

# Freemasonry In Ottawa District One Ancient Free & Accepted Masons of Canada In The Province of Ontario Masonic Year 2024-25

District Deputy Grand Master, Ottawa District One

## Official Visits



R.W. BRO. SAM ROBERTS

St. John's No. 63 WED 9 OCT 24   CARLETON PLACE	Civil Service No. 148 TUE 11 FEB 2025   WALKLEY RD
Lodge of Fidelity No. 231 TUE 15 OCT 2024   WALKLEY RD	Hazeldean No. 517 WED 19 FEB 2025   KANATA
Doric No. 58 THU 17 OCT 2024   WALKLEY RD	Mississippi No. 147 THU 20 FEB 2025   ALMONTE
Carlson No. 465 THU 24 OCT 2024   CARP	Goodwood No. 159 TUE 4 MAR 2025   RICHMOND
Sidney Albert Luke No. 508 WED 13 NOV 2024   WALKLEY RD	Edinburgh Defenders No. 590 WED 5 MAR 2025   WALKLEY RD
St. Andrew's No. 560 THU 5 DEC 2024   WALKLEY RD	Prince of Wales No. 371 FRI 28 MAR 2025   WALKLEY RD
Acacia No. 561 TUE 21 JAN 2025   RICHMOND	Russell No. 479 MON 21 APR 2025   RUSSELL
Temple No. 665 TUE 4 FEB 2025   CHURCHILL AVE	for more information visit <a href="http://ottawadistrict1masons.ca">ottawadistrict1masons.ca</a>

 **Ontario Masons**

*"Masonry need have no fear for the future, providing that our members are true to its precepts and follow the illustrious example of our predecessors. Be careful how you live your life, you may be the only Mason some people will ever meet."*

Quote from the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Thomas W. Hogeboom  
from his Address to Ontario Masons, July, 2024.

A year in the life of the Fifteen Lodges which comprise Ottawa District One  
Prepared by W. Bro. Neil B. Lillico  
District Historian, Ottawa District One  
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, In The Province of Ontario

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Acknowledgements**

I would like to thank R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, District Deputy Grand Master of Ottawa District One, for allowing me to serve as District Historian for this Masonic Year. I would also like to express my appreciation to all the members of the Craft for their participation in the events held during Masonic Year 2024-25.

Thanks and appreciation is also extended to all the Lodge Secretaries who provided me with copies of their summonses, and in some cases, minutes and photos. This enabled me to compile a summary of individual Lodge events throughout the 2024-25 Masonic Year. Special thanks are also accorded to the District Secretary, V.W. Bro. Don Learning. He was well organized, communicative and ensured the Masonic Year progressed in a flawless manner.

The graphic on the cover page was created by Bro. Daniel Duff, Inner Guard at Temple Lodge. I express my thanks, appreciation and gratitude for the creation of such a magnificent work that captured both the photo of R.W. Bro. Roberts and his Official Visit itinerary.

As I have served as the District One Historian for nine years, I feel it is time to lay down my pen and let another Brother serve in this capacity. I have enjoyed preparing these District Histories and hope that those that follow find the information contained in these documents help to provide some insight into the activities undertaken by the Freemasons who attended the fifteen Lodges that comprise Ottawa District One from 2016 to 2025.



# District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25

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## The Grand Master's Address, July 2024

# GRAND LODGE

of A.F. & A.M. of Canada  
in the Province of Ontario



## Grand Master's Address 2024

## **District History, Ottawa District One**

**2024-25**

### **GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS**

Thomas Wallace Hogeboom

July 2024

To the Officers and Members of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

### **WELCOME**

As we come to the end of two of the most enjoyable years of my life, I welcome each of you to the one hundred and sixty-ninth Annual Communication of your Grand Lodge. It has been another year of great pleasure for me to travel throughout the Province and beyond to have the opportunity to meet new friends and renew friendships with so many Masonic friends and their families. As we gather for this Annual Communication, it is time to reflect on what has been accomplished during the past Masonic year as we look forward with great anticipation to the coming year and a new Grand Master.

It is an honour and a privilege to welcome the leaders, distinguished guests and friends from other Grand Jurisdictions along with all the Brethren from the whole Family of Freemasonry. On behalf of our Grand Lodge, we especially welcome all that have journeyed from our Sister Grand jurisdictions – you honour us with your presence and strengthen the Fraternal bonds that exist between our Grand Lodges. Your attendance adds a great deal to our Communication and reinforces the universality of our great and beloved Craft. Welcome one and all!

We have been fortunate, to work with some of the greatest and proven leaders in Freemasonry. They have been a great source of advice and mentorship. Their loyalty to our beloved Craft has instilled enthusiasm in many and has proved to be an inspiration for all. I am convinced the world today needs Freemasonry, its philosophy and its fundamental principles for which we stand. I have no doubt that our world would be a better place if everyone practiced the philosophies of Freemasonry.

### **NECROLOGY**

It is always a significant loss when a Brother, mentor or friend passes to the Grand Lodge Above. We all have too many of these in our lives, but we do need to remember them easily and regularly to keep their influence and devotion close to our hearts and actions.

As one grows older, the list of Our Departed Brethren in the front of our Preliminary Proceedings, becomes even more significant to those of us who will soldier on. When one has spent twenty-seven years as a Grand Lodge Officer, the names on this list are even more ringing. When I think of some of the names on this list in this year's record, I am reminded of the influence which many of them had on my Masonic experience such as R.W. Bros. Bert Barker, Ed Goldthorp, Brian Howard, Leyland Muss, Lanny Salmon, Ian Sinclair, V.W. Bros. Clarke Mayhew, Wayne Nicholson, Roy Reid, Bruce Taylor and Ashley Tidy. From my own District Deputy Grand Master Class of 1997 there was R.W. Bros. George McKay and Robert McKee and from my own District of Frontenac, we particularly remember R.W. Bro. Marvin Switzer, V.W. Bro. Bill Robertson and W. Bro. Tom Hughes.

Please take the time to review the list of our dear departed Brethren who have served your Grand Lodge when you get your Proceedings.

In the past Masonic year, we particularly remember the following influencers who have taken their final journey.

## District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25

### **R.W. Bro. Frederick 'Fred' Halpern Honorary Grand Senior Warden**

One of the reasons I miss the in-person Board meetings that we used to have is because we don't get to see Councilor Halpern's favourite necktie advertising his favourite law firm of the Three Stooges called Dewey, Cheatum and Howe.

Those who knew Bro. Halpern, knew well his gentle, soft spoken word and warm smile when you talked with him. By how proudly he talked about his two boys – Noah and Michael, and his wife Elinor, you could tell he was a dedicated family man.

Fred was a 50-year Lewis who was sponsored into Palestine Lodge No. 559 by his Father Michael. He Affiliated with Grey and Dufferin Lodges, the latter serving as Worshipful Master in 1997. Brother Halpern served on the Grand Lodge Discipline Committee for two years before moving to the Chairman of the Constitution and Jurisprudence Committee for nineteen years from 2001 through 2019. For his legal contributions to his Lodges and Grand Lodge, Fred was recognized as a Grand Steward in 2000 and elevated to the rank of Honorary Past Grand Senior Warden in 2005.

His contributions to our fraternal ways didn't end in the Craft. He was also a member of the Scottish Rite Toronto Valley; Mount Sinai Chapter No. 212 of Royal Arch Masons and Rameses Shrine Temple in Toronto where he got his Hillbilly Degree later joining the unit in 2017. Although we didn't get to enjoy Fred's company as much in the last few years, he will always be remembered by your Grand Master as a Brother who broke the practice of not helping a Brother who proposed a Constitutional amendment "because it had never happened before." Back in 2004 when I was working on an amendment to introduce the Lewis Jewel into the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario, our Brother Halpern was Chairing the Constitution and Jurisprudence Committee. He was open to the plea that this amendment would strengthen the family bond of Freemasonry, break the Grand Lodge mold and share with me that the members of his Committee were going to reject my proposed amendment. So at the Chairman's suggestion, the proposal was withdrawn to avoid a three year wait to be re-submitted. His next suggestion was to approach a member of the Committee to determine how I could get the Committee's approval. Seeking out M.W. Bro. C. Edwin Drew seemed natural as with three potential Lewis' in his immediate family and two more in-law recipients in Kingston, he was eager to help me change the 'it' to an 'at' and the following year, the amendment was declared 'Regular' and many of us now enjoy the memory of our Fathers while sitting in Lodge with our Lewis Jewels over our hearts.

This may sound condemning of your Constitution and Jurisprudence Committee but let me assure you we have got better. With the assistance of the present Chairman, R.W. Bro. Brian Gilkinson and Past-Chairman, R.W. Bro. Murray Coulter, we have been able to move the Committee opinion of proposed amendments as 'Irregular' because in the opinion of the Committee, the proposal 'wasn't good for Freemasonry', to a position that 'Irregular' meant that it conflicted with something already in the Constitution, and not just an opinion of what might happen. I hope I explained that clearly, because it was a major development in extending the 'enfranchisement' to every Mason, and not just a single Committee, and for the genesis of that idea, we can thank R.W. Bro. Fred Halpern.

### **R.W. Bro. Edward 'Ted' Sinclair Rutter District Deputy Grand Master**

It was a sad day when I heard of the passing of our Brother and friend 'Mr. Prince Edward County' to the Grand Lodge Above but comforting to know he was at rest after several years of poor health in his ninety-seventh year.

## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

R.W. Bro. Edward Sinclair Rutter was born on a farm in Bloomfield in 1926, one of six children. After growing up in 'the County', Ted joined the Naval Reserve in 1944 and served on the HMCS Georgian until the end of the war. Upon his return, he attended Guelph University to study agriculture and met the love of his life Pam and they married in 1950. They moved to Picton where he worked at a variety of positions until he purchased his homestead fruit farm where he managed Rutter Orchards with its associated canning fruit factory business until retirement.

He was Initiated into Prince Edward Lodge No. 18 in Picton in 1964 and was elected Worshipful Master of the same in 1972. Twenty years later, he would become a Life Member of his Mother Lodge. In 1985, he was elected as the District Deputy Grand Master of Prince Edward District.

Bro. Rutter would also join Scottish Rite Masonry where he would achieve his 32nd Degree. Ted was also a member of the Belleville and District Shrine Club.

While Ted ran Rutter Orchards and his fruit processing plant successfully for decades, his true passion was community service. He was a humanitarian to the core and was always looking for opportunities to help challenged communities in the area to find a better way of life. His many years of service to the community were reflected in many roles and accomplishments. He served as a longtime Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Prince Edward County Board of Education; President and trustee of the Board of Governors of the Picton Hospital Board; Chairman and member of the Loyalist College Board of Governors; Chairman of the Belleville General Hospital Foundation which raised millions of dollars for local health needs; Chairman of the Prince Edward Fruit Growers Association; an active member of the Ontario TenderFruit Marketing Board; Chairman of the Unemployment Insurance Board of Referees; member of the Ontario Workman's Compensation Board; Chairman of the Belleville Police Services Board; where he would be recognized as Volunteer Citizen of the Year in 1989.

Until the last day of his life he followed all of his family's activities wanting to know the latest news and how and what they were doing. He will live on in the advice, values and character he has instilled in all of his family – his wife of seventy-three years, seven children, twenty-one grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren and many Masons he has mentored along the way.

Well done, good and faithful servant.

### **R.W. Bro. Iain Donovan Wates**

#### **Honorary Member of the Board of General Purposes**

Everyone thinks the Grand Master is the hardest working and farthest travelling Mason in a Jurisdiction. I'm sure I won't burst too many beliefs that in the Grand Jurisdiction of Ontario, that title would have to go to our R.W. Bro. Iain Donovan Wates, or as I used to fondly refer to him as the 'Muskoka Workhorse.'

Although his last few years were a struggle with mobility, he made up for it in the number of hours that he spent at his computer preparing minutes, developing or assisting others with their presentation preparations and delivery, Chairing a Grand Lodge Committee, tracking interested applicants or delivery of Masonic education.

I first met Iain and his very dedicated and supportive wife Marsha, who we know as Sam, during the Help-2-Hear Masonic Foundation of Ontario Project of 2000. Muskoka Parry Sound District, as it was known then, was one of my Districts when the Province was divided up between the seven Project Co-Chairman. As you could imagine, I was in Muskoka Parry Sound District on a weekly basis helping the local volunteers with awareness of our million-dollar fundraising drive for the cochlear implant program



## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

through Sick Kids Hospital in Toronto. It also won't be surprising that one of my most capable and dedicated go-to guys in that District was Iain Wates.

