintage 2013), the palate seeks new stimulants. For my brother, I picked up some hot sauce and other flavorings which he ended up bringing home after the hospital stay. Please confirm with your doctor if spices are acceptable (not recommended for gastro-intestinal conditions), but the idea is to augment the food in a way to make it more enjoyable. As a treat and an alternative to flowers, I picked up some flavored chicken wings which were appreciated and enjoyed.

7. Keep a running record of events and attending doctors and nurses

The patient needs his brother to be watchful and vigilant. There is also a need to reassure the patient that he is in good care. One way is to track all events and caregivers by name. The best example is to track when particular medications are provided so that there is traceability between the dosage and any effects or reactions. This also helps to manage expectations around a particular cadence or sequence of events. Whether meds are administered every 3, 4, or 6 hours, this can help to pace the patient when they can and should sleep, walk, use the toilet, or attempt other recovery actions.

8. Pay for extended parking in advance

This is a logistical issue, and ensures that you don't have to abandon the patient in order to avoid a parking ticket or vehicle towing. It is a good idea to familiarize yourself with the neighborhood, especially at night. Parking is less expensive a few blocks from the hospital, so if more frequent visits are expected, prudence in this area would be beneficial, and money saved on parking could be redirected to gratitude items (dark chocolate, Italian cookies) or treats (fresh fruit, salsa, chicken wings).

9. Mention the naked emperors, gorillas, and elephants in the room

A patient who is hospitalized may need to make lifestyle choices in order to fully recover. As a brother you have to be truthful and assertive and encourage constructive steps in the necessary direction. In my personal case, I had to adopt lifestyle changes in order to prevent recurrence of my own condition. This may require the patient to overcome denial and deflection. The hospitals often have counselors and social workers available to support patients in this regard.

10. Be ready to get dirty

Sometimes the patient encounters nausea or other conditions more intensely than expected, and is not in close enough proximity to a washroom. A brother should be prepared to be on duty, with a bucket, a bedpan, or a jug. Without going into detail, I will just say that we have to be prepared to support our brothers in ways that strangers can't do. This may mean a few spots or stains on our garments.

I am not a saint and I have not had or done the sick and visiting service that others have. I believe that as our brethren in the Craft age and reach the limits of their physical capabilities, we should recognize and embrace this opportunity to serve and support our brethren. Sometimes we hesitate because we don't exactly know what is involved. I hope that through this article, I have been able to reveal some expectations and help others make their Sick and Visiting activities transform into uplifting and inspiring events. When done right, this will reward both the visitor and the patient.

CARDIAC ARREST VS. HEART ATTACK

People often use these terms interchangeably, but they are not the same.

WHAT IS CARDIAC ARREST?

CARDIAC ARREST occurs when the heart malfunctions and stops beating unexpectedly.

Cardiac arrest is triggered by an electrical malfunction in the heart that causes an irregular heartbeat (arrhythmia). With its pumping action disrupted, the heart cannot pump blood to the brain, lungs and other organs.



Cardiac arrest is an **"ELECTRICAL"** problem.

WHAT HAPPENS

Seconds later, a person becomes unresponsive, is not breathing or is only gasping. **Death occurs within minutes if the victim does not receive treatment.**

WHAT TO DO

CALL 9-1-1



Cardiac arrest can be reversible in some victims if it's treated within a few minutes. First, call 9-1-1 and start CPR right away. Then, if an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is available, use it as soon as possible. If two people are available to help, one should begin CPR immediately while the other calls 9-1-1 and finds an AED.

CARDIAC ARREST is a **LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH.**

Nearly **360,000** out-of-hospital cardiac arrests occur annually in the United States



Fast action can save lives.

©2013 American Heart Association. 1/13DS6554

WHAT IS A HEART ATTACK?

A HEART ATTACK occurs when blood flow to the heart is blocked.

A blocked artery prevents oxygen-rich blood from reaching a section of the heart. If the blocked artery is not reopened quickly, the part of the heart normally nourished by that artery begins to die.



A heart attack is a **"CIRCULATION"** problem.

WHAT HAPPENS

Symptoms of a heart attack may be immediate and may include intense discomfort in the chest or other areas of the upper body, shortness of breath, cold sweats, and/or nausea/vomiting. More often, though, symptoms start slowly and persist for hours, days or weeks before a heart attack. Unlike with cardiac arrest, the heart usually does not stop beating during a heart attack. **The longer the person goes without treatment, the greater the damage.**



The heart attack symptoms in women can be different than men (shortness of breath, nausea/vomiting, and back or jaw pain).

