



## 113<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication

**The One Hundred and Thirteenth Annual Communication** of the Grand Lodge of Alberta, A.F. & A.M., will be held at the Pomeroy Hotel & Conference Centre, 11633 – 100<sup>th</sup> Street, Grande Prairie, Alberta, commencing **Friday, 8 June 2018** at 09 00 h and continuing on **Saturday, 9 June 2018**. Brethren are encouraged to be in place at 08 45 h in order to receive Special Dignitaries, Representatives of Concordant and non-Masonic groups etc.

**Agenda:** The Annual Communication under provision of the Constitution PART I.1.L.1 will be conducted by MWBro Gordon Berard, governed by the Rules of Order as per the Constitution and/or those listed in the Preliminary Report. The Grand Master reserves the right to revise the Agenda (PART I.1.A.4)

**Notices of Motion & Nominations:** The complete list of Notices of Motion to amend the Constitution and Regulations and all Nominees for Election will appear in the May Edition of *The Alberta Freemason*.

**Registration & Balloting:** Shall begin at 08 00 h, 8 June 2018 and continue until 18 00 h. Registration and Balloting resumes at 08 00 h, 9 June 2018 and closes at 10 00 h, as per PART II.1.B.9.

**Accommodations:** All reservations are on a first come basis at the host hotel, Pomeroy Hotel & Conference Centre, 11633 – 100<sup>th</sup> Street, Grande Prairie, AB, 1-800-661-6529, Group Code “**100<sup>th</sup> Grand Lodge Communication.**” The cost of a room (Queen) is \$149 and (King) is \$159.

**Function Tickets:** Can be ordered through Grand Lodge Office. **Prices and details to be announced.** Ticket orders (with payment) must be placed before 25 May 2018. After 25 May 2018 prices will be increased by \$5.00/ticket. **Pre-paid** event tickets can be picked up at the **Registration Desk**. **Un-paid** event tickets must be picked up at the **Book Store**

**Location.** Payment will be expected at the time of pick up.

**Installation of Grand Lodge Officers:** Immediately following the business before Grand Lodge, MWBro James Ratchford will be the Installing Grand Master with the assistance of Past Grand Masters.

**Dress:** Grand Lodge Communication — Business Suite/Regalia (includes Grand Lodge Officers). Grand Lodge Banquet — Dark Business Suit, Semi-Formal, except Grand Lodge Officers to wear Tuxedos at Grand Master’s Banquet, Grand Lodge Banquet and at the Installation of Officers.

**Regalia must be worn at all sessions**

Master Masons are encouraged to attend the Annual Communication

## Honour Roll

### Recognition through Long Service Awards — January to December 2017

*The following Brethren were awarded the indicated Jewel or Bar, and are to be applauded for their many years of loyalty and contributions to their Lodges and to Freemasonry. Should you see one of these Brethren, be sure to congratulate him.*

#### 50-Year Jewel

Anderson, L. Glenbow Lodge No. 184  
Carr, E.J. Astra Lodge No. 179  
Dygart, D.L. Astra Lodge No. 179  
Edstrom, A.C. Astra Lodge No. 179  
Erickson, A.G. Vermilion Lodge No. 24  
Forbes, J. Eastgate Lodge No. 192  
Gillespie, D. Britannia Lodge No. 18  
Glasgow, R.G. Gratton-Connaught Lodge No. 144  
Graves, B. Medicine Hat Lodge No. 2  
Hopkins, J. Fort McMurray Lodge No. 195  
Hough, M. Beacon Lodge No. 190  
Jacobson, R.A. Lethbridge Lodge No. 39  
Jellinek, T. Wetaskiwin Lodge No. 15  
Larratt, W. Ashlar Lodge No. 28  
Leeming, P. Medicine Hat Lodge No. 2  
Leonard, R.R. Lethbridge Lodge No. 39  
Lomas, E. Cascade Lodge No. 5  
Lowrie, B. Balmoral Lodge No. 185