As soon as Iain finished his responsibilities as Muskoka Parry Sound District Secretary in 2006, he assumed presentation duties around the Province through Brother-to-Brother workshops as well as being Grand Steward. A short time after this, Grand Master Petrisor was hosting one of the many summit meetings held during this time at his cottage on Lake of Bays and the conversation turned to adding a Board Member from the Muskoka Parry Sound. I can't take any credit in the talent search as it was not my decision, but let's just say appointing V.W. Bro. Wates to the Board of General Purposes in 2009 was one of the wisest decisions ever made by a Grand Master as time would surely attest!

Iain was in his thirty-ninth year of Masonry after being Initiated, Passed and Raised and serving as Master in Muskoka Lodge while living in Port Carling. He was also a strong supporter of The Heritage Lodge. After his appointment to the Board of General Purposes, he was elected for five successive terms when he accepted the appointment as an Honorary Member just last year. During this time, he would also be elected to the MasoniChip Foundation in 2020.

Most every Mason will know that Bro. Wates Chaired the Brother-to-Brother, Masonic Education, Fraternal Correspondence, Communications, Craft Stewardship, Benevolence and served on the Management Committee. But not all would know of all the work he did behind the scenes with the development and delivery of the Lodge Secretary's, Treasurer's and Worshipful Master's Workshops. He was the go-to guy for tracking prospective members and compliance documents. He was supportive of both of our Masonic Foundations and a resource to the Scottish Rite Barrie and Muskoka Learning Centre. He was the Recording Secretary Grand Lodge Board and District Deputy Grand Master Virtual Mentoring meetings.

Iain also practiced his Masonry on the Milford Bay Community Centre Board, as a volunteer fireman with the Milford Bay Fire Department and as a mentor in upper management for forty-nine years with Waste Management.

R.W. Bro. Wates will be missed in ways that we haven't even thought of yet.

### **PAST RANK**

There are a variety of reasons as to why a Worshipful Master may not be able to complete their twelve months in office beyond their control due to their health or someone in their family, a change in Lodge Installation dates, relocation due to a career opportunity or Amalgamation.

Pursuant to Section 73 of the Book of Constitution, we are recommending the rank of Past Master be conferred upon the following Brethren who were unable to serve twelve months as Worshipful Master:

- W. Bro. Mark Douglas Stackhouse, Britannia Lodge No. 170
- W. Bro. Murray Daniel Arnold, Maple Leaf Lodge No. 362

### **THE GRAND MASTER'S AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE**

The Grand Master's Award for Distinguished Service is to recognize exceptional Service rendered by members of the Grand Lodge. The Award was originally established by M.W. Bro. William R. Pellow in 1987 as a personal award of the Grand Master. We are most pleased to announce the following recipients who have each contributed in their own way to the betterment of their community, Lodge, District, and to Grand Lodge.

## District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25

**R.W. Bro. Scott R. Drummond** – There is an old Masonic adage that once you become a Grand Lodge Officer, you remain a Grand Lodge Officer for life. This is so true of my long-time friend, R.W. Bro. Scott Drummond. Just last year, his Lodge recognized him for twenty-five years a Past District Deputy Grand Master in Peterborough District on the same night he was being Installed as Worshipful Master of Golden RuleCampbellford Hastings Lodge No. 126.

Scott was Initiated into Masonry on September 25, 1985, and within a year, he had been Raised as a Master Mason. He was a fast study and skipped a few chairs over the next five years before becoming Worshipful Master of Golden Rule Lodge No. 126. He served a two-year term the first time in the chair and then another six months in 1995 and again in 2023.

Having served as part of the executive in various capacities on the Peterborough Masonic Association, he was elected as Most Worshipful Brother Durward Ivan Greenwood's representative in Peterborough District in 1996.

In 1999, along with another young Mason from Frontenac District, Scott was appointed to the Grand Lodge Board of General Purposes for a two-year term. He was subsequently elected for three two-year terms before leaving the Board in 2007 to focus on his new business. Then in 2011, he was once again appointed to the Board and would be re-elected again in 2013, serving a total of 12 years as a member of the Board of General Purposes.

Scott served on numerous Grand Lodge Committees over the past twenty-five years and continues to serve as a Director on the MasoniChip Foundation. He served on the following Committees: Lodge of Instruction Team, Brother to Brother, MembershipResources, Masonic Education, Leadership Development, Audit and Finance, Leadership Development Training and the MasoniChip Ad hoc Committee prior to the creation of the Foundation.

He also served as Chairman of: Public Relations, DDGM Orientation, Lodge Finance Advisory, and Lodge Resources Committees.

He was the Chairman of the Joint Committee of Amalgamation for Madoc-Marmora-Tweed Lodges; an Affiliated member of The Heritage Lodge No. 730 and the Grand Representative for the Grand Lodge of West Virginia near our Grand Lodge.

But he didn't stop there as he has joined most every concordant body available. He is a Royal Arch Mason and an active member of Ionic Chapter No. 110 Royal Arch Masons in Campbellford. He is a Scottish Rite Mason and Life Member of the Peterborough Lodge of Perfection and the Peterborough Chapter of Rose Croix, where he would serve as Most Wise Sovereign, in 2019 and continues to serve as a Valley Trustee. In 1995 he received his 32nd degree and became a member of Moore SovereignConsistory in Hamilton. In 2022 he was Coroneted an Honorary Inspector General of Scottish Rite Masons.

In 2005 he joined Rameses Shriners and Trent Valley Shrine Club, where he would serve as a Club Director and then President in 2009. He continues to serve his Club as a financial reviewer and his Temple as an Ambassador at Large.

In 2016 he became a Knight Companion of the Red Cross of Constantine and is a member of Moore Conclave in Peterborough.

He has served continuously on the Board of Directors for the Campbellford Masonic Hall Inc. since 1989, including twelve years as the President of the Corporation. This seems so natural as he has lived less than

## District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25

two blocks away from the Lodge for the last thirty-four years with his lovely wife Nancy, where he raised his two daughters.

Our Brother Drummond is also a pillar in the Campbellford community as a member of the Rotary Club where he has been named a Paul Harris Fellow; a member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 103; a member of the Campbellford Hospital Redevelopment Committee; a member of St. John's United Church where he has served as a Trustee and a Director of the Foundation.

On the professional side of his life, he has also been one who serves his community as well. Early in his career he served as an Ontario Provincial Police Constable and since 1985 has been the General Motors Dealer in Campbellford. Scott has recently opened a Car Star Dealership creating even more jobs in his community.

**R.W. Bro. Paul W. Hooper** – The year 1985 must have been a good year for making Masons as R.W. Bro. Paul Hooper, a Lewis, was also Initiated, Passed and Raised the same year as Bro. Drummond. If you have seen Bro. Hooper participating in Lodge, you will know that he is a fast learner – and it started that way. He was made a Master Mason in Dominion Lodge No. 598 before the Summer recess. Four years later he would be Worshipful Master for the first of three terms – the third time as Master of Trinity Lodge No. 521 just two years ago. He also Affiliated with Windsor Lodge No. 403 where he would be granted Life Membership.

I met Paul in 1997 when I was District Deputy Grand Master. He was also appointed to the Board of General Purposes but in 1996 by M.W. Bro. Durward I. Greenwood and had already caught the 'travelling man bug' as we would first meet in Kingston – some 650 kms. from his home where he was gainfully employed protecting the citizens of Windsor as a city police officer following his Father's footsteps as a Constable in Norwich, England where Paul was born and in Anderson after settling in Ontario where he would join Amherstburg Lodge. You could tell right away that he was a good Mason and it showed in his family. His charming wife Brenda was always by his side since high school, and they seemed like a great pair – she too making a career of helping others in her community as a nurse and pillar in the Order of the Eastern Star.

R.W. Bro. Hooper caught the eye of Grand Lodge during his term as Windsor District Deputy Grand Master in 1984. As an appointed and then elected Member of the Board of General Purposes, he would go on to serve and chair several Grand Lodge Committees such as Lodge Buildings Advisory, Blood Donors, Masonic Education and Fraternal Relations until retiring from the Board in 2006. In 2001 he was appointed as the Grand Representative for the Grand Lodge of Puerto Rico near our Grand Lodge. And in 2003, he further offered his services to our Grand Lodge by allowing his name to stand for Deputy Grand Master.

Paul is also one of those Past Grand Lodge Officers who would then return to a life of concordant service. He is a Scottish Rite member of the Windsor Valley Chapter of Rose Croix and has served as Thrice Puissant Grand Master of the Windsor Valley Scottish Rite Lodge of Perfection. In 1987 he received his 32nd degree and became a life member of Moore Sovereign Consistory in Hamilton. In 1999 he was Coroneted an Honorary Inspector General of Scottish Rite Masons.

On the York Rite Royal Arch Masonry side, Companion Hooper was First Principal of Windsor Chapter No. 71 in 1992 and would go on to be Grand Superintendent in 2008.

## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

In the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, Paul is a member of Windsor Preceptory No. 26 where he was the Presiding Preceptor in 2011 and Provincial Grand Prior in 2016.

In the Royal and Select Masters, he was the Thrice Illustrious Master of Essex Council No. 12 in 2010. He would then become Worshipful Commander Noah in 2010 in the International Lodge No. 4 of Royal Ark Mariners.

As a member of the Fort Malden Chapter No. 268, he would rise to Worthy Grand Patron of the Order of Eastern Star in 2013 where he and Brenda remains a very active member.

Paul will especially like the speaker at the Grand Master's Banquet tomorrow night as one of his jobs in Grade Five at Anderdon Public School was to raise the flag of our country every morning. It was a most memorable day for young Paul to raise the new Canadian flag for the first time at his school on February 15, 1965.

Paul has a long history of volunteerism beginning in his Anglican Church in Lasalle where he taught Sunday School, was head server to the Minister. He was never in the choir, but he sure can sing when he gets a full breath of air!

The Windsor Police Department beat out the Royal Canadian Mounted Police for his services in 1973 because he could stay at home and didn't have to move to Regina; he didn't have to promise to not marry for three years; but Brenda says it was because Windsor paid more. Paul would serve in many positions with the Windsor Police Department before retiring at the end of 2010 after 37 years of dedicated service.

Another thing these two Brethren have in common in addition to their police service, they both served on their respective Police Pipe Bands. I must tell you that I have never heard either of them play, but it is on their records. They also both have two girls, although Bro. Drummond didn't have two redheads like their Mother Brenda.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

In accordance with Section 131(e) of the Book of Constitution, and in cooperation with the Deputy Grand Master, we are pleased to announce the appointment of R.W. Bro. Graeme D. McDonald as an Honorary Member of the Board of General Purposes for a three-year term (2024 to 2027).

And to complete the term of R.W. Bro. Iain Wates, we are also pleased to announce the appointment of R.W. Bro. Kenneth M. Elligson as an Honorary Member of the Board of General Purposes for a two-year term (2024 to 2026).

### **WILLIAM MERCER WILSON MEDAL**

This past year we had the pleasure of presenting two William Mercer Wilson Medals to two worthy Brethren who were so nominated by their Lodges and awarded by the Awards Committee of Past Grand Masters.

On Wednesday, September 6, 2023, we had the pleasure of presenting such a medal in Belleville to Bro. Stephen Donald Shirk who was Initiated into Masonry in Bowmont Lodge No. 181 in Calgary in April of 1980. In 1994, he Affiliated with Equity Lodge No. 659 in Orillia, where he got his start as a Lodge Secretary, serving in that role for six years. When he moved to Belleville in 2013, he Affiliated with the Belleville Temple Lodge No. 123 and was elected Secretary in 2019 of the Belleville Moira Lodge No. 11.



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The second presentation was on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, in Sutton to Bro. Robert Johnson Wheaton. Jack was Initiated into Masonry in Malone Lodge No. 512 on May 15, 2000, at sixty-nine years of age, where he has been Chaplain for the last twenty plus years. The presentation was made with Jack's wife, son and daughter in attendance.

We acknowledge and celebrate this recognition by their respective Lodges, Districts and communities who have been the benefactors of their service and devotion.

### **RECOGNITION OF LODGE SERVICE**

In accordance with Section 394 of the Book of Constitution, we are pleased to grant permission for the following Lodges to wear gold braided regalia, effective the dates indicated:

- Kilwinning Lodge No. 565 on March 9, 2020
- King Hiram Lodge No. 566 on March 23, 2020

### **TEMPLE DEDICATIONS**

It was with the greatest of pleasure that your Grand Lodge was able to conduct the Ceremony of Dedication at two new Masonic Temples in the past year. On Saturday, September 30, 2023, we assembled for the dedication of the new St. Mary's Masonic Temple. The Brethren of St. James – Tecumseh Lodge No. 73 have taken their new building and made a very comfortable Lodge Room and Banquet Room in the facility. Like most new undertakings, there were obstacles to get over but with the help of the Huron District Deputy Grand Master, they were able to get over them. You had to be there to appreciate that last sentence.