WHAT TO DO

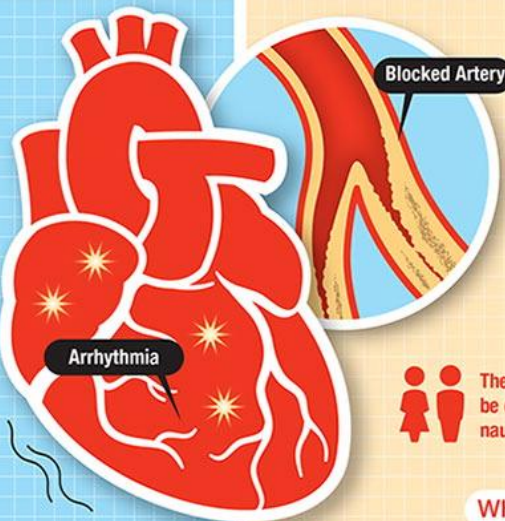
CALL 9-1-1

Even if you're not sure it's a heart attack, call 9-1-1 or your emergency response number. Every minute matters! It's best to call EMS to get to the emergency room right away. Emergency medical services staff can begin treatment when they arrive — up to an hour sooner than if someone gets to the hospital by car. EMS staff are also trained to revive someone whose heart has stopped. Patients with chest pain who arrive by ambulance usually receive faster treatment at the hospital, too.

WHAT IS THE LINK?



Most heart attacks do not lead to cardiac arrest. But when cardiac arrest occurs, heart attack is a common cause. Other conditions may also disrupt the heart's rhythm and lead to cardiac arrest.



American Heart Association®

CPR & First Aid

Learn more about CPR or to find a course, go to heart.org/cpr

A PARTING MESSAGE

They say parting is such sweet sorrow. Well, actually it wasn't "they" , it was Juliet, but as I've said many times this year, a newsman shouldn't let the facts get in the way of a good story.

Seriously, I wanted to say to those who are not going to be at Grand Lodge in June how much I have appreciated the opportunity to serve you as your Grand Master this past year.

It has been a very tumultuous year personally, as many of you know, but a great year Masonically. We have moved several projects forward, we have worked hard to be transparent, and to carry the message of civility, engagement, and respect to as many Brethren as we can, and we have met on the level so many of our members who do so much for Freemasonry.

Travelling from one end of the Jurisdiction to the other, from small Districts to large, we have seen Freemasonry in Action. To all of you who have worked to Make Your Masonic Mark, thank you for what you do every day, in your family, at work, in Lodge and in your heart.

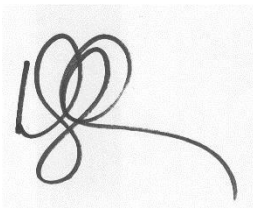
Sue and I shall treasure the opportunities we have had to be among you this year. We have learned much about our province, our Brothers and Sisters, and indeed ourselves.

Being able to raise my son Morgan during my year as Grand Master has been one of the highlights of my journey in the Craft, and I wish to thank the Brethren of Mount Hermon Lodge for their kindness in allowing me to be a part of that.

In our next edition of E-Bee, I will be able to talk more about the past year, and we will be able to outline the goals of our incoming Grand Master, RWB Ian Bowman, who has great plans in place to raise the bar even higher in our Jurisdiction. Our team is strong, and it is made stronger by all of you.

I have tried hard to make my own Masonic Mark this year. If I have had any success whatsoever, it is because of your caring and support.

My heartfelt thanks.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MWB Douglas Collins'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

MWB Douglas Collins

Grand Master, British Columbia and Yukon

Statement of Intention, Objectives & Strategies

R.W. Bro. Douglas Franklin

Why I aspire to the office of Junior Grand Warden

Leadership means service. Thirty years of service in our Craft has given me strategies to lead—not to direct, but to build a team to benefit all Brethren. My experience in four key Grand Lodge committees has positioned me to shape a solid plan for the future.

Overview of goals and objectives in seeking election

1 First and foremost, I want to ensure the health of our Craft Lodges.

How to achieve this objective

The Lodge Excellence and Award Program should be promoted vigorously, as it provides an effective and proven outline of ways to improve Lodges. L.E.A.P. applications should increase twofold over a two-year period.

I would also like to present a plan to have ritual education at our Grand Lodge Communications. This was done with great acclaim in the past. For instance, teams could exemplify parts of the three degrees in the various rituals—perhaps different Work each year.

2 Hand-in-hand with the vitality of Lodges, excellence in leadership is fundamental to our success. Lodge Officers and aspiring Grand Lodge Officers need to have quality, face-to-face leadership training events.