McCook, J.L. Calgary Lodge No. 23  
McLaren, B. Mosaic Lodge No. 176  
McLean, W.T.G. Highlands-Unity Lodge No. 168  
Morison, B. Crossfield Lodge No. 48  
Morris, T. Mosaic Lodge No. 176  
Odland, R.D. Renfrew Lodge No. 134  
Ponech, R. Acacia Lodge No. 11  
Reid, J. Crossfield Lodge No. 48  
Roberts, A. Britannia Lodge No. 18  
Sandeman, A.J. Chinook Spitzie No. 6  
Scribner, L. Lake Saskatoon Lodge No. 106  
Sears, G. Lake Saskatoon Lodge No. 106  
Steventon, H. Red Deer Lodge No. 12  
Van Sickle, A. Redwood Lodge No. 193  
Winfield, D.H. Patricia Lodge No. 91  
Wyllie, P. Star of the West Lodge No. 34

#### 50-Year Past Master Jewel

Wilson, R.G. Calgary Lodge No. 23

#### 60-Year Bar

Burns, A.C. Mizpah Lodge No. 35  
Clayton, S. King George Lodge No. 59  
Everton, B. Lake Saskatoon Lodge No. 106  
Gateman, B. Gleichen Lodge No. 36  
Grover, A. Lochearn Lodge No. 151  
Larsen, G. Eastgate Lodge No. 192  
McDermott, C. Red Deer Lodge No. 12  
Robertson, D. Avon Glen Lodge No. 170  
Smith, B.E.W. Glenbow Lodge No. 184  
Taylor, K. Acacia Lodge No. 11  
Twa, J. Britannia Lodge No. 18  
White, K.E. Highlands-Unity No. 168  
Wilson, R.G. Calgary Lodge No. 23

#### 70-Year Jewel

Powell, K. Acacia Lodge No. 11  
Reierson, R. St. George’s Lodge No. 169  
Toney, R.T. Chinook Spitzie Lodge No. 6

# Not Just a Man. A Mason

RWBro Kenn Culbertson, Deputy Grand Master, The Grand Lodge of Alberta

The Conference of Grand Masters of North America opened in form on 17 February 2018 in Indianapolis, Indiana, with some 490 representatives from across Canada, the United States and Mexico. The opening ceremony fitted the situation of the nations represented. Immediately after the ceremony, Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters and Grand Wardens broke off into sessions to hear topics of interest to all jurisdictions. Deputy Grand Masters were tasked with answering surveys that would lead to breakout sessions in upcoming conferences.

The conference was three days long, and the Sunday afternoon sessions were on "Data Base Management," "The Reality of Lodge Finances," and "Millennial Apprentices... The next Revolution in Freemasonry."

Alberta's Grand Line officers each attended different sessions. I attended the Millennial Apprentice lecture and discussion. Samuel Friedman, a Freemason from New York, gave this presentation. Rather new to the Craft, having been initiated in 2012, he had grown up in a Masonic family and, as he put it, the petition for initiation was posted on his bedroom wall his whole life. Masonry was his way of life, and it was natural progression for his entry into the Craft. One of his comments about millennials that resonated with me is that they "will not be tolerant of intolerance." He pointed out that the millennial generation has grown up in the new world of acceptance of religious freedom, race equality and gender acceptance. As older Masons adjust to the changing times, they must realize that this is the world that young members know. It is natural for them and they embrace this way of life.

I also attended a Deputy Grand Master session on what plans are in place for the next year for the Craft as a whole. We were charged to examine what is going

right, and what is causing problems in our own Jurisdictions. There was talk of Lodges the size of 250 members with only twenty-five attending; but in Alberta's DDGM reports, our Lodges of thirty-five to sixty seem to have twenty attending. So, by percentages, Alberta's participation seems above the expectations of other Jurisdictions. Alberta's interest in improving how we communicate with Brethren to pique their interest in attending Craft Lodges was a topic that resonated with the session.