The second Ceremony of Dedication was on Saturday, December 16, 2023, when the Harmony Masonic Centre was dedicated to Masonry in the village of Canfield. The day was a great example of repurposing an old church that was no longer being used as such, which turned out to be most fortunate for the Brethren of Harmony Lodge No. 57. After the many renovations completed by the Lodge, we are certain that they will be very happy in their new location for many generations to follow.

### **GRAND REPRESENTATIVES**

We are pleased to accept the recommendations of the Grand Master involved, and to confirm the following Brothers as our Grand Representative near the Grand Lodge of:

- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| • United States of America – Texas       | Bro. James A. Rogerson   |
| • Australia – New South Wales            | V.W. Bro. Phillip Davies |
| • Ukraine                                | W. Bro. Mark Paine       |
| • United States of America – Mississippi | Bro. Ricky Dale Stanley  |

Given that we may be phasing out the program of Grand Representatives over the next several years, your Grand Master will be making no recommendations to the Grand Masters of their respective Grand Lodges of Brethren from our Grand Jurisdiction as Grand Representatives of their Grand Lodge near our Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario is not the only Grand Jurisdiction who has seen over the last several years how little value the program has to our Grand Lodge and increasingly less and less participation of other Grand Lodges in the Grand Representative program. In 2004, your Grand Master was appointed as the Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of Alaska. I dutifully went home with an extra copy of both the Grand Lodge Preliminary Proceedings and the Grand Master's Address. The next day I wrote a letter of introduction to include in the mailing and shipped the three documents off to the Grand Lodge of Alaska in Anchorage. I have yet to get any response. Nor have I got any response to the same mailing for the last twenty years. Several of our Grand Representatives tell me the same story. Over the last couple of years, we have been making inquiries about the value of the Grand Representative program with the many Grand Masters and Deputy Grand Masters we have met, and several of them know nothing about the program even.

## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

We will be voting on the proposed amendment later today or tomorrow to eliminate our participation in the Grand Representative program, but I want to assure those Brethren who have previously been so appointed, that they will be grandfathered in and will remain as such until they pass to the Grand Lodge Above. The amendment would simply mean no further Grand Representatives would be appointed going forward.

### **AMALGAMATIONS AND SURRENDER OF WARRANTS**

For a variety of reasons, not excluding the COVID-19 pandemic, it has become a sign of the times that Lodges are deciding to Amalgamate or surrender their Warrants after many years of service in unprecedented numbers. Your Grand Master is neither surprised nor saddened by this expected fact. Our fraternity, like so many of our community churches and other organizations, is still being re-calibrated after the post-World War explosion of community participation. While every attempt has been made to avoid a Lodge going into darkness or amalgamating, we must accept the decision of the membership and assist in every way possible to retain our membership rather than worry about the number of Lodges we have in this jurisdiction. As I have said many times, I prefer quality over quantity every time.

The complete list of those Lodges over which the Ceremony of Amalgamation was approved and presided over by the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master can be found in the report of the Grand Secretary. In addition, several Lodges made the decision to release their members as free agents to join the Lodge of their choice by returning their Warrant to Grand Lodge. The complete list of Lodges choosing to Voluntarily Surrender their Warrant is also found in the report of the Grand Secretary. To the Brethren who chaired these Joint Committees for the Amalgamations and Surrender of Warrants, on behalf of your Grand Lodge, please accept our thanks and appreciation.

### **RE-DISTRIBUTION OF DISTRICTS**

Not unrelated to the previous topic, your Grand Master began talking to the District Deputy Grand Masters five years ago about the need to gather in smaller groups based on geography to review their District alignments and boundaries. It is easy to see with more and more Lodges Amalgamating or closing their doors, that we won't need as many Districts with fewer and fewer Lodges to visit.

Prior to the pandemic, and because of all the Lodge Masonic Temple real estate activity with respect to the Toronto and York Masonic Districts, a group of Masons representative of this area were challenged to review the current District boundaries with an eye for making any necessary changes given the preceding changes and other extenuating circumstances such as the housing growth outside the city core to the North and East of the City of Toronto. Although this first attempt lost momentum during the pandemic, it was re-ignited under the Chairmanship of R.W. Bro. Leyland Muss. Then before our Bro. Muss could really get the wheels of the committee rolling again, he passed to the Grand Lodge Above. R.W. Bro. Bill Chatwell and V.W. Bro. Domenic Todaro have since picked up the standard and are moving it forward with the cooperation of the team they have assembled. They have very recently submitted their report which I am sure will be high on the agenda of our next Grand Master. With so many Lodges moving to new locations after the sale of their Lodge buildings, or other economic reasons, throughout the Grand Jurisdiction, it is hoped we can use some of the findings of this Committee as a guideline for the rest of the Province.

The Amalgamation process is well underway in the three Hamilton Districts where we expect to see two healthy and vibrant Districts in the very near future.

We thank all the District Deputy Grand Masters who have taken on this initiative in their respective areas. Some are moving in the right direction, and some have maybe taken a step backward. 'He who will

## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

undoubtedly be Grand Master' in about twenty-four hours and I, are united in the opinion that change is inevitable in District boundaries and that continued refusal to cooperate will eventually be met with a corporate decision that may not be as suitable as a 'made at home solution.' So I would implore the next class of District Deputy Grand Masters to add this to their job jar. I would remind these Brethren that it will not be a quick process and that the majority of them will be back in this room passing along their cuffs to their successor before they know it. I would suggest a like-minded, well-respected Past District Deputy Grand Master might be appointed as your Ambassador to get the Lodges in your District into one room to decide how to face this reality. From there, they can reach out to those surrounding Districts to develop a joint plan. Grand Lodge will even assist you with this plan. The Grand Secretary is the first great resource to tap into and from there, the Grand Master would love nothing more than assigning an experienced Board or past-Board member as an independent third party to facilitate the process.

### **MASONIC FAMILY EVENTS**

#### **RAINBOW GIRLS GRAND ASSEMBLY**

On Saturday, August 12, 2023, it was my privilege to attend the Annual Rainbow Girls Grand Assembly in Hamilton. It was an even greater pleasure to be in a room with so much energy and to watch some of our leaders of tomorrow in action. We thank R.W. Bro. Allin Brown as Chairman of Youth Initiatives for the invitation and support during the day. We would implore every Mason in this room and beyond to attend and volunteer to assist any Masonic youth initiative in their area. The experience is invigorating, and you will walk away with a big smile on your face for days to follow.

#### **GRAND CHAPTER OF ONTARIO ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR OF ONTARIO**

On Saturday, August 26, 2023, we had the pleasure of attending the Annual Grand Chapter Banquet of the Grand Chapter of Ontario Order of the Eastern Star of Ontario in Toronto. It was a most enjoyable evening with many of our friends, Masons and their wives. We thank my marshals Bill and Sue Chatwell, the Worthy Grand Matron, Jane Zimmerman and Worthy Grand Patron, David Doherty for a most enjoyable evening – much better than many of the attendees who found themselves either in hospital or at home recovering from COVID-19 symptoms the following week.

#### **GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO**

On Thursday, April 11 through Saturday, April 13, 2024, it was my privilege to attend the 164th Annual Convocation of Royal Arch Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario in Burlington again this year. It's always enjoyable to be in the same room with so many like-minded men and to watch our Past Grand Master, M.W. Bro. David Cameron perform his responsibilities as Grand Senior Sojourner during the Convocation. Thank you, Most Excellent Companion Paraag Suchak, and Feeroza, again for your hospitality and for all you have done for Freemasonry in our joint jurisdiction over the past many years of service. We need also offer a great deal of thanks to Most Excellent Companion Richard Jackson for his many years of devoted service to Freemasonry in Ontario, in particular as our illustrious Grand Scribe for as long as most of us can remember. It was my pleasure to extend best wishes from the Masons of Ontario on his retirement as Grand Scribe and from the three Grand Secretaries with whom he has worked with over the last seventeen years. We would also like to show our appreciation to the Royal Arch Masons of Canada in the Province Of Ontario for their recognition of your Grand Master with an appointment as Grand Senior Sojourner.

### **CONFERENCES**

*Conference of Grand Masters of North America:* Your Grand Master was available to attend this year in Seattle along with the Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Secretary who attended workshops and discussion groups with Grand Secretaries all across North America. Not only is it a great learning session

## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

but more than once during one of the bench-marking presentations, the Deputy Grand Master and I would wink at each other in recognition of the progress Ontario was making above many of the other Jurisdictions participating. This opportunity for the Grand Masters and Secretaries to network with their counterparts across North America is invaluable.

*All Canada Conference of Canadian and District Grand Lodges of Canada:* With your Grand Master committed to 'A Day of Masonry' in Peterborough, the Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Secretary represented your Grand Lodge at the 2024 All-Canada Conference of Canadian and District Grand Lodges of Canada. This event always proves to be a great opportunity for a comparative study of the trends in Canadian Masonry and relationship building and we thank the Deputy Grand Master and Grand Secretary for representing our Grand Jurisdiction at this event. We congratulate the Deputy Grand Master for his election as Vice President of the All-Canada Conference of Canadian and District Grand Lodges of Canada.

### **COMMUNICATIONS OF OTHER GRAND LODGES**

We were fortunate to be able to attend the following Annual Communications outside of Ontario.

Grand Lodge of California Annual Communication, San Francisco, October 2023

Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, Washington, December 2023

Grand Lodge of Italy, Rimini, March 2024

Grand Lodge of Quebec, Montreal, May 2024

This last Communication visit was especially gratifying for your Grand Master where, with ten visiting members from The Builder's Lodge and a cadre of visiting Grand Lodge Officers from Ontario your Grand Master was recognized as an Honorary Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Quebec. The Grand Master of Quebec, my dear friend and colleague, M.W. Bro. Robert Dupel, who joined The Builder's Lodge "so that he could call me his Grand Master", made me speechless with this fantastic honour.

Later in the evening in the hospitality room when I was still walking around with my framed certificate announcing my appointment in my arm, it was pointed out that this one-of-a-kind recognition was truly unique as it didn't say Honorary Past Grand Master but rather Honorary Grand Master. Speechless again. As was Cheryl who thought she was going to get me back in a few months!

Thank you again M.W. Sir! Your kindness and friendship cannot be matched.

### **GRAND MASTER'S BANQUET**

One of the highlights of our Grand Lodge Communication is the Grand Master's Banquet. Your Grand Master is really going out on a limb this year by trying something new – or is it really old?

I appreciate your confidence in buying tickets for this Grand Master's Banquet when you read that the keynote speaker for the evening had passed to the Grand Lodge Above in 2013.

I also trust that you will be as equally impressed with the speech of our dear deceased Bro. John Ross Matheson as he addressed the Masons attending the Grand Master's Banquet of the Annual Communication of 1986. And I hope you will be equally impressed with so many of his comments that apply equally today as they did when first presented thirty-eight years ago. I also found it most interesting to hear the voices of some of our Past Grand Masters in the persons of M.W. Bros. A. Lou Copeland, Eric W. Nancekivell and William R. Pellow who have all passed to the Grand Lodge Above. I look forward to your responses to the address this evening at the Grand Master's Banquet.



### CONDITION OF MASONRY

**Ontario Masons Magazine:** One of the most visible improvements of the new technology in use by your Grand Lodge to the majority of our members has been the relaunched Ontario Masons Magazine, which is being delivered directly to over 16,000 members inbox on the first of every month. The Ontario Masons Magazine is the sole communication tool for you, our members. All the Grand Lodge Committees are using the Ontario Masons Magazine to deliver educational articles, event announcements, newsletters and of course the Grand Lodge Communique. We thank the publication team under the leadership of V.W. Bro. Dan Dignard who continues to welcome submissions from Districts and Lodges. When you make a fifty-year pin presentation or a charity cheque presentation or simply have a Lodge family barbeque, take some pictures and send them in for publication in the Ontario Masons Magazine. Share your good news and successes!

