### ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES OF CANADA

### SOVEREIGN GRAND MASTER

M. Ven. Bro. Matt D.A. Fletcher, SGC



### LES DEGRÉS MAÇONNIQUES ALLIÉS DU CANADA

#### **GRAND SECRETARY**

M. Ven. Bro. Brian Rountree, KGC #2—1060 Chevrier Blvd.
Winnipeg, MB R3T 6G3
rountree@mts.net

# GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT 2023 - 2024

TO: M. Ven. Bro. Marr D.A. Fletcher, S.G.M. Members of the Grand Council

30 June 2024

Brethren:

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

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

In his 1994 report as Deputy Grand Master, R. Ven. Bro. Cliff Hardy stated:

The electronic age is here... and we can avail ourselves of the various means of communication if we want to be cost efficient, both of time and money.

We have seen that proven in many ways during and since the pandemic period when we use email and Facebook and other resources to share information and to keep in touch.

The Council Secretaries have done a sterling job of keeping each member informed by electronic means (and using the post when brethren do not use email).

Having received all the year-end reports, our Canada-wide membership for the year 2023 is summarized as follows.

Number of Councils	Dec. 31, 2023		25
Membership	Dec. 31, 2023	Reported	513
When we account for brethren with dual or multiple			
memberships [totalling 76], we have a cross-country			
physical membershi	o of		437

# GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT 2023 - 2024

#### **NOMINATIONS**

This was not an election year, so no nominations were required.

The Sovereign Grand Master will announce his appointed officers for 2024-2025 during the Grand Assembly.

#### THE ARCHITECT

The number and quality of the papers being presented in Council, and forwarded to me for the Architect, continues to amaze me and the Editor, Ven. Bro. Kris Toijonen. Brethren who wish to purchase a copy should order one soon through their council secretary. Since they are print-on-demand, only 1 bulk order will be made in late September.

#### **INVITATIONS**

Whether invitations come from individual Councils, or from Concordant Bodies, they usually come to me: I consult with the Sovereign Grand Master as to his availability to attend meetings and then reply to the invitation. While the Sovereign Grand Master is able to attend some sessions, he has been fortunate to have various brethren attend on his, and our, behalf. I suspect that M. Ven. Bro. Fletcher will cover this in his own report to Grand Council.

I send invitations to our Annual Assembly to each of the Grand Councils. I report in Appendix A the response of two of those Grand Councils.

#### **CHARTERS & DISPENSATIONS**

I refer you to the separate report of this committee.

#### **OTHER NEWS**

Last year, we heard of the request from the Universal Craftsmen Council of Engineers. We heard more about this at the December 2023 Grand Executive meeting and our conclusion was that we will not continue further.

Also at the December 2023 Grand Executive meeting, we heard about the plans by Richmond Hill Council to move and to change its name. The Barrie Temple Board noticed that the Constitution of their Grand Lodge did not permit meetings by groups such as AMD in the building. That has been rectified and AMD is a recognized body: however, a move is still pending as is a name change.

There is some concern about what appears to be unmasonic conduct by brethren in Vancouver regarding membership in AMD. Our American counterparts have been made aware of the situation.

## GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT 2023 - 2024

Have you ever heard of a brother being given Emeritus status? Nether had I, until I was looking for something else and came across this note from the report on the  $17^{th}$  Annual Assembly held in 2001 –

#### Emeritus and Commuted member statuses abolished

#### CONCLUSION

Thank you to the Grand Officers and Past Sovereign Grand Masters who have assisted me this year and who have answered my many queries.

Thank you to the brethren of the Order who work diligently, each in his own manner, to promote and sustain the Allied Masonic Degrees of Canada. I like to think we are the best  $\odot$ 

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.

Also, as recommended by the Grand Historian last year, please consider sending me copies of your Minutes. Some Councils already do so, and we both thank you.

Submitted for Information Only.

Fraternally and sincerely, M. Ven. Bro. *Brían Rountree*, Grand Secretary

# GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT 2023 - 2024

### APPENDIX A REGRETS

#### **AUSTRALIA**

Sunday, 9 June 2024

Dear M. Ven. Bro. Brian,

My Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother Harold David Paroissien, OAM, and the Deputy Grand Master, RWBro. William Robert Harding, GM-elect, sends their warmest and most fraternal greetings to your Grand Master and the Grand Council of Allied Masonic Degrees of Canada. They were each delighted to receive an invitation to attend the Annual Grand Assembly on the weekend of 9-11 August next. Unfortunately, neither MWBro Paroissien or RWBro Harding are able to attend but each sends his sincere apologies with all good wishes for a happy and successful assembly and year ahead for Allied Masonry in Canada.

Yours very sincerely and fraternally,

Chris Wallace Grand Secretary

#### **INDIA**

June 6, 2024

Dear Sir & M. Ven. Bro. Brian Rountree, Grand Secretary, Grand Council of AMD of Canada,

Thank you for your email inviting our M W the grand Master to attend your Annual Convocation to be held on 9 August 2024.

M W Bro. Bharat Venkat Epur, M W the Grand Master of the Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees in India conveys his fraternal greetings to your M W Grand Master and the members of the Order in Canada.

Due to prior Masonic commitments in India M W Bro. Bharat V. Epur is unable to attend your Annual Convocation and conveys his best wishes on the successful conduct of the same.

Fraternally,

R W Bro. R. V. Umashankar Grand Secretary, GCI AMD