

R. VEN. BRO. JOSEPH MICHEL VIGEANT **Acclaimed for the position of Deputy Grand Master 2023-25**



Born in Iserlohn, West Germany in 1962 to a military family, Michel was educated in various educational institutions, notably, St. Patrick's High School, Québec City, St. Lawrence College, Sainte-Foy and the University of Ottawa.

Michel joined the Boy Scouts, Army Cadets (R22R) and the Canadian Forces Reserves (Militia), 55 Military Police Platoon, Saint Mâlo and 55 Military Police Platoon, Ottawa. Corporal Vigeant participated in two divisional exercises in Gagetown, NB and Wainwright, AB as a Military Policeman.

Following studies in Criminology at the University of Ottawa, Michel was hired by the Provincial Police in Ontario (OPP) in 1985 and served at Detachments in Lancaster, Gore Bay (Manitoulin Island) and Ottawa (Kanata). Provincial Constable Vigeant was deployed throughout the Province as a Field Coordinator, with the Centre of Forensic Sciences (Toronto), teaching the Theory and Operation of various

Breath-Testing instruments to various Municipal, Provincial and Federal Police Officers.

Michel deployed to Haïti in 1996 and again in 2006 on multinational United Nations Peacekeeping missions to bring stability to an impoverished island nation with close ties to Canada. Provincial Constable Vigeant received numerous awards and accolades over the term of his career. An avid motorcyclist, Michel had the honour, in the course of his duties, of providing Police motorcycle escorts to various Heads of State, including Her Majesty the Queen, His Eminence the Pope, Presidents and Prime Ministers. Provincial Constable Vigeant retired from the OPP with 33 years of service in 2018.

Michel is happily married to Wendy Verrecchia, a retired Police Officer (RCMP Sergeant, out-ranking him) and between them, have five children and enjoy the company of their three Grand Children.

Michel is a member of the executive and Board of Directors of the Fraser Recovery Program in Québec City, a drug and alcohol treatment facility for teenagers and young adults.

MASONIC BIOGRAPHY

CRAFT LODGE

- Initiated in Gore Bay (Manitoulin Island), ON in 1995.
- Affiliated with Carleton Masonic Lodge in Carp, ON, becoming Worshipful Master in 2005.
- Member of Loge Lorraine #141, GLQ, in Gatineau, Qc.

ROYAL ARCH

- Companion Vigeant was exalted at Coronation Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Québec, in Gatineau, Qc,
- First Principal (Master) in 2012.
- Life member of the Order of the High Priesthood.
- 2015 Grand Superintendent (DDGM), Royal Arch Masons of Quebec.
- October 24th, 2020, installed as Grand First Principal of Royal Arch Masons of the Province of Quebec.

ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES OF CANADA

- Initiated Capital City Council #154 in 2005
- Past Sovereign Master of Mozart Council # 218
- Past District Deputy Grand Master for District 5
- Enlightened Knight Commander of the *Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri*
- Grand Representative of the Grand Council of the Congo to Canada

ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS

- Thrice Illustrious Master of Gedeliah Council in 2015.
- Grand Inspector General (DDGM) of District 'A' as secretary, Royal and Select Masters of Ontario.
- Life member of the Order of the Silver Trowel, Royal and Select Masters of Ontario.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

- Presiding Preceptor (Master) of Ottawa Preceptory in 2019.
- Member of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America serving as Governor (Master) of St. Aidan's College in 2016 and recorder at the present time.
- Knight Priest Michel is an affiliated member of Midland Bay Tabernacle, Holy Royal Arch, Knight Templar Priests, Midland, ON.
- Knight Companion Vigeant is a member of St Justin's Conclave, Grand Imperial Conclave of Canada, meeting in Gatineau, Qc.

FUN AND PHILANTHROPIC SIDE OF THE MASONIC ORDER,

Michel joined Tunis Shriners in 2004 becoming Potentate in 2013 and riding Mini-Bikes in Shrine parades. In the Shrine family, he is a member of the Cabiri (Past Potentates) and the Royal Order of Jesters.