**Lodge Buildings:** Another giant thank you needs to go out to each and every Lodge in our Grand Jurisdiction for their cooperation in one hundred percent compliance with the Lodge Building Fire Safety and Lodge Insurance protocols of our Grand Lodge. We overcame the initial push-back to reach this goal of ensuring the safety of each person attending a Lodge function in our Temples across the Province. In addition to thanking all of the Brethren involved with their Temple inspections and insurance certifications we must again thank the Brethren that made this all happen. Whenever you try to thank a group of participants you run the risk of missing someone but a big thank you goes out to my professional public safety travelling companions of twenty-two years ago when this idea was hatched; to professional Firefighter and former Committee Chairman, R.W. Bro. Darren Byrne, who revised the old system, protocol and reporting requirements, to make them less onerous and less expensive for the Lodges to ensure fire safety compliance; to R.W. Bro. Richard Kaufman who marshalled the changes, including the Constitutional amendments, as the Communications Pillar Chairman; to R.W. Bro. Jeff Gatcke, who as Chairman of the Audit and Finance, has assumed the responsibility for verifying Lodge insurance policies; and to R.W. Bro. Peter Sialtsis and his Lodge Buildings Advisory Committee for all of the extra work involved in tracking, work shopping and repeated communications with every Lodge in our Grand Jurisdiction to get us across successfully the finish line.

Your Grand Master was especially happy every Lodge accepted the challenge to ensure the safety of their members and visitors. At one point in the roll-out of this revised Lodge Building Fire Safety and Lodge Insurance protocols the Deputy Grand Master and I were resigned that we would be driving around the Province filling the back of his farm truck with Lodge Warrants and suspending the same Lodge members from any Masonic activities. Thank you all Brethren for saving us from that drive!

We truly have come a long way in protecting the safety of our members since a 1954 survey of all the Masonic Temples in Toronto where “not one of our Temples passed with honours” as reported in the 1955 Grand Lodge Proceedings or the 1962 Annual Communication when R.W. Bro. George Evans reported as the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Lodge Buildings that his Committee was “going to initiate a survey of all our Lodge Buildings throughout Ontario to ascertain the conditions in each Building as to their fire safety.” His report went on to say, “we were appalled at the conditions which were disclosed” and that the Committee was planning on educating the Lodges on the hazards that existed. So again, we thank each Lodge and all their efforts to make a Lodge meeting a safe experience!

**“A Day of Masonry”:** As we were coming out of the restrictions of the pandemic in the Spring of 2022, your Grand Master decided that our planning time and energy could be better spent with a day of Masonic education and Grand Lodge seminars, open forums of discussion, sharing and enjoying fellowship and food with our families and friends beyond a single District rather than having a big formal banquet to celebrate one person in each District across the Jurisdiction.

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Given the success of the first year, it was decided to carry on with the same program and the same direction was given to the District Deputy Grand Master's Class of 2023.

A big thank you from your Grand Master and all of the Brethren who enjoyed the twelve Masonic educational experiences this past year goes out to the District Deputy Grand Masters and their respective organizing committees in Ottawa; Niagara; St. Lawrence and Frontenac; London; Bruce; Prince Edward; Toronto; Peterborough, Victoria and Ontario; Hamilton; Georgian; and Temiskaming. I count that as twenty-four participating Districts. Congratulations to each of those Districts. I am sure these successes will garner even more participation in the years ahead as word spreads!

We also need to thank R.W. Bro. Rick Cadotte and the Grand Lodge Seminars and Workshops Committee who worked with these Districts to assure they had all of the Grand Lodge support they requested. And of course we need to also thank each of the Grand Lodge Committee Chairmen and their teams who supplied presenters and panel participants for these events. One more thank you to our Deputy Grand Master for again covering for me by hosting a Q&A Townhall in London while the Grand Master was out of the country. And the final thank you to the Custodian of the Work and his Lodge of Instruction Team who split up one weekend so they could cover two events on the same Saturday!

**The Grand Master's Legal Advisory Group:** A few years ago, we came to the realization that the weight of making discipline, constitutional or jurisprudence recommendations to the Grand Master and Grand Lodge shouldn't have to rest with one Brother. It was decided that the burden of working in isolation was too much to ask of a volunteer, even if the field was in the wheelhouse of the Brother. So it was decided that there should be a true Legal Advisory Group that could work together and use each other as a sounding board to assure that the best thought-out advice was being presented to the Grand Master and Grand Lodge.

We asked if the two named Committee Chairman of Constitution and Jurisprudence, R.W. Bro. Brian Gilkinson, and Discipline Chairman R.W. Bro. Michael MacDonald, and another Honorary Member of the Board of General Purposes, R.W. Bro. Alec Zimmerman, and former Constitution and Jurisprudence Chairman, R.W. Bro. Murray Coulter, would work together and share this heavy burden of providing legal advice to the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge.

They jumped at the idea to work in cooperation as a team when dealing with discipline, constitutional or jurisprudence matters arising before the Grand Master and Grand Lodge. And I must tell you this has been one of the great successes of our Grand Lodge in the last few years.

We thank the aforementioned Brethren personally and on behalf of your Grand Lodge for their professional advice provided and showing us all what a talented team such as this can do.

### DISCIPLINE

We wish to express our thanks to the Grand Secretary and Chairman, R.W. Bro. Michael MacDonald, and members of the Discipline Committee for the extensive amount of time and effort they have contributed to discipline matters again this year. The Committee dealt with many administrative matters and questions of law and procedure that arose in the numerous complaints forwarded to them. These matters have been addressed in detail in the report of the Discipline Committee. However, a number of these matters required action by the Grand Master and under Section 85 of the Constitution, the Grand Master must report those actions to Grand Lodge and offer his opinion respecting any further action to be taken. Section 85 provides as follows: "The Grand Master may... suspend any brother... He shall report in writing

## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

to Grand Lodge the action taken by him, his reasons therefore and his opinion respecting any further action in the matter which should be taken by Grand Lodge.”

These actions taken by the Grand Master relate to numbered items in the Report of the Discipline Committee, which numbers are used for reference.

Item 5. Bro. E: In September 2024 we received complaints from members of the public concerning a Brother who had been convicted of several serious criminal offences. Based on the seriousness of the criminal offences of which the Brother had been accused the Grand Master suspended the Brother pending a Masonic trial. That trial is now pending in the Lodge.

Further to Section 85 of the Constitution, the Grand Master’s opinion is that the Brother’s suspension should be continued indefinitely pending the conclusion of all Masonic trial proceedings in his case.

Item 7. Bro. G: In November 2023 we received a complaint of inappropriate touching of a young woman at a public Masonic event. On further inquiry we learned of a long history of such misconduct. The local District Deputy Grand Master advised of a mitigating psychological factor concerning the Brother, who was encouraged to complete a particular online counselling session with an appropriate professional. The Brother concerned was summoned to a meeting with the Grand Master; he provided a certificate of completion of the session; he gave his undertaking that he had insight into the inappropriate behaviour; and he gave his undertaking that he would never again engage in such conduct. There have been no further complaints of misconduct and no Masonic charges are pending.

The harmony of the Brother’s Lodge was still, however, disturbed by the Brother’s presence in Lodge, putting the future of the Lodge at risk due to anticipated demits. The Grand Master therefore suspended the Brother from that Lodge only, leaving him free to attend elsewhere where he was also a member.

Further to Section 85 of the Constitution, the Grand Master’s opinion is that the Brother’s suspension from that one Lodge only should be continued indefinitely.

I wanted to point out the work of the Discipline Committee, in particular the flexibility they have shown in their previous standard operating procedures to improve the impartiality of Reviewing Committees and Trial Commissions. The Discipline Committee continues to work towards further improving the rules and process related to Masonic Offences. We look forward to their future deliberations.

### **APPRECIATIONS**

#### **Deputy Grand Master**

One of the pleasures of being around the Board of General Purposes as your Grand Master has for the last twenty-five years, is to watch the leadership development of your colleagues. This is especially true of our Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Jamie Ireland. I still remember well when the Deputy first shared with me that he was interested in becoming Grand Master in the future. It was on a quick trip to Glengarry Highland Lodge in Maxville on a rainy afternoon when we were running late as part of the Eastern Ontario Tour. After running even later with a stop for me to buy a pair of patent leather shoes to cover for the pair left at home and a second stop to get food for some in R.W. Bro. Drummond’s Suburban, I found myself at the steering wheel and Bro. Ireland was riding shotgun. I’m sure R.W. Bro. Robbie Manz’ wife Monique will remember the drive also because she found an alternative, be it slower, ride back to Ottawa. As we were both headed down the same Masonic route at that time, it was great to compare notes, strategies and timelines. How fortuitous that we would be sharing the stage at the same time.

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After a thorough service record through many of our Grand Lodge Committees, R.W. Bro. Jamie Ireland has honed his leadership skills to the point where we should have no doubt that he is more than capable to assume the challenges of Grand Master. It is my pleasure to say that our Deputy Grand Master has become even more of a devoted companion and friend over the last two years. He continues to be a strong supporter of your Grand Master and all the plans and initiatives of your Grand Lodge. I would like to personally thank our Deputy Grand Master for his advice, cooperation, eagerness to learn and willingness to be part of the team. We have maintained a close association with him as he served this Grand Lodge with honour and distinction while travelling the Province as our Deputy Grand Master.

Regretfully for R.W. Bro. Ireland, he has officiated at all but one of the Lodge Darkness Ceremonies over the past two years, while the Grand Master had the pleasure of conducting all of the happier Lodge Amalgamations throughout the Province. For this imbalance I personally thank R.W. Bro. Ireland for his cooperation and look forward to attending the next Amalgamation to support him.

As the President of the Board and Chairman of the Management Committee he has championed the various Masonic programs to advance Freemasonry. Under his chairmanship, the concept of the Management Committee has proven to be a big plus to the Grand Master and our Grand Lodge. Grand Lodge programs were guided and administered by the combined efforts of wise and experienced Brethren, rather than a solitary decision by a Grand Master, or a long-delayed decision by a very large Board, who normally meet for meaningful discussions but once a year.

Our Deputy Grand Master has a unique ability to get work done through others while maintaining a smile on his face and those of his colleagues. We look forward with great anticipation to the next two years.

### **Members of the Board**

Under the outstanding leadership of our Deputy Grand Master, as President of the Board of General Purposes, our Board has had an exceedingly busy year and we direct your attention to the reports of the various Committees for a fuller understanding of the many projects and accomplishments. These many Committee reports will be highlighted by the Pillar Chairmen later in this Communication and we encourage each of you to read their full reports in the Annual Proceedings that will be prepared, distributed and posted on the Grand Lodge website in due time.

We are most pleased to report to the general membership that your Board of General Purposes continues to work tirelessly to strengthen and improve Masonry in Ontario being driven by the 2021 adopted five-year Grand Lodge Strategic Plan – The Next Regular Step.

Our objective as a Board is to not only attract good men of character and intentions, but to also strengthen our Fraternity by providing our membership with a nurturing environment to assist their growth as men and Masons at home, at work and in their communities. The primary objective of your Board of General Purposes continues to be the building of a stronger and more responsive Craft for the membership.

I have no doubt we are heading in the right direction based on the feedback we continue to receive from the work of your Board of General Purposes and we applaud these Brethren and indeed all of the members who serve on their respective committees.

We thank all the members of the Board of General Purposes for their dedication and contributions to the operations of our Grand Lodge and especially to R.W. Bro. Michael Steele, who has decided to retire and therefore has not been nominated for the 2024 Board. The wealth of experience that Michael brings to the Board from his training as a Certified Financial Planner, Chartered Financial Consultant and Chartered

## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

Life Underwriter and his thirty-seven years of professional experience in building wealth and his Lodge and community volunteer experience will be sorely missed as Chairman of the Lodge Finance Advisory Committee.

Your Grand Lodge would also like to recognize R.W. Bro. Michael Locke who is leaving the Board after ten years of service. As would be his willingness to serve where needed, Bro. Locke has accepted the appointment as Grand Scribe Ezra for the Royal Arch Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

Bro. Locke will take the same professionalism exhibited in his service as Chairman of Condition of Masonry and Web Master of our Grand Lodge to this new challenge. They are most fortunate to have such a dedicated volunteer as a senior leader of Royal Arch Masonry for the Province.

### **District Deputy Grand Masters**

The District Deputy Grand Master is the essential link in the communication chain between Grand Lodge and the constituent Lodges. The current District Deputy Grand Masters have filled this vital role extremely well, performing their duties and providing leadership in the Districts in an exemplary manner.