This year I chose not to attend any sessions on Lodge security, although I did hear one comment about 'concealed weapon carry' in Lodge and not wearing a weapon so big that it might show under a suit jacket. It is one issue, thank goodness, that we in Alberta have not and should not have to deal with any time soon.

The youth groups gave a presentation to the General Assembly that was very well received. Next year, the DeMolay will be celebrating their one-hundredth year, which will be marked by a ceremony at the Conference.

The Masonic Service Association gave a presentation on the assistance afforded to Masonic Brethren who were affected by the hurricanes of 2017 in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico. There has never been so much donated to the Association from Masons throughout America as there was to this disaster relief fund.

We in Alberta should know that during the last two disasters in our province, Freemasons and their families gave generously to the Benevolence fund, and that we as an organization assisted all eligible Masonic Brethren who applied for our help.

South Dakota and Montana have been dealing with shrinking rural Lodge membership. The distances between Lodges make affiliation of more mature

members difficult since their years of Masonry have been very close to home. Becoming a member of a Lodge twenty, even fifty, kilometers from home is an impossibility. One of the solutions they are trying now is handling members of Lodges in difficulty as members of a Lodge handled by Grand Lodge. The idea is that the members whose Lodge turns in its charter and goes dark because of lack of membership would become members of a body that would require payment of per capita fees to Grand Lodge. Those members would receive full visitation and voting rights in Grand Lodge without having an actual working Lodge to belong to. This, over time, would give these members the choice of affiliating with a different location or continuing as members of Grand Lodge. Each Brother is issued a membership card with his Grand Lodge number, and the Grand Secretary would collect per capita fees by invoice.

We in Alberta face the same issues with our rural Lodges losing membership to the Grand Lodge Above and through shrinking rural populations. Our Grand Lodge could give these men a home where they are welcome without trying to maintain their lodge buildings, hold monthly meetings or affiliate with a distant Lodge that they would never attend. Weekday Daylight Lodges, Academic Lodges or Focus-group Lodges are other possibilities to increase a member's ability to attend and be active in a Lodge.

At the conference, it became evident that some of the Jurisdictions have not consecrated any new Lodges since the 1960s. Florida, on the other hand, stated that in the past year there had been eight newly consecrated Lodges in their Jurisdiction.

Scottish Rite Northern Jurisdiction took the challenge of surveying some 1,000 non-Freemasons throughout the southern United States. Some of the results that were verbally presented were that although the general awareness of Freemasonry was at 81 per cent, only

Provided to Freemasons of Alberta and the Northwest Territories west of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meridian who are members of

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[www.freemasons.ab.ca](http://www.freemasons.ab.ca)

|                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Grand Master        | MWBro Gordon Berard   |
| Deputy Grand Master | RWBro Kenn Culbertson |
| Senior Grand Warden | RWBro Ken Cheel       |
| Junior Grand Warden | RWBro Reg Karbonik    |
| Grand Secretary     | RWBro Bill Kostenuk   |



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### The Committee on the Grand Lodge Bulletin

RWBro George Tapley (Chairman);  
VWBro Garth Cochran; WBro Loren Kline;  
Ex Officio: Grand Master,  
Deputy Grand Master & Grand Secretary

Republication rights are granted to other Masonic Jurisdictions, but acknowledgement of the source is requested.

The Editor reserves the right to accept, reject and re-write material submitted for publication.

**Deadline for copy** is the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the month prior to the month of issue.

30 per cent could articulate the values that Freemasonry embraces. Those surveyed were asked what values they would expect in a group of men they would want to join, and 90 per cent answered “integrity” and 80 per cent “striving to become better men.” Among those surveyed, 73 per cent were looking for deep friendships that included their family members. The ultimate ques-

tion was that after hearing information about the principles of Freemasonry, would they be interested in becoming a Freemason? Fully 57 per cent answered in the positive.

