



The Allied Masonic Degrees of Canada

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GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT

M. Ven. Bro. Robert J. Turner, S.G.M.
Members of the Grand Council

30 June 2017

Brethren:

It is a pleasure to report to you on the activities of this past year.

The Council secretaries heard from me quite often this year as I asked for information and also as I answered questions they had. As dictated by the Constitution, their annual reports for 2016 were due in my hands by February 1, 2017. **Some of them were very late! Again!** However, again, all was sorted out. It appears that, for another time, I need to remind the Secretaries, and the Sovereign Masters, that the Constitution clearly indicates that this matter must be dealt with by February 1 each year and that there are consequences for tardiness [see sections 201 – 203]. If your Council does not meet between November and February, surely you can work it out so that the payment and information is not late.

MEMBERSHIP

Having received all the reports, our Canada-wide membership for the year 2016 is summarized as follows.

COUNCIL	31 Dec 2015	Initiate	Restore	Affiliate	Deaths	Demits	Suspend	31 DEC. 2016	
Medwayosh #62	21	14		1	4	3		29	
London #68	19		1	1	1	1		19	
James A. Shaw [Burlington] #70	20	1			1	1		19	
Chatham #123	39				3	1		35	
York #133	13			8				21	
Kawartha #143	26	2			2	1		25	
Capital City #154	16		1	1	1	1		17	
Richmond Hill #168	30				1	2	1	26	
Raymond C Purslow #170	36				1	2	2	31	
Dogwood #171	31							31	
Keystone #172	20	2						22	
Bridge City #197	11	2				3		10	
Wakamow #211	18	6			1	1	1	21	
Tylers of Solomon #212	14							14	
Victoria #213	21	3				1		23	
Mariners #214	30				1			29	
Colonel By #217	16							16	
Mozart #218	15	3				1		17	
Yellowhead #220	26					1		25	
Golden Horseshoe #222	25							25	
Borealis #223	17	3		1		4		17	
Peace #224	14	5						19	
Atlantic #225	31	1			1	4		28	
SUMMARY	504	42	2	12	17	27	4	507	without affiliations
Prepared by: Brian Rountree, Grand Secretary 30 April 2017									

The Architect

I also receive, and pass on to the Editor, papers that are destined for *The Architect*. In many cases, I can see that the brethren are eager to fulfill what our Sovereign Grand Master says is our primary focus: “prepare and present papers on aspects of all branches of the Craft that we may all profit and grow from the experience.” This practice of research and subsequent public speaking forms one of the requirements of the office of Sovereign Master; viz.,

- “182. (a) is a Brother of St. Lawrence the Martyr,
(b) has served in the office of Warden for at least one (1) full term,
(c) has received the grade of Knight in the Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri,
(d) *has given at least one paper in his Constituent Council...*”

And we will know that the Sovereign Master-elect has given that paper because it is subsequently published in *The Architect!* Papers should include the name of the author, his council and office (if one is held), and the date of presentation.

This year our new Editor, Ven. Bro. Matt Fletcher, has produced an excellent edition of our annual publication. Please see his report for further details. I am pleased to have worked with him, and with Bro Stephen Godfrey, on its preparation. I think the brethren will be very happy with the results.

It is a pleasure to read that Councils are also interested in conferring the other Degrees which are in the purview of the Allied Masonic Degrees of Canada:

Knights of Constantinople
Grand Tyler of Solomon
Excellent Master }
Masters of Tyre }
Architect } using the Supplementary Conferral by Communication
Grand Architect }
Superintendent }

As a result, there have been a number of requests for certificates for these degrees. I have developed one for each using the same pattern as that of the Degree of St. Lawrence the Martyr. Secretaries are encouraged to send me requests with the candidate names and the date of the degree.

The Conferral by Communication, you might remember, is only available in that form until next year. At our 2018 Assembly we will discuss the future of our rituals.

NOMINATIONS

Those for elective office were due in my hands by February 1, 2017. The following nominations were received and those brethren were acclaimed as elected by virtue of their single nomination.