We have added a few additional items for them to review for compliance as part of their Official Visit reporting via the L-forms, such as Lodge Safety and Insurance compliance and for the most part, they have acted as true leaders in their Districts in aiding and providing counsel to achieve compliance within the time allotted. Your service, with the assistance of the District Secretaries was very much appreciated by your Lodges and Grand Lodge. It is essential that this support in submitting those time sensitive reports that must be completed to keep the lines of communication open between yourself and the Grand Lodge office has to continue. Although the GrandMaster and the Deputy Grand Master will have planned communication sessions with your predecessors in August and throughout the year via scheduled Grand Lodge program support virtual sessions, you will play a huge role in the future success of your District by the mentoring you have been doing and will continue to do with the future District Deputy Grand Masters of your District.

You have worked diligently to promote and implement the programs of our Grand Lodge. Further, you have worked tirelessly to make our Lodges and Districts the best they can be. A special thanks for satisfying our agreement made last July and August that each of the forty District Deputy Grand Masters would have their final PSUM Reports in the hands of the Grand Secretary by the June 1st deadline. We owe you a deep debt of gratitude and on behalf of your Grand Lodge, District and Lodges, we thank you for your service. A special vote of thanks goes to those District Deputy Grand Masters who pushed the reset button and had the luxury of serving their District for a second term.

### **Elected Grand Lodge Officers**

Once again, our Grand Lodge has been well served by the dedicated Brethren who were elected and appointed to serve in the past year. We extend our personal thanks for all their efforts.

Our appreciation goes out to all the elected Grand Lodge Officers, but we would be very remiss if we didn't give a special shout out to the Grand Senior Warden, R.W. Bro. Steven Spence and the Grand Junior Warden, R.W. Bro. Ebrahim Washington. The Grand Master conducted many Amalgamations and Silver to Gold Ceremonies this past year and these two Brethren were there every time to support the Lodges and their Grand Master by filling their respective roles. It would be an understatement to say these two Brethren have been very attentive to their responsibilities and needs of your Grand Lodge.



## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

### **Grand Chaplain**

Another huge vote of thanks must be extended to R.W. Bro. Michael A. Litvak for his continued dedication to the office of Grand Chaplain for a second year. This doesn't happen often but when you get it right the first time, why change the plan? R.W. Sir, you have delivered your Chaplain duties with energy and enthusiasm attending many of the Ceremonies involving the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Litvak was even available to provide the Invocation for many of our Board of General Purposes meetings to get the meeting kicked-off in the right style. We also thank R.W. Bro. Jeff Gatcke for filling in for you on those nights when you were unable to attend.

Many thanks from your Grand Master and on behalf of your Grand Lodge for practicing your duties in that spirit of universal tolerance and your continued contribution to the Craft in the coming years.

### **Grand Director of Ceremonies**

Your Grand Master has been most fortunate and honoured to have R.W. Bro. Graeme McDonald as the Grand Director of Ceremonies for a second year as well. Only a Past Grand Director of Ceremonies can appreciate how the job can impact your professional life – especially when you are just starting a new business and your home life – especially when your spouse is being left at home with a new empty nest. And then you turn around and do it all again for a second year.

Not every Grand Master has been so fortunate to have such a good friend to spend so much quality time with over the course of a year. When I was on Mr. McDonald's Investigating Committee in 1999, I knew Maple Leaf Lodge had a gem and it has been my pleasure to have spent many a night travelling with him since that time throughout our Grand Jurisdiction. He was meticulous in every aspect of his duties to ensure the dignity of the office of Grand Master was always maintained. Throughout the year, your Grand Master consistently heard nothing but glowing comments on how easy the Grand Director of Ceremonies was to work with, how prepared he was, and generally, how easy he made the planning for the Lodge. It's like they didn't need me at all!

Thank you, R.W. Sir, for all your support, your dedicated service but most of all your friendship.

### **Custodian of the Work**

Being a member of Freemasonry means striving for improvement in all aspects of one's life, including the Mechanics of the Work and our Ritual. The performance of our Ritual and proficiency in the choreography of the Floor Work makes our institution unique to all other organizations. Given our target audience of today, it is safe to say that a Lodge that is known for its good Ritual, will attract, and more importantly, retain members.

The links of communication have been maintained and fostered by M.W. Bro. Donald A. Campbell as Custodian of the Work with the District Deputy Grand Masters and the Ritual Committee. His endeavours to make sure no additions or alterations to our Ritual occur except that authorized by the Ritual Committee, is surprisingly, a huge task. The personal thanks of the Grand Master are added to that of all of the above District Deputies and Committee members for his diligence and support of Masonry throughout our Jurisdiction.

### **Past Grand Masters**

Your Grand Master is very fortunate to have as many Past Grand Masters as we do to call on for assistance, guidance and advice. It was a great pleasure when one or two of our Past Grand Masters would show up to assist with an Amalgamation, Dedication or Lodge Anniversary to make the event even more special for the hosts.



## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

There is one Past Grand Master for which I would like to make special recognition as the epitome of what a Masonic Ambassador should be and that is M.W. Bro. Ronald E. Groshaw, the dean of our Past Grand Masters. To have this worthy Brother attend your Lodge meeting or festive banquet has the immediate effect of brightening the room with his smile, and grace.

We would invite all Brethren within the length of their Cable Tow to attend the Brampton Masonic Temple on September 14th when the building will be re-dedicated as the Ronald E. Groshaw Brampton Masonic Centre in recognition of his many years of service to our Gentle Craft.

For those Past Grand Masters who have been regularly called upon over the past few years, we thank each of you for the wise counsel you have freely given to me. We look forward to your continued support of our new Grand Master as well.

### **Grand Secretary**

A hearty vote of thanks for the cheerful and professional administrative support are extended to R.W. Bro. Lou Domjan for his smooth transition from Chief Operating Officer to Grand Secretary. We thank him for the role he has played for our Grand Lodge and most especially for the direction of our excellent Grand Lodge staffing team of Gail Nickerson, Stacey Birks and Anne Domjan.

Our Grand Secretary never seems to turn off his computer. He has always been available to respond to a question or aid in making the service of our Grand Lodge the best it can be. You can sure get used to a fast response but the one thing he doesn't listen to your Grand Master about is to turn off his phone. He has even picked up one of the Grand Master's bad habits of working on a laptop while someone else does the driving – thanks Anne!

Thank you Grand Secretary for all your help over the last five years! Your assistance has certainly made my life easier. I hope all the Lodges have the same appreciation for your efforts and that of your staff on their behalf eight days a week.

## **CONCLUSION**

This past year has been a positive period of growth and renewal as we re-open our doors to the many interested men of our communities. It has been built on the many successes that you, my Brethren, have accomplished during your stewardship of your respective Lodges, Districts and Grand Lodge. We have all worked long and hard to bring our Craft back to life. Your positive outlook and continued dedication to Freemasonry and its principles has driven these positive results. The spark of Freemasonry is without question undergoing a revival and renewal within our communities.

During the last few years, we have witnessed many men with newly discovered downtime at home becoming acquainted with Freemasonry for the first time. To this interest, we have reacted and have added tracking strategies to make sure these interested men receive the help they are looking for and are providing the services that are essential to our growth, strength and numbers. We have realized that our need for leadership was greater than our need for new members. The old term – Quality over Quantity – has reemerged as the driving force to mentor every man from the interested man at the West Gate to your Grand Master.

Our potential to contribute to the betterment of the society in which we live is enormous and we are all charged to work while it is yet day. Your personal contribution can take many forms, the important point is that we perform our allotted task to the best of our ability, for if we are to pursue quality and

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

excellence, we must pay equal attention to all our Masonic duties. The seemingly simple task is worth doing well, and each task is equally important in maintaining the fabric of our Craft.

Throughout the centuries, Freemasonry has contributed mightily to the betterment of society. Freemasonry is what this fractured world needs. We are the builders and consensus makers. We embrace diversity and concentrate on those common core values that are common to all good men of Faith. We should be greatly encouraged by the signs of increased interest in our Craft, but it is essential that we understand that collecting their Initiation Fee does not make a Mason. That is not the time to rest or stop the momentum. We need to keep moving forward, harness that positive energy and mentor them every day. We need to provide our members, young and old, with an environment where they can continue to grow and explore, and through our teachings, become better versions of themselves.

In closing, we want to thank each member of our beloved Craft – for all you have done and will continue to do for Freemasonry so that the generations to follow will find the pleasure each of us have found during our time. And finally, on behalf of all the Grand Lodge Officers, we thank you for allowing us to serve your Grand Lodge. We hope our actions meet with your approval. The enormous responsibility of this office is immeasurably eased by the knowledge that I stand surrounded by such dedicated, talented and insightful Brethren, who are ever willing to make the personal commitments which are necessary to meet our challenge.

Masonry need have no fear for the future, providing that our members are true to its precepts and follow the illustrious example of our predecessors.

Be careful how you live your life, you may be the only Mason some people will ever meet.

I want to leave you with a more personal quote from the legendary Los Angeles Dodger broadcaster Vin Scully that sums up my feelings of being Grand Master – “Don’t be sad it’s over, smile because it happened.”

Thank you!

Thomas Wallace Hogeboom  
Grand Master

## **Grand Lodge Officers 2024-25**

### **M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland, The Grand Master**

The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario.



M.W. Bro. Jamie Ireland was born, raised and educated in the farming community outside of Strathroy ON.

As a young lad, he soon developed a love of the land and moved in with his grandparents to assist them with the many related duties... on the family farm.

After attending high school in Strathroy, he enrolled at Ridgetown Agricultural College (now part of Guelph University) and graduated in 1985 with a diploma in Field Crops and Livestock.

In addition to his own farming career, M.W. Bro. Ireland began working with the Township of Metcalfe (now Adelaide – Metcalfe), as an Equipment Operator.

In 2016 M.W. Bro. Ireland left his position after 29 years and returned to farming full time.

In 1988, he married his high school sweetheart, Kelly and together they raised four boys: Matthew, Jesse, Benjamin and Lucas.

M.W. Bro. Ireland was Initiated into Ionic Lodge No. 328 in a small rural community called Napier in 1996.

Upon his Initiation, he was able to sit in Lodge with his late grandfather who was also able to be with him in his journey to become a Master Mason.

In 2003, M.W. Bro. Ireland served as Worshipful Master of Ionic Lodge and after serving Sarnia District on several committees over the years- he became District Deputy Grand Master in 2010.

One of the greatest feelings ever in his Masonic career was when his oldest son, Matthew, was Initiated into Ionic Lodge No.328, while he was DDGM.

Unfortunately Bro. Matthew passed to the Grand Lodge above in 2012 as a result of a tragic Automobile accident.

From 2011 – 2014 - M.W. Bro. Ireland actively served our Grand Lodge on the Seminars and Workshops Committee as well as the Cornerstone Committee.

He was appointed the Cornerstone Team Leader in 2014 - 2016 and served on the DDGM Orientation Committee, now DDGM Preparation Committee, from 2015 – 2016. In 2016, he was appointed as Team

## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

Leader of the DDGM Orientation Committee. In 2015, M.W. Bro. Ireland was elected to serve his Lodge as the Lodge Secretary, a position he held until 2023.

M.W. Bro. Ireland was Initiated into Mocha Temple and the Strathocha Shrine Club in 2006 and in 2017 he became a member of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

At the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge in 2015, M.W. Bro. Ireland was appointed to the Board of General Purposes and in 2017 M.W. Bro. Ireland was elected to the Board of General Purposes. In 2018, he was elected by the Members of the Board to sit on the Management Committee where he was Chairman of the Community Outreach Pillar. In 2019, he was re-elected to the Board of General Purposes and was the Chairman of the Craft Stewardship Pillar which was renamed the Masonic Education Pillar in 2021. In 2020 he was elected to the MasoniChip Foundation of Ontario as a Director. And in July of 2022, M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland was elected to the Office of Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

In 2024 the three degrees of the York Rite were conferred on M.W. Bro. Ireland as well as he was made an Honourary Past First Principal.

In December of 2023, God blessed the family with beautiful twin Grand babies, Akira Marie and Marley Rae, they are growing like crazy and keeping their parents, Lucas and Gracie very busy.

In 2024, he was elected Vice President of the All Canada Conference of Canadian Grand Masters.

In 2024, at the 169th Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario, M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland was Elected and Installed as the 85th Grand Master of our Grand Lodge.

When he isn't involved with his family or Freemasonry, M.W. Bro. Ireland is actively involved in local Plowing competitions.

In fact, he is well known all across the Province for his plowing skill and is a yearly participant at the International Plowing Match with his 1947 McCormick Deering W4 tractor and 2 furrow plow on steel wheels.

## **M.W. Bro. Paul Edward Todd, Past Grand Master**

The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario.