My title, “Not Just a Man. A Mason” is from a promotion by the Scottish Rite Northern Jurisdiction. An excellent video is available on-line at their web page or on YouTube just by searching

those words. It is a very well-produced project.

It was a pleasure joining the delegation representing Alberta Grand Lodge at this conference. There are learning opportunities for all who attend, but the magic is putting some of those ideas into reality and moving our Grand Jurisdiction forward.

## Learning Centre’s Work Supported by Donation

The Learning Centre Calgary was presented with a cheque for \$2,000 15 February 2018 by RWBro Terry Murray, DDGM Alpha District, on behalf of the Masonic Foundation of Alberta. The money was part of the Foundation’s Christmas Wish program in which all DDGMs were given the opportunity to donate to the charity of their choice.

The Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation (SRCF) was established in 1964 as a registered Canadian charity to support initiatives that solve “puzzles of the mind” such as Alzheimer’s and dyslexia. One of those initiatives was to set up Learning Centres for Children with learning disabilities resulting from dyslexia. Dyslexic children, according to the [Canadian Dyslexia Association](#), have “a difficulty with the alphabet, reading, writing and spelling in spite of normal or above-normal intelligence, conventional teaching methods, and adequate sociocultural opportunity.” Dyslexia may be hereditary and represents from 80 to 90 per cent of all learning disabilities. Despite

the disability, dyslexics can achieve much. For example, Albert Einstein, Beethoven, Tom Cruise, Walt Disney, Jay Leno, John Lennon, Winston Churchill, Agatha Christie, Edgar Allen Poe, Ernest Hemmingway, Jules Verne, Thomas Edison and hundreds of other famous people were all dyslexic and they changed the world.

In Alberta, SRCF Learning Centres have been located in Edmonton and Calgary. Both opened in 2012 to tutor children with learning disabilities caused by dyslexia — at no cost to the family — using the proven Orton-Gillingham method. This combines multi-sensory techniques along with the structure of the English language. Items taught include: phonemes and morphemes, such as prefixes, suffixes, and roots plus common spelling rules and it incorporates the three learning pathways — auditory, kinesthetic, and visual. The Centre also teaches cursive writing because this form of writing is easier for the dyslexic child to process.

SRCF Learning Centre Calgary receives referrals

from Calgary and area Boards of Education and from Disabilities Alberta. However, referrals are not essential as [applications](#) may also be received directly. All applications and referrals are assessed by the Centre Director to ensure the program is a fit for the child. The children are then assigned a “tutor” and their sessions begin.



*A warm fuzzy and friendly polar bear is used as a distinctive symbol to indicate the independence of the Canadian program in the cooler part of North America, while reaching out to children in need.*

Typically, children receive two hours of individual tutoring a week between Monday and Thursday. Lessons are divided into five levels. A “tutoring year” lasts for 26 weeks. Most children take up to three years to complete the program.

The Learning Centre is also looking for volunteers to assist in the growth of the program. Volunteers provide supervision, administration and, of course, tutoring to “make a difference in a child’s life.” The Learning Centres provide the necessary training for tutors to receive certification.

For additional information, to volunteer or to donate (cheques to: SRCF Learning Centre Calgary, 103, 2915 – 21<sup>st</sup> Street NE, Calgary T2E 7T1), contact the Learning Centre Calgary; phone 403-717-9714; email [info@SRCFLCC.org](mailto:info@SRCFLCC.org); or website [www.srcflcc.org](http://www.srcflcc.org).

In Edmonton use 12940 – 129 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5L 1J3; phone 587-524-0414; email [info@ritetolearn.ca](mailto:info@ritetolearn.ca); website <http://www.ritetolearn.ca>.