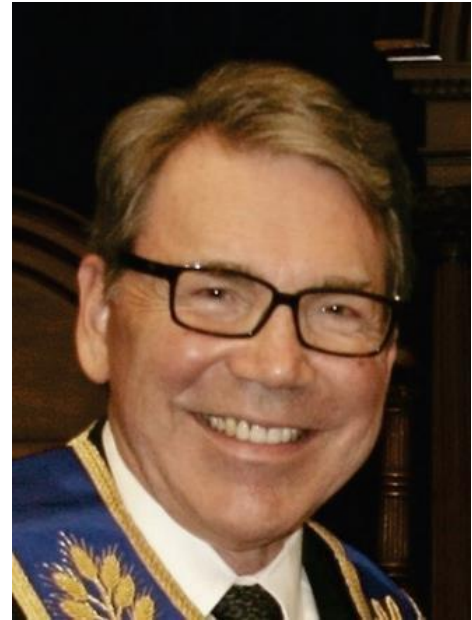
How to achieve this objective

The recent exercise to review the Five-Pillar Plan identified important ways to improve leadership training, including preparing workshop materials for the Education and Leadership Committee in cooperation with Ashlar College of Freemasonry. Having served as Chairman of Ashlar College during the past three years, I can help secure this objective.

3 Developing solid community relations is needed more than ever. Our beloved Craft has withstood constant buffeting over the years. We must aim to control messaging about who we are and what we do. There are many good news stories that we can tell.

How to achieve this objective

Our Grand Lodge can design and deliver a low-cost plan to generate better media and community relations. I have had extensive experience in managing public and media relations.



Overall strategy

As Junior Grand Warden, I would be the new player in a team of senior Grand Lodge Officers. I am committed to working and building in harmony.

R.W. Bro. Donald Mackenzie

Goals & Objectives

Position of Junior Grand Warden

Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon

March 10, 2016

I didn't realize until I began my District Deputy Grand Master appointment how much my ancestors had influenced me. My dad, uncle, grandfather, and his father before him were all Freemasons. It is through their actions, attitudes, and how they conducted their lives, that stood as an example of how I should conduct mine. These men led by and lived by the principles of Freemasonry.

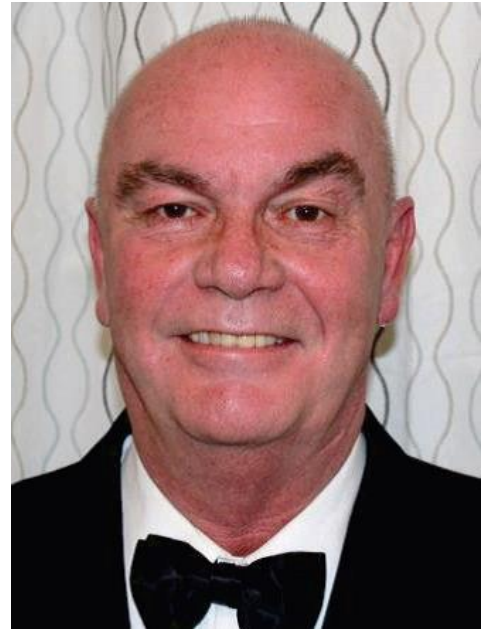
It is my goal to lead into the future and to help sustain this great institution for generations to come.

I believe Freemasonry is more relevant today than ever before even with the challenges in declining membership. Membership retention will be my focus. I believe if we take care of the members we have and make them feel welcomed and engaged the impact will be a positive one. Along with membership, I hope to encourage improvement of ritual work within all lodges in the jurisdiction. This too will help to improve visitations thereby increasing fellowship for all.

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

I have witnessed those that have entered the Grand Line and have been awed by their devotion and humility.

I look forward to the opportunity to complete my journey in Freemasonry and to grow the craft.



Why I aspire to be Junior Grand Warden RW Bro. Russ Morrison

I believe the role of Junior Grand Warden is to support the leadership of the jurisdiction and to provide a steady guidance and benevolent intervention when called upon.

For over 28 years I have been privileged to serve the craft in many capacities, including Grand Lodge officer (twice). In working with the Grand Line officers, I have learned much and continue to do so and wish to share my learnings with the craft in general.

We are in a new age with respect to our craft and we must listen to our younger brethren, to share our ideas to help us succeed as we go forward in our craft. Remaining status quo will be our demise, we need to try new things, that can best serve our craft and share those findings with other lodges.

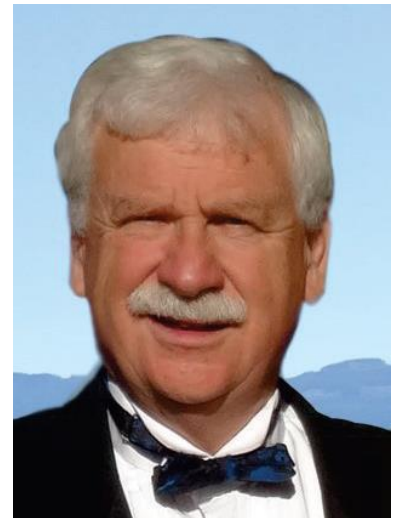
We need to practice civility not only in our Lodges but also in our community. Practice what we preach

I believe the members of Ashlar College become a viable part of the Grand Lodge speaker's bureau. Currently we are working towards implementing a program where we hope to put some of our speakers onto the Web so that their message will be the same in every part of our jurisdiction. What a powerful message to let brethren in every part of our jurisdiction hear what only a few may get nowadays.

Continued use of the six step program is a must.

We need to have the lodges conduct professional and organized meetings. This greatly enhances the appearance of the lodge to all in attendance. If elected I will work to the best of my ability to ensure the goals of Grand Lodge and the craft are fulfilled.

I am excited about the prospect of serving my fellow brothers and our Grand Lodge and contributing to the ongoing success of our Fraternity.



Grand Lodge AD HOC Committee on Review of Governance Regional Representative Resolution Preamble 2016

Regional Representative:

Referenced History - At the One-Hundred and Thirty-First Annual Communication held in 2002, Resolution 6 was first proposed and later amended to state that effective June 2003, one Worshipful Brother be elected from each of not more than nine regions for not more than a three year term. As the definition of “regions” was not evident at this Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge Board of General Purposes established the “regions” that were then adopted, as noted in item 4 below. The main purpose in consolidating Districts into Regions was to limit the membership of the Board of General Purposes.

Once the position of a Regional Representative was created, there needed to be defined duties and responsibilities for the role; RW Brother Neil Westmacott was instrumental in then drafting and proposing the Regional Representative Manual and Roles and Responsibilities, noted in items 5 and 6. The Office of the Grand Secretary has formally published clear guidelines on the Regional Representative Responsibilities and Election Procedures; as noted in item 7.

To authenticate the resources used by this committee in understanding and researching the history of the Regional Representative the following list of reference documents is provided:

1. *Headen, William*, ‘Resolution 6’, *Proceedings of the One-Hundred and Thirty-First Annual Communication*, Vancouver: Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon, 2002. pp. 98-102
2. *Headen, William*, ‘Report of the ad hoc Committee to Review the Grand Lodge Board of General Purposes’, *Proceedings of the One-Hundred and Thirty-First Annual Communication*, Vancouver: Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon, 2002. pp. 124-126
3. *Walls, William, Ord*, ‘Grand Master’s Address’, *Proceedings of the One-Hundred and Thirty-Second Annual Communication*, Dawson Creek: Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon, 2003. pp 11-20 Presented by MW Brother Harold C. Nordan for
4. *Grand Secretary Office*, ‘Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon Regions’, Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon Board Of General Purposes, 2004-12-08
5. *Westmacott, Neil*, ‘Regional Representative Manual’, 2009-04
6. *Westmacott, Neil*, ‘Regional Representative Roles and Responsibilities’, 2010-04
7. *Grand Secretary Office*, ‘Regional Representatives, Responsibilities and Election Procedures,’ revised 2012.
8. *Godfrey, Stephen*, ‘Report of the AD HOC Committee on Organizational Analysis and Evaluation’, *Proceedings of the One-Hundred and Forty-Second Annual Communication*, Burnaby: Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon, 2014. pp 146-156

Regional Representative Reports and Attendance – From the beginning of this committee’s mandate in 2014, the members have participated as observers to all meetings of the Grand Lodge Board of General Purposes either in person or by teleconference. It was obvious from the outset that the Regional Representative reports to the Board demonstrated very limited participation.

Regional Representative Survey Results – This committee resolved to solicit comments, suggestions and concerns from the existing Regional Representatives. This outreach was extended to current and former Regional Representatives to demonstrate this committee’s effort to solicit full participation of all Regional Representatives and to receive a representative response.

The specific questions are contained within the REPORT *of the AD HOC COMMITTEE on REVIEW of GOVERNANCE; Proceedings of the One Hundred and Forty-Fourth Annual Communication ‘125-132’* held 19 & 20 June 2015. This report also mentions that there was support for continuing the Regional Representative program; however, it must be said that the initial comments received were from only two of nine current Representatives and one former Representative. Despite outreaches to the current and former Regional Representatives, the total responses now received is six of nine and a brief summary of their comments is provided below:

1. The District Deputy Grand Master position is “Management”, representing the Grand Master. The Regional Representative Position is “Union”, representing the general (assessed paying) membership. These comments caused concern with committee members that the true nature of our fraternity and in particular, Grand Lodge, is not well understood by some.
2. The Regional Representative has a seat at the Board of General Purposes and any feedback he may bring from the brethren is meant to be heard by the entire Board, not just the Grand Master or even Grand Line Officers.
3. Grand Lodge does not listen to members and in effect is a clique, tantamount to an old boys club. The committee wonders whether this perception is the result of failure of Lodges to inform the brethren of information received from the Office of the Grand Secretary.
4. The District Deputy Grand Master must promote and support the Regional Representative and their role clearly defined and explained to the membership at the Lodge level.
5. No one seems to know where the Regional Representative fits in the scheme of things, although this is clearly set out in the *Book of Constitutions and Regulations*.
6. Lodges should receive a one page summary of the Board of General Purposes.
7. There were comments on the District Deputy Grand Masters inability to manage the affairs of the Regional Representative.

While these comment do not reflect all responses received by this committee they do constitute the salient points. It must be noted that this committee attempted one additional time to solicit comments from the Regional Representatives in a memorandum advising them our intent to submit a Resolution changing the composition of the Board of General Purposes and requesting feedback.

Committee Summary - this committee acknowledges, with gratitude, the comments of many concerned brethren regarding the role of a Regional Representative and in an effort to provide a meaningful, yet brief summary, offers the following observations:

1. Suggestions regarding further training be provided by Grand Lodge to Regional Representatives would be an unnecessary duplication of the informed guidelines already contained in; *Regional Representatives, Responsibilities and Election Procedures*, Grand Secretary Office, revised 2012
2. The Report of the AD HOC Committee on Organizational Analysis and Evaluation made several recommendations including consolidating regions in an attempt to improve representation and Regional Representatives be appointed by the Grand Master. The report further noted and recognized that indeed one suit does not fit all as the Regional Representative initiative has proven not to have worked in all but a very few regions.
3. The concept of an elected Regional Representative is an admirable one; however, in practice, the actual number of elected Regional Representatives over this twelve year period amounts to a handful and the election process has indeed devolved into a method of appointments and acclamation made by District Deputy Grand Masters.
4. The need to have individual Lodge representation to the Grand Lodge Board of General Purposes by way of an elected Regional Representative has proved to be successful in a very few Regions as documented in the minutes of the Grand Lodge Board of General Purposes.
5. The position of a Regional Representative persists as one in search of relevancy.
6. The committee recognizes that this Resolution 1 changing the composition of the Grand Lodge Board of General Purposes by replacing the Regional Representative with District Deputy Grand Masters would necessitate advanced notice to the brethren; with this Resolution Preamble it is our intention to provide the brethren with pertinent information and time to consider the recommended change and ask questions.
7. The resolution presented by the committee will result in the elimination of the position of the Regional Representative effective June 2016. After the proposed change, the District Deputy Grand Master will be the representative of the Lodges and brethren to the Board of General Purposes. A strong link between the Board of General Purposes and the brethren should result.
8. The Deputy Grand Master will introduce the necessary training tools for the newly appointed District Deputy Grand Masters at their annual training program scheduled for April this year. Communication of new responsibilities; (current Regional Representative responsibilities will be assumed by the District Deputy Grand Masters). Previously to the establishment of the Regional Representative role these responsibilities were conducted by the District Deputy Grand Master and the District Deputy Grand Master represented their Lodges and brethren of his District.

Conclusions:

1. Resolution 1 addresses the Board of General Purposes composition. Given the importance of the role of the Education and Leadership Committee, it has been added to the Board of General Purposes composition. Each District Deputy Grand Master shall be an *ex officio* Board member for the duration of his appointment and has the right to attend and participate in all meetings of the Board of General Purposes.
2. Resolution 2 addresses the Board of General Purposes Agenda and adds Lodge secretaries in the distribution of the agenda and minutes of the Grand Lodge Board of General Purposes. Any distribution that is currently sent to Regional Representatives will be distributed to all District Deputy Grand Masters and Lodge Secretaries.

Respectfully submitted:
RW Brother John Teleske, Chairman,
AD HOC COMMITTEE *on* REVIEW *of* GOVERNANCE