Paul E. Todd was born in Belleville, Ontario, on August 1, 1945. He grew up in Trenton, Ontario and attended Trenton High School. In Ottawa, he began working as an apprentice Mechanic obtaining his Class A license. He also joined the Ontario Provincial Police Auxiliary Unit, retiring with the rank of Corporal. He worked part-time for Ontario Ambulance in Carleton Place, Ontario, leaving this position after 10 years of service.

Paul Todd joined the Township of Nepean Fire Department in 1971, which is now part of the Ottawa Fire Services. The Governor General awarded him the Federal Fire Service Medal for Exemplary Service, and the Ontario Fire Marshal awarded him the Ontario Fire Marshal Long Service Medal. He retired in 2002 after thirty-one years of Service.

Paul Todd was the Rector's Warden of St. James Anglican Church, Carleton Place, for two terms and for 12 years a member of the Church Choir. Paul is married to Gloria, and they have three children. V.W. Bro Shawn Todd, (Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies and a member of St. John's Lodge No.63, Carleton Place), and his wife Michele live in Westboro. Shannon Moore and her husband Danny live in McLaren's Landing. Alanna Renaud with her husband Budd lives in Carleton Place. He also is a proud grandfather to seven beautiful grandchildren, Olivia, Alisha, Tristan, Camryn, Shelbie, Rowan, and M.J..

### **Masonic Career**

M.W. Bro. Paul Todd joined Masonry on April 13, 1983, in St. John's No. 63, Carleton Place, becoming its Worshipful Master in 1994-1995. He affiliated with Luxor Daylight Lodge No. 741, Ottawa District No. 2, and was the Worshipful Master in 2003. Ottawa District No. 1 elected R.W. Bro. Paul E. Todd to be the District Deputy Grand Master for 1999-2000. All the Masonic Education presentations he gave during his Official Visits were collected by R.W. Bro. Michael Jenkyns and published with the title Lifting the Veil.

He was the President of the Carleton Place Temple Corporation for five years, and District Chairman of Blood Donors and Masonic Education for Ottawa District No. 1. M.W. Bro. Todd was a member of the Provincial Emergency Service Degree Team.

M.W. Bro. Todd was appointed to the Board of General Purposes in 2001, 2003 and 2005. Then he ran for election to the Board of General Purposes and was successful in 2007, and again in 2009. In 2008 he was elected to the Management Committee and in 2009 he was re-elected for a three-year term.



## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

While serving on the Board of General Purposes, M.W. Bro. Todd was a member of the Masonic Education Committee, where he was the Team Leader responsible for the Masonic Education Newsletter, the Chairman of the Committee of Long-Range Planning, and the Committee for the Condition of Masonry.

M.W. Bro. Todd retired from the Board of General Purposes in July of 2011 due to health issues. To keep active and contribute to the Craft he joined the Lodge of Instruction Team with M.W. Bro. Don Mumby and travelled as a presenter for two years.

To support the visibility of Freemasonry in the community, M.W. Bro. Todd was the Local Chairman of the Grand Lodge Committee for the International Plowing Match in Carleton Place, and a member of both the Navan and Crosby International Plowing Match Committees.

As a member of the Grand Lodge 150th Anniversary committee, M.W. Bro. Todd was an actor in the commemorative play presented at several Especial Communications.

M.W. Bro. Todd has served as the Grand Lodge Representative to Lodge Amalgamation Committees in Ottawa, Cornwall, Kingston and Bath.

He is a founding Director of the MasoniCHiP Foundation of Ontario. He was Co-Chair of the Local Committee on Arrangements for the Especial Communication of Grand Lodge in Ottawa and has Chaired four Grand Master Receptions Committees for the Ottawa Districts.

M.W. Bro. Todd was appointed a Director of the Masonic Foundation of Ontario for six years. He accepted roles as with responsibility for the web page, and for approval of Masonic Foundation District projects.

In 2017 he became a member of the Royal Order of Scotland.

He was elected Deputy Grand Master in July of 2015 and Grand Master in 2017.

M.W. Bro. Todd is the representative of the Grand Lodge of New York near the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

In Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry he is a Past Thrice Puissant Grand Master of the Ottawa Lodge of Perfection, a member of the Murray Chapter of the Rose Croix, and a member of the Ottawa Consistory. He was coroneted a 33-degree Honorary Inspector General in Vancouver on September 11, 2008.

As a member of Tunis Temple, Land O' Lakes Shrine Club, he participates in the Tunis Temple Oriental Band, where he is the Hajji. He was appointed to the Divan of Tunis Temple in 2012 as Marshall.

As a member of Royal Arch Masonry, M.W. Bro. Todd was advanced as a Mark Master Mason on October 4, 2016, in Ottawa Chapter No. 222. He then was received and acknowledged as Most Excellent Master on



## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

December 18, 2016, and exalted to Holy Royal Arch on February 23, 2017. He was appointed as Past First Principal of Ottawa Chapter No. 222 during the April 2017 Grand Chapter Convocation at St. Catharines by Grand First Principal Alan Donovan. M.W. Bro. Todd was appointed Grand Senior Sojourner at the Grand Chapter Convocation held in April 2022 at St. Catharines by Grand First Principal George Napper. M.W. Bro. Todd affiliated with Maple-Granite Chapter No. 63 Carleton Place, March 4, 2022.

### **As Grand Master**

As the 78th Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Todd presented 9 Wm. Mercer Wilson medals to deserving Masons. And six Meritorious Service Medals were awarded.

During his term there were 10 Lodges that determined that it was in their best interest to amalgamate. And there were 6 Lodges that decided to close by extinguishing the lights.

There is a motorcycle riding club that used a Square and Compasses logo on the patch identifying their members. M.W. Bro. Todd took action to protect the trademark of the Square and Compasses that is owned by the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

Jurisprudence required M.W. Bro. Todd to approve the start of two Masonic Trials based on complaints against two Masons. He also had to suspend a Lodge for non-payment of semi-annual dues and no communication from the Lodge to explain the negligence.

M.W. Bro. Todd attended a Cornerstone Ceremony for the Windsor City Hall. This event resulted in extensive and positive publicity for our Fraternity.

During his term as Grand Master, he held an Especial Communication of Grand Lodge in North Bay.

M.W. Bro. Todd continued the active participation of Grand Masters from our jurisdiction at the North American Conference of Grand Masters, and the All Canada Conference of Grand Masters. He also attended the World Conference of Regular Grand Lodges in Panama.

There were also trips to the annual communications of the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island, and the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon. At the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island M.W. Bro. Todd was welcomed and reminded of the close bond between the two Grand Lodges. Our Grand Lodge supported the effort of Masons to form the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island and that support continues to be appreciated.

There was a personal connection to be enjoyed when M.W. Bro. Todd travelled to the annual communication of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon. M.W. Bro. Douglas Franklin was installed as Grand Master, and he entered our Fraternity in Ottawa where he served as a Worshipful Master, and as a DDGM for Ottawa District 1. The two current Grand Masters have known each other for many years, and were both Worshipful Masters of their respective Lodges in Ottawa District 1 for the 1993 – 1994 Masonic year.

## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

Of particular note is the travel by M.W. Bro. Paul Todd, and M.W. Bro. Terence Shand, to London England to participate in the celebrations of the 300th Anniversary of the formation of the premier Grand Lodge. This very well-organized event began with an opening dinner at the Grand Connaught Room with five hundred guests with the United Grand Lodge of England Deputy Grand Master. This was followed by attendance at the reception of the Grand Master H.R.H. the Duke of Kent in Freemason Hall where each Grand Master had a few moments of introduction, to a reception that evening at the Lord Mayor of London Mansion and concluding the next day at Royal Albert Hall where close to four thousand Masons witnessed an outstanding play "Bringing Light to the World" and concluding with the pomp and ceremony of dedication of the new Soane Ark which contained the Great Lights, and a replica of the Wren Maul.

As Grand Master he feels very blessed that he had the opportunity to represent the Masons of this Grand Jurisdiction in a once in a lifetime event. He continued the celebration of the tercentenary of Freemasonry at various events in our jurisdiction including the Greater Toronto Area 300th Anniversary Gala Ball.

A year later, on June 2, 2018, M.W. Bro. Todd was invited to travel to Brussels to the annual communication of the Regular Freemasonry Grand Lodge of Belgium with M.W. Bro. Terence Shand, our Grand Secretary. M.W. Bro. Shand received the Medal of Honor of the Regular Grand Lodge of Belgium for services rendered from M.W. Bro. Daniel Bauwens, Grand Master. M.W. Bro. Shand was very active in helping the Regular Grand Lodge of Belgium form and be recognized in regular Freemasonry.

The charity that M.W. Bro. Paul Todd encouraged Masons to support during his term was the Autism Disorder Research Project. The selection of this charity was prompted by his special grandson, Tristan. To be sure the selection of this charity would be appropriate and useful, M.W. Bro. Todd put together a small sub-committee from Ottawa area Masons. The sub-committee was led by past President of the Masonic Foundation of Ontario R.W. Bro Samuel Kalinowsky PDDGM Ottawa 2, R.W. Bro. Brian Adam PDDGM Ottawa 1 and V.W. Bro Shawn Todd, Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies. Their consideration of the work being done at Canadian Universities concluded that Queen's University in Kingston, McMaster University in Hamilton and Western University in London were doing deserving research into Autism Spectrum. The committee informed each University that they might be eligible for a research grant if they would submit a written outline of how their research would use the grant monies.

At the end of his two-year term M.W. Bro. Todd was able to announce that a very substantial amount of donations was raised from the proceeds of Grand Master Receptions, decisions by Lodges and by Masons who gave money through the Masonic Foundation of Ontario to the Autism Research Project. The funds were shared equally among the three University Research Groups.

There were many Grand Master's Receptions over his term. The fundraising opportunities were secondary to the other goals of the events. M.W. Bro. Todd used the Receptions across the Province to make sure he, as the figurehead of Grand Lodge, was visible and available to brethren in all areas of the Province. To him it was particularly important to be present in Districts across northern Ontario. M.W.

## **District History, Ottawa District One**

### **2024-25**

Bro. Todd enjoyed hearing first-hand of the issues facing lodges and then introducing Grand Lodge Officers working on solutions or able to find answers. This effort was a direct result of advice he was given by several mentors including M.W. Bro. Donald Mumby, and his personal experience in travelling across the Province as Deputy Grand Master.

During his term as Grand Master M.W. Bro. Todd enjoyed the opportunity to approve the Institution of two new Lodges in the jurisdiction. Templum Lucis Lodge No. 747 in Stratford is a 'strict observance' lodge with an active program for members and guests. Goodfellows Lodge No. 748 in Parry Sound demonstrated the determination of some Masons in that area to build a new Lodge with a focus on charity and fellowship.

M.W. Bro. Paul E. Todd said in his final remarks as Grand Master how much he appreciated that a non-high school graduate and a working man could become the Grand Master. In his many addresses to Masons at various events and receptions, M.W. Bro. Paul E. Todd would conclude his remarks with the sincere comment: "If we are not willing to learn and change, no one can help us. If we are determined to learn and change, no one can stop us."

## **R.W. Bro. Arthur Michael DiCecco, The Deputy Grand Master**

The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario.



### **Personal**

- Nathalie & Art have been happily married for 35 years, live in Etobicoke, ON
- Proud parents of Meaghan and Laura,
- Owner and CEO of a Project and Construction Management firm for over 35 years specializing in the management and delivery of projects and programs for the financial, corporate, institutional and retail industries.

### **Masonic Lodge & District**

- Past President of Toronto Don Valley District Warden's Association 'Network', 2008 - 09.
  - Past Master, Ionic Lodge No. 25, - 2010 and 2011.
  - Served and chaired several Lodge and District Committees.
  - District Deputy Grand Master, Toronto Don Valley District, - 2012 - 13.
  - Chairman – The 5 Toronto & York Districts, Grand Master's Reception Committee, - 2014 - 15
  - Past President - The 5 Toronto & York Districts Grand Lodge Officers Association.
- Grand Lodge – Past Offices
- Served on Brock University Partnership Committee, 2011 - 13
  - Served on Protocol and Etiquette Committee, 2012 - 2015
  - Appointed Team Leader – Protocol and Etiquette Committee, 2015
  - Appointed Team Leader – Cornerstone Committee – 2016
  - Elected to Board of General Purposes – 2017 - 2024
  - Chairman – Cornerstone Committee – 2017
  - Chairman – Leadership Development Committee – 2018
  - Appointed to Grand Lodge Management Committee – 2019 – 2021
  - Chairman – Community Outreach Pillar – 2019 – 2022
  - Elected to Grand Lodge Management Committee – 2021 – 2024
  - Elected Vice President of Grand Lodge Board of General Purposes – 2022 - 2024
  - Chairman – Operations Pillar – 2022 – 2024
  - Elected – to Board of Directors Masonic Foundation of Ontario – 2020 - current
  - Elected – to Board of Directors MasoniChip Foundation of Ontario – 2023 – current

### **Grand Lodge – Current Office**

- Elected Deputy Grand Master - 2024 Concordant Bodies
- Member of King Solomon's Chapter No. 8
- Knight Templar - Geoffrey de St. Aldemar Preceptory No. 2
- Scottish Rite - 32 degrees, Valley of Toronto & Moore Sovereign Consistory
- Immediate Past Most Wise Sovereign of the Toronto Sovereign Chapter Rose Croix
- Most Puissant Sovereign, Holy Trinity Conclave # 34

**R.W. Bro. Eustach (Sam) Alexander Roberts,  
District Deputy Grand Master, Ottawa District One**

The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario.