*RWBro Kim Parkyn, Director of the SRCF Learning Centre Calgary, receives a Masonic Foundation of Alberta cheque for \$2,000 from RWBro Terry Murray, DDGM Alpha District and Bro John Kubinski, District MFA Representative on 15 February 2018.*

# The Role of the Secunder

VWBro Richard Ashby RPP, Grand Parliamentarian, The Grand Lodge of Alberta  
Second in a Series

The purpose of a seconder is to demonstrate that more than one person present wishes to discuss a proposed motion. Without the requirement of a second the result would be issues presented that waste time. Members would feel compelled to discuss an issue, even if they are not interested.

There are motions that need a seconder, and motions that do not. It all depends upon the characteristics and classification of the motion. All Main Motions do require a second, some Incidental motions and some Privileged motions do not require a second, and some motions require a second only under certain circumstances. (See Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 11<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2011, page 36 for details.)

When no second is made, and if the motion requires a second, the Chair will usually ask, "Is there a second?" If no second is obtained within a reasonable time, the Chair simply declares that there was no seconder and proceeds to the next order of business. The assembly has decided nothing, therefore nothing need be recorded in the minutes. The minutes

are a record of what was decided at the meeting, actions taken by the assembly, not what was said at the meeting. So, if there is no second as required, no action was taken, nothing was decided, so the matter simply disappears.

"A second merely implies that the seconder agrees that the motion should come before the meeting and not that he necessarily favors [sic] the motion. A member may second a motion... because he would like to see the assembly go on the record as rejecting the proposal." The mover cannot speak against his or her own motion, although he or she can vote against it. After all, everyone has the right to change their mind. The person who seconds the motion, however, can speak against the motion because a second means "Let's discuss it," not "I agree."

Nominations DO NOT have to be seconded. While it is not out of order for members to second a nomination, it does tend to be frowned upon and it does signal an endorsement, which may be inappropriate in some assemblies.

In small committees, or boards (usually about 12 members), motions do

not strictly require a seconder since in smaller boards/committees motions often come about as the result of discussion.

When recommendations from a committee report are presented, no seconder is required as the assembly has already demonstrated an interest through the establishment of the committee in the first place, and second, the motion is coming from a committee composed of members who have demonstrated an interest in the motion being presented for discussion.

***Please note:** The preceding information is provided in good faith as BASIC information and does not cover all situations, The author accepts no responsibility for anything which occurs directly or indirectly as a result of using any of the suggestions or procedures addressed in this article. All suggestions and procedures are provided in good faith as general guidelines only as not all circumstances and situations can be covered and suggestions above should be used in conjunction with relevant legislation, constitutions, rules, laws, bylaws, and with reasonable judgment.*

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## New Grand Lodge Offices

VWBro Bob Thachuk, Chairman of the Finance Committee, Grand Lodge of Alberta

In October 2016, then Deputy Grand Master, RWBro Gordon Berard, reported to the Board of General Purposes that the Temple Board of Freemasons' Hall in Calgary had recommended to their membership "further investigation options for the sale and relocation as the preferred option."

In January 2017, the Temple Board presented the Grand Lodge of Alberta a two-year Lease agreement.

On 5 February 2017, the Grand Master of the day, MWBro James Ratchford, appointed a Grand Lodge Operations Locations Committee consisting of members from both the North and South of the Jurisdiction under Chairmanship of VWBro David Blue. They were to review where Grand Lodge was currently located and return to the Finance Committee a recommendation to purchase, rent, or lease anywhere in Alberta.

On 23 February, the Committee recommended that the Finance Committee reject the lease from the Temple Board (\$50,000/year) and proceed to investigate whether to rent, lease or buy in

Calgary or another Alberta community. They also recommended a review of the Capital Reserve Fund to determine if it was economically viable to use for the second issue. The Finance Committee accepted the Subcommittees report and the Grand Master dismissed the subcommittee with Thanks.

At the 9 March 2017 Board of General Purposes (BGP) meeting, the Chairman of the Finance Committee presented the Subcommittee report, which was received, reviewed and discussed.

On 15 March 2017, a second Subcommittee was then formed by Finance to research other lease and purchase opportunities in the Calgary, Edmonton and Red Deer areas.

At the 9 May 2017 meeting of Finance, the Subcommittee report was presented to the committee. The subcommittee's recommendation was that Grand Lodge purchase suitable facilities in Calgary and take the next step of engaging a realtor to find such facilities and then develop cost information (purchase price, operating costs, taxes etc.). The

Finance Committee accepted the Subcommittees report and the subcommittee was dismissed with Thanks.

On 11 May 2017, the Finance Chairman presented the subcommittee report to the Board of General Purposes where it was received, reviewed and discussed.

In June 2017, the Finance Committee formed a third Subcommittee, to research alternative locations within Calgary for the Grand Lodge Offices. The Subcommittee viewed between 10-12 properties that met the criteria (1,500 ft<sup>2</sup> +, Library & Museum Space, parking for staff and visitors, handicapped accessible). The property at Westview Business Condos, 2816 - 11<sup>th</sup> Street NE, Unit 8 and 9 was found by the committee to best meet the criteria.

On 30 August 2017, the Subcommittee recommended that the Finance Committee/Executive Committee/Board of General Purposes approve the purchase of the 2816 - 11<sup>th</sup> Street Units 8 and 9 for \$604,000 for the Grand Lodge of Alberta's administrative offices. The property consists of 2 condo offices of

1000 and 2000 ft<sup>2</sup> for an asking price of \$630,000. On behalf of the Finance Committee, a bid of \$575,000 was made and a subsequent bid of \$604,000 was finally accepted for the property. Several conditions were attached which included the Building purchaser's original engineers' report, an inspection report, Condo reserve fund (financing of same), Financing of the purchase price, Legal Review and acceptance by the Board of General Purposes, among others.

On 31 August 2017, The Executive Committee approved the purchase of the condo (with conditions) on behalf of the Board of General Purposes.

On 18 September 2017, the Finance Committee reviewed each of the conditions and couldn't resolve some issues. An extension on lifting the conditions was requested (until 31 October) and a list of questions was sent to the vendor. Regarding the financing of the property, it was agreed that the funds should come from the Capital Reserve Fund and to not finance the same with an outside source. The financing of the property was reviewed in conjunction

with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) Bulletin IT496R concerning Capital Reserve Funds. This recommendation was submitted to the Board of General Purposes, along with a motion to change the regulations in respect to the repayment of the amount withdrawn from the Capital Reserve Fund to be consistent with the CRA Bulletin.

On 5 October 2017 at the Board of General Purposes, the actions of the Executive Committee to approve the purchase of the property were ratified.

The Board also approved the motion regarding any withdrawal from the Capital Reserve Fund to be consistent with the CRA Bulletin.

On 19 October 2017, the Finance Committee received satisfactory answers to the questions from the vendor and the conditions were removed.

The purchase of the property was finalized in November 2017 and The Grand Lodge of Alberta took possession of the property at that time.

On 20 January 2018, as per the Grand Lodge Procurement Policy, a Request for Proposal was developed and was sent out to five contractors.

On 22 January 2018, a revised RFP was sent out to six contractors with a deadline of 2 February 2018.

After a very comprehensive review, on 6 February 2018 the contract was awarded to J.L. Morin. Completion date is to be no later than 30 April.

Each step of the process was voted on and approved by the Finance Committee, Executive Committee and, finally, by the Board of General Purposes.

### **GL Office Open House Sunday, 6 May 2018**

Please come join the staff, the officers of the Grand Lodge and members of the Finance Committee for an Open House at the new Grand Lodge Offices.

**Westview Business Condos  
Suite 208 and 210  
2816 – 11<sup>th</sup> Street NE  
Sunday, 6 May 2018  
14 00 h**