POSITION	NOMINEE	Member of
SOVEREIGN GRAND MASTER 2017 – 2019	R. Ven. Bro. T. Bilardino Segui	Tylers of Solomon # 212
DEPUTY GRAND MASTER 2017 – 2019	R. Ven. Bro. R. John Hayes	Yellowhead # 220
GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN 2017 – 2018	Ven. Bro. Gerald W. Budden	Atlantic # 225
GRAND TREASURER 2017 – 2018	R. Ven. Bro. Don Martyn	Kawartha # 143
GRAND SECRETARY 2017 – 2018	R. Ven. Bro. Brian Rountree	Keystone # 172
GRAND REGISTRAR 2017 – 2018	V. Ven. Bro. Richard B. Allgood	Golden Horseshoe # 222

I did, however, receive more than one nomination for an office.

POSITION	NOMINEE	Member of
GRAND SENIOR WARDEN 2017 – 2018	R. Ven. Bro. Robert Dupel V. Ven. Bro. Dan Knox	Mozart # 218 Medwayosh # 62

As a result, we have an election this year. Ballots were mailed to the Council Secretaries for distribution to their voters. Those who are not able to attend our sessions in Sarnia were allowed to mail in their ballots. For future reference, please note that the directions on the form clearly state that I should receive 2 envelopes, one inside the other. I am not permitted to read your ballot entry—it is passed on to the Scrutineers at the Annual Assembly.

Thank you to all those who sent along nominations for appointed offices. I then pass them on to the Sovereign Grand Master for his decision and announcement at the Annual Assembly.

I am also pleased to report that the following brethren have been nominated by their Districts to serve as District Deputy Grand Masters for the period 2017-2019. Their appointment awaits the Grand Master's approval at the forthcoming Grand Council sessions.

	Nominee	Councils in the District
District 1	R. Ven. Bro. Stephen J. Thomson	Medwayosh #62 London #68 Chatham #123 Tylers of Solomon #212 Mariners #214
District 2	R. Ven. Bro. Mark Cannon	James A. Shaw #70 York #133 Kawartha #143 Richmond Hill #168 Raymond C. Purslow #170 Golden Horseshoe #222
District 3	R. Ven. Bro. Larry Wong	Keystone #172 Bridge City #197 Wakamow #211
District 4	R. Ven. Bro. Matt D.A. Fletcher	Yellowhead #220 Borealis #223 Peace #224
District 5	R. Ven. Bro. Michel Vigeant	Capital City #154 Colonel By #217 Mozart #218 Atlantic #225
District 6	R. Ven. Bro. Norman McEvoy	Dogwood #171 Victoria #213

INVITATIONS from Concordant Bodies usually come to me: I consult with the Sovereign Grand Master as to his availability to attend meetings. Sometimes we are able to arrange for another brother to attend on behalf of the Sovereign Grand Master and the Allied Masonic Degrees of Canada.

DISPENSATIONS

Dispensations were requested during the year due to cancellations caused by weather, lack of a quorum, or conflicting Masonic events. I would remind Sovereign Masters that, if your meeting is changed for any of these or other reasons, a Dispensation is needed to hold the new meeting. The Sovereign Grand Master granted several Dispensations to York Council as the members worked at reviving and revitalizing the Council. Kudos to all those who became affiliated members as part of this endeavour.

In the fall of 2016, Burlington Council #70 requested that the name be changed to honour their late departed brother, R. Ven. Bro. James A. Shaw. This also (of course) necessitated several changes to the By-laws.



The members of the re-named James A. Shaw Council #70 received its revised Charter at their November 2016 meeting, presented by the Sovereign Grand Master.

Several Councils have revised their By-laws this year. It is always a good practice to review them and keep them current. It is not too difficult to get them updated—the steps are outlined in the Constitution, sections 157-162.

No doubt other reports might include this note, but our two newest Councils received their charters during this year. The consecration ceremonies for Peace Council \$224 [Dawson Creek, BC] and for Atlantic Council #225 [St. John's, NL] were well attended.

CONCLUSION

It has been a pleasure to work with the Grand Treasurer, R. Ven. Bro. Don Martyn, in arranging for timely deposits of all monies that belong to the Grand Council.

Brethren, I look forward to working for you and with you this coming year. I also look forward to receiving the Summons from every Council. Please do not be tardy in this matter: I often get inquiries about Councils and meetings so that your Summons serves as an up-to-date reference to answer such questions.

Submitted for Information Only.

Fraternally and Sincerely,

Brian Rountree, Grand Secretary