Born: St John's, Antigua West Indies

Father's Name: Eustace Roberts

Mother's Name: Vivian Roberts

Number of male siblings: 1

Number of female siblings: 1

Ranking: Eldest

- Immigrated to Canada in 1970
- I arrived in Toronto.
- I have lived in Toronto, Sudbury, Etobicoke, Brampton, Mississauga, Ottawa, Antigua, Victoria, BC, Nanaimo, BC
- Became a Canadian citizen in 1976

**Family Information**

- Father worked and retired from Via Rail where he was an in-service attendant.
- Mother worked and retired from TD Bank where she started as a teller and worked her way to the manager of TD Visa.

**Education**

**Schools Attended:**

- Elementary School
  - o Dewson Public
  - o Willow Glen Public School
- Middle School
  - o Elmbank Middle School
- High School
  - o West Humber Collegiate Institute
- College
  - o St Laurence College Cornwall Campus
- University
  - o Charles Sturt University, Australia
- Diplomas/Degrees Obtained:
  - Diploma, Marine Engineering Technologist
  - Bachelor of Arts, Policing Science



## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

- Master of Arts, Emergency Management

School Activities: Wrestling, football, band (trumpet and drums), Air Cadets,

Awards Obtained:

- Air Cadets
  - o Glider Pilots license
  - o Private Pilot's license
  - o International Exchange visit to England, Germany, Turkey
  - o Michael Frish Award, Top Air Cadet at 700 Squadron

Significant Events at School:

Other than those sports I played there was nothing major. I was a very avid and involved Air Cadet. I began at the age of 12 and retired as a Warrant Officer 2nd Class at the age of 18. I returned to my Air Cadet squadron, 700 Squadron, where I taught all the aviation-related courses for 1.5 years before I joined the military.

### **Occupations**

Jobs While at School:

I worked for Humber College Food Services and Catering. I started by sweeping the kitchen floor and moved up to bartender, and caterer for banquets, convocation, weddings, and conferences. I still think that was the best job I ever had!

First Job:

I joined the Navy (Because I had a recruiter with a sense of humour). He convinced me that I could become a pilot by taking this program and transferring to the pilot classification. (Little did I know that since the military paid for my education, I would remain a Marine Engineer!!) I was an Engineer in the Navy specializing in steam propulsion systems and large-scale diesel engines.

- Served on the following ships:
  - o HMCS Athabasca, Destroyer
  - o HMCS Margaree, Destroyer Escort
  - o HMCS Ojibwa, Submarine
  - o HMCS Yukon, Destroyer Escort (Part of the decommissioning crew and final sail)
- Cornwall Police Service:
  - o Worked General Patrol
  - o Cornwall Emergency Response Team (Founding member)
- Ottawa Police Service, I worked:
  - o General patrol
  - o Aerial Surveillance
  - o Public Order and Search Management
  - o Forensic Investigations
  - o Emergency Management and Business Continuity
- Commercial Pilot, LIAT (Leeward Islands Air Transport)
- Commercial Pilot, Porter Airlines
- As of Sept 1, 2023, I have retired from the Ottawa Police Service

Current Job:



## District History, Ottawa District One

2024-25

- Senior Nuclear Analyst as a casual contractor for Calian, a consulting firm. I began here in January 2023
- Eustace Roberts Consulting, March 2023
  - o Consulting in all aspects of emergency management, Business continuity, exercise design, program and policy development.

Best Job: Humber College Food Services and Catering.

Future Jobs:

- o Expand my small business to be a go to Subject matter Expert for Emergency Management, Business continuity, exercise design, program and policy development.

Job-Related Awards:

Just a few small commendations for regular police work.

- Nothing noteworthy organization wise
- Guest lecturer, panel member, speaker and keynote speaker at multiple conferences, organizations, and groups.

Publications

- Introduction to Emergency management in Canada
- Emergency Manager Magazine
- Frontline Magazine

Job-Related Organizations (unions/associations etc.):

- International Association of Emergency Managers
  - o President 2023- 2025, 2025 - 2027
- Canadian Identification Society
- Ottawa Police Association
- Former Caribbean Airline Pilots Association

Significant Employment Events:

- Survived part of the boiler room on the HMCS Yukon, blowing up.
- I was a founding member of the Cornwall Emergency Response Team (Tactical Response Unit)
- I was a rookie constable during the 1998 Ice storm in Cornwall
- I was the 3rd car at the scene of the OC Transpo Shooting 1999 and heard the shooter kill the last 2 people and himself
- I was involved in the great North American blackout
- I was involved in the OC Transpo bus-train accident in Barrhaven,
- I am one of a small handful of people who specialize in mass fatality scene examination and recovery of remains
- I specialize in Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive crime scene examination
- I have written a set of guidelines for all organizations to develop active shooter plans, now being shared with other police agencies in eastern Ontario.
- 2014 involved in the Parliament lone wolf shooting
- 2016 involved in the planning and execution of the North American Leaders Summit
- 2017 Involved in the Planning and execution of the Canada 150th celebration
- 2018 Involved in the tornadoes that destroyed Dunrobin
- 2019 Involved in the historic floods where I was the first Incident Commander in Dunrobin
- 2020 to 2022 I lead the Pandemic Team during the global Covid Pandemic

## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

- In 2022 I was involved in the Freedom Convoy, where I worked 16 to 18 hours a day for 40 days nonstop. I worked on the following events and incidents in 2022 that were all managed as though it was potentially another convoy.

- o Next-generation Convoy
- o St Patrick's Day
- o Rolling Thunder Convoy
- o Panda Games
- o Slow Roll Convoy
- o Canada Day
- o March for Life
- o Armenian Demonstration o Emergency Act Inquiry

**Retirement:** September 2023

### **Marriage & Family Life:**

Wife's Name: Heather Roberts

Where Married: Fries Beach Antigua West Indies

Number of Children & Names:

- 2 stepsons (Ben and Louis) 1 Daughter (Madison)

Number of Grandchildren & Names:

- Charlotte Ann
- Penelope Jane
- Reese Elizabeth

Number of Great-Grandchildren & Names: 0

- Not yet!

### **Significant Events**

- Research on mass fatality guidelines and principles.
- Teach the following courses as part of the Emergency Management Certificate Program at Algonquin College (Sept 2014 – Dec 2023)
  - o Critical Incident Stress
  - o Incident Management Systems
  - o Emergency Management Exercise Design
  - o Hazard Identification and Risk Assessments

Service Clubs/Other Associations or Organizations

- Tennis Centre West Ottawa, Member
- Perth Tennis Club, Member
- Tennis Official, Tennis Canada
- Tennis Official, Tennis Ontario
- International Association of Emergency Managers,
  - o Director of Marketing and Communications o Vice President
  - o President

Church Denomination: Anglican

## District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25

### **Social Activities**

- Tennis, LOTS of tennis
- Golf
- Swimming
- Downhill Skiing

### **Masonic Activities**

While flying in the Caribbean I encountered wholesome people. All these great men were Masons, which prompted me to investigate joining the fraternity. I sent an email to the District Secretary (V. W. Bro. Al Quinn). After several meetings I met Richard Morrison, the Master of Acacia Lodge. I was eventually initiated into Acacia Lodge.

Sponsors: Rick Morrison and Jack Earnshaw

- Initiated: Jan 26, 2010
- Passed: March 23, 2010
- Raised: September 25, 2010

### **Other Masonic Affiliations**

- Shriner, The Oriental Band
- Royal Arch Masonry

### **Other Masonic Activities**

- Chairman of Protocol and Etiquette
- Chairman of Masonic Education
- Chairman of Cornerstone
- Chairman of Senior Wardens Mentoring
- Installing Master 5 years in a row beginning in 2017 (Acacia Lodge)

### **Wife's Masonic Affiliations**

- My wife is ALL about Yoga.

### **Significant Masonic Events**

- Master of Acacia Lodge for the 2016 – 2017 Masonic year.
- DDGM Ottawa District One 2024 - 2025

## **R.W. Bro. Adam Thompson, Member of The Board of General Purposes**

The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario.



R.W. Bro. Adam Edward Thompson was born and raised in Toronto, before moving with his family to Ottawa, where he graduated from Lisgar Collegiate Institute. After receiving his B.A. (Hons) in Political Studies from Queen's University at Kingston, he returned to Ottawa.

A lifelong public servant, he has worked in Toronto's courts, for the RCMP, and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (as it was then known). In 2000, he began his career with the Senate of Canada, as a committee clerk. Since then he has served as clerk of many Senate Committees, including the Senate committees on Legal and Constitutional Affairs; Banking, Trade and Commerce; Foreign Affairs and International Trade; and National Security and Defence. In September 2018, he joined the Senate's management team as a Table Officer, currently serving as Principal Clerk, Chamber Services, as well as Clerk of the Rules Committee.

He was initiated, passed and raised in Doric Lodge No. 58 in the fall of 2006, and served as Worshipful Master in 2011-12, becoming a Fellow of the College of Freemasonry just prior to his Installation. He has served as a District Chairman in a number of posts since 2012, including a number of years as Chairman for the District Charity. He chaired the Valentine's Charity Ball committee for the 2015 and 2016 events, and has served on the Grand Lodge committees on Masonic Education, Public Awareness, and DDGM Preparation. In 2017 he became an affiliate member of Heritage Lodge No. 730. He served as District Deputy Grand Master of Ottawa District 1 in 2018-19, and in 2023 he was appointed to the Board of General Purposes, and now chairs the Grand Lodge Strategic Planning Committee, and continues to serve as a member of the DDGM Preparation Committee.

R.W. Bro. Thompson is an active member of a number of appendant and concordant bodies in Masonry, including the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Canada (Valley of Ottawa, 32 Degree), Royal Arch Masons (Ottawa Chapter No. 222, Past First Principal), Allied Masonic Degrees of Canada (Capital City Council No. 154, past DDGM, Grand Junior Warden), Tunis Shriners (Potentate 2023), Order of the Secret Monitor (Ottawa Conclave No. 1), Order of the Scarlet Cord (Maple Leaf Consistory, T.I.), Council of Royal and Select Masters (Gedeliah Council), and the Order of the High Priesthood (Adoniram Council, No. 2).

R.W. Bro. Thompson is an active volunteer and contributor to a number of community organizations. He has been recognized for his commitment to public service and charity including receiving the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, and being named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts as well as a Kentucky Colonel. He is an avid fan of sports, movies and music, and a musician himself.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**R. W. Bro. Barry Burchill, Member of the Board of General Purposes**

The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario.



Barry was born in Ottawa, in February 1962. He attended Fisher Heights Public School, Sir Winston Churchill Middle School and graduated with honours from Merivale High School where he was active in sports and on the Student's Council. Although he lived in the city, he spent most weekends and summer holidays working on his Uncle's dairy farm in Easton's Corners, Ontario.

Barry went to work for Computing Devices Canada as a Machine Operator in 1980. He moved into the Quality Assurance Department in 1982 where he remains to this day.

He joined Acacia Lodge #561 in September 1989, serving as Worshipful Master in 1996-1997, and again in 2002-2003. In 2006 he was elected District Deputy Grand Master of Ottawa District One. In 2008 he was appointed to the Board of General Purposes. He was re-appointed in 2010 and elected in 2012, 2014 and 2016, appointed again in 2018. In July 2019 he was appointed to a three-year term as a member of the Honorary Board of General Purposes. As a member of the Board, he has chaired Long Range Planning (2009-2010) and Seminars and Workshops (2010-2014). In 2015 he was appointed to a two-year term on the Management Committee. In 2017 he was elected to a one-year term on the Management Committee. He now serves as Chairmen for Youth Initiatives.

Barry is also an affiliated member of Mississippi Lodge No. 147 in Almonte and is a past First Principal of Dochert Chapter #248 Royal Arch Masons. He was appointed Grand Pursuivant of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in 2008, and served a two-year term. Also on the York Rite side he is a member of Colonel By Council, Allied Masonic Degrees of Canada and served as District Deputy Grand Master of District five in 2008-2009. Barry is also a member of St. Justin's Conclave and Adoniram Council #3 order of the High Priesthood. He is also a member of Ottawa Lodge of Perfection, Murray Chapter Rose Croix and Ottawa Consistory 32 Degrees of the A.A.S.R. Valley of Ottawa. He was to be coronated an Honorary Inspectors General 33 degrees in September of 2020, but due to the COVID pandemic the ceremony is to take place in March 2022

Barry is a member of Tunis Shrine. He has served in various appointed Divan and Temple positions from 2004 to present. He also served as the coordinator of the Tunis 3rd Degree team from 2005 to 2011, and still sits as Master of the Degree team for most performances. He is an active (and proud member) of the Tunis Oriental Band, service as Secretary/ Treasurer and is a member and regularly parades with the Tunis Hillbillies

Barry was recognized for his work with the youth groups in the Ottawa area, being appointed an honorary member of the Legion of Honor, by the Order of DeMolay. He is also a Grand Cross of Colour recipient for his work with the International Order of Rainbow for Girls.

Barry has been active on the Draft Horse show circuit for many years. He has been driver and groom to several Clydesdale hitch teams in the Ottawa Valley, as well as still showing. He has also branched out into announcing Draft Horse shows. Barry also likes to golf and curl. He is married to Sandy and they have two sons, Ken, 32 and Joe 28. Ken is a Past Master of Goodwood Lodge #159, (2016-18), and a Past Grand Sword Bearer (2018-2019). He is married to Brogan with a 7-year-old daughter Taylor, and a 5-year-old

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

son Ashton. Joe was initiated as a member of Goodwood Lodge #159 in October 2017, and is serving as an officer.



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**V. W. Bro. Ian Hooker, Grand Steward, Ottawa District One**



W. Bro. Ian Hooker affiliated with Prince of Wales Lodge #371 in 2011, Worshipful Master in 2019. He was initiated, passed and raised in Confederation Lodge #116 (now dark) and remains a member of Britannia Lodge #73, both in Victoria, BC. He is also a member of the Scottish Rite - the Victoria Lodge of Perfection in Victoria BC and the Hamilton Sovereign Chapter of Rose Croix and Moore Sovereign Consistory in Hamilton, Ontario.

He is a Commander in the Royal Canadian Navy, formerly of the Pacific Coast fleet and currently working in operational planning in Ottawa.

He has a family tradition of Freemasonry in Ontario – his father is a member of Burlington Reunion #165, his grandfathers belonged to Prince of Wales #630 in Toronto and Naphtali #413 in Tilbury, and two of his great-grandfathers belonged to St John's #40 in Hamilton and Century #457 in Merlin.

**W. Bro. Don Learning, District Secretary, Ottawa District One**



Donald Learning was born in St. John's, Newfoundland on April 28, 1957 as the eldest son of Arthur George Learning and Doris Maxine Learning (nee Courage). His grandfather, George Learning, and Uncle Robert Learning were both masons and members of St. John's Lodge.

Donald graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from Memorial University, followed by studies at Université Laval in Quebec City, leading to a Bachelor of Arts in French. Post-graduate studies included completion of the Programme on Negotiation at Harvard Law School, and certification as a Canadian Risk Manager. (C.R.M.)

In his last year of High School, Donald received an Air Cadet Flying Scholarship and earned both his Private and Glider Pilot's licences.

He was accepted into the Canadian Forces Officer Training Programme and trained as a MARS (Marine Surface) officer at Royal Roads Military College and at the Naval Officer Training Centre in Esquimalt, B.C. He received his Naval Commission on August 29, 1979. Following tours of duty in HMCS Saskatchewan, and HMCS Mackenzie, Donald returned to Newfoundland where he joined the Canadian Coast Guard.

A career move to Ottawa led to progressively more responsible positions with Transport Canada, Fisheries and Oceans, Agriculture and Agri-food Canada, and Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat. He retired from Public Service in April, 2013.

Donald's attraction to freemasonry began with his Grandfather but did not take root until his retirement. He was initiated in Acacia Lodge on 19 November 2013, passed on 18 March 2014, raised on 22 April 2014, and served as Master for the masonic year 2019-2020. He is a Companion of the Royal Arch Masons of Canada and a member of Kitchener Chapter No. 210 in Richmond, Ontario.

Donald and his partner Qi Jiang (Cindy) live in the West end of Ottawa, are members of the Nepean Sailing Club, and spend their summers sailing their C&C27, Kool Kat.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

## District Chairmen, Ottawa District One, List

<b>District Chair/Responsibility Masonic Year 2024-25</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>
District Benevolence	W. Bro.	Brian	Hay
District Chaplain	W. Bro.	Jace	Bart
District Charity, OMA	W. Bro.	Matt	Weedmark
District Deputy Grand Master	R.W. Bro.	Sam	Roberts
District Communications	Bro.	Joe	Burchill
District Grand Lodge Programs	W. Bro.	Daniel	Gray
District Historian	W. Bro.	Neil	Lillico
District Management	W. Bro.	Rob	Bryce
District Photography	R.W. Bro.	Al	Wright
	W. Bro.	David	Brown
	W. Bro.	Ivan	Harris
District Piper	W. Bro.	Jordan	McConnell
District Protocol, Education & Instruction	W. Bro.	Abe	Garcia
District Regalia	W. Bro.	Derek	Brook
District Secretary	W. Bro.	Don	Learning
District Senior Warden Mentoring	V.W. Bro.	George	Chaiban
District Social Events	W. Bro.	Jim	Kent
District Webmaster	W. Bro.	Colin	Mackenzie
Liaison: Prince Hall	R.W. Bro.	Jim	Bowman
Liaison: Scottish Rite	V.W. Bro.	John	Guinn
Liaison: Shrine	R.W. Bro.	Dennis	Saikaley
Liaison: York Rite	W. Bro.	Steve	Young

## District Chairmen, Ottawa District One, Photos and Reports

District Benevolence - W. Bro. Brian Hay/Emeritus V. W. Bro. James Keith



April 28, 2025

Report: Chairman of Benevolence

Right Worshipful Sir,

In terms of Benevolence in the District for the 2024 – 2025 year:

There was one instance of Benevolence that was started in the previous Masonic year, April 2024, and was successfully addressed by September 2024.

There were two new applications for Benevolence sent to Grand Lodge, one around July 9, 2024 and another in late December 2024. Both were addressed satisfactorily by Grand Lodge.

There was one instance of Benevolence at Edinburgh Defenders Lodge #590 to remit the dues of a worthy brother and was passed unanimously.

For comments/feedback on my experiences this year:

Bluntly, there was an unacceptable amount of time that passed between sending the applications off to the Grand Lodge and receipt of funds to the Lodge. Both may be attributed to timing of the applications, ie. Over the summer and over Christmas break, but that just goes to show that there should be a system in place for when Grand Lodge is “at refreshment” that applications can be addressed in a timely manner. Benevolence doesn’t necessarily follow 9 to 5 or recognize holidays. To be fair, the former Chair for Benevolence at Grand Lodge, Ian Waites, did pass away and the Chair was vacant. However, that just further illustrates the need for a contingency plan to have applications for Benevolence addressed quickly.

2) I don’t get cc’d on emails that go to [benevolence@ottawadistrict1masons.ca](mailto:benevolence@ottawadistrict1masons.ca). This was an issue back in December 2024 as I was asked by the Lodge about the delay in addressing the application, and the reason was I didn’t know about it. I would ask that I (or whoever is the new Chairman for Benevolence in the District) be automatically cc’d on these emails, and perhaps this item could be added to the list of “To Do’s” for the incoming District Secretary (not that they need a longer list of things to do!).

Other than that, I continue to be happy that mine is a relatively short report every year.

I would like to congratulate you on a successful year, and if it’s the desire of the incoming District Deputy, I would be happy to continue in this role.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W. Bro. Brian Hay, Chairman of Benevolence, Ottawa District 1

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**District Chaplain - W. Bro. Jace Baart**



Chair Report: District Chaplain

April 29, 2025

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts,  
District Deputy Grand Master,  
Ottawa District One.

Dear R.W. Sir:

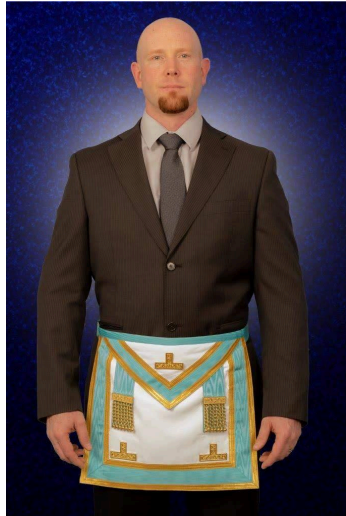
I am pleased to provide a report outlining my activities undertaken for the 2024-25 Masonic Year.

My sole duties have been to give the prayer before the Fall, Winter and Spring District Meetings.

Sincerely and Fraternally,  
Jace Baart,  
District Chaplain,  
Ottawa District One.



## District Charity, Masonic Foundation - W. Bro. Matt Weedmark



Brethren,

This year's district charity is the Royal Ottawa Hospital Geriatric Psychiatric Wing.

Research indicates that by the year 2030 mental illness will be the world's leading health crisis and a global pandemic. Furthermore, by the same time 1 in 14 people in Canada will find themselves afflicted with some form of dementia.

The Royal Ottawa Hospital performs leading edge research and development in all forms of mental health while providing world class care and support for patients and their families. I've had the distinct privilege of joining R. W. Bro. Roberts in meeting and speaking with Holly Lielkalns (Senior Philanthropy Officer) and her team to learn more about their program and needs as well as the unique opportunity to be a guest at one of their donor events where we heard more about the wonderful work that they were doing as well as its impact on patients first hand.

Traveling across the district and advocating for this year's district charity has been an incredible experience and opportunity and it warms my heart to see that the charitable nature of Masonry in Ottawa District 1 is alive and well.

As we near the close of our Masonic year, it gives me great pleasure to say that we have raised nearly \$13,500 toward the District Charity with some donations and figures from District events continuing to trickle in. Based on that number alone, with the 33% top-up provided by the Masonic Foundation brings our charitable contributions to an impressive estimated \$22,000!

I am so incredibly proud to have been the representative for our District and to see the boundless generosity that the Brethren of Ottawa District 1 continue to demonstrate year after year. Rest assured Brethren; your propensity for charity is appreciated and I have no doubt that this impressive donation to the Royal will have immeasurable impacts.

To all of the Brethren and Lodges of Ottawa District 1, on behalf of myself and R. W. Bro. Sam Roberts I wish to extend my sincerest gratitude and thanks for your overwhelming generosity.

There really is no institution quite like that of Freemasonry, and it brings me great pride to be a member of such an incredibly generous and charitable organization.

Sincerely & Fraternaly, W. Bro. Matt Weedmark

## District Deputy Grand Master - R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts



Dear Brethren of Ottawa District 1:

As my time serving as District Deputy Grand Master comes to an end, I want to take a moment to thank each of you from the bottom of my heart.

Because of you, this journey has been one of the most profound and rewarding experiences of my Masonic life. I have learned more about the essence of Freemasonry in this one year than in all the years leading up to it. Not from books or degrees, but from walking beside you, working with you, and witnessing the depth of your dedication to our Craft.

You have reminded me that the true measure of a Mason is not in his title, but in his integrity, his quiet service, and his unwavering support for his brethren. You have shown me that real leadership is found in compassion, in the strength to act when others hesitate, and in the courage to uplift and unite.

Throughout the year, I have seen the light of our fraternity shine brightly through acts of kindness, through words of wisdom, and through the unspoken strength of simply being there for one another. These moments, often unseen by the world, are what define us as Masons. And they are what has defined this year for me.

I would be remiss if I did not offer my deepest gratitude to Worshipful Brother Don Learning, who served this year as our District Secretary. This is often a thankless job, yet Don carried out his duties with grace, precision, and distinction. His efforts brought a new level of communication and coordination to our District. Don, your steady hand and commitment have not gone unnoticed, and I thank you sincerely for your partnership and friendship throughout this term.

I also want to thank each of our District Chairmen for your dedicated service. Your work often happens quietly, behind the scenes, yet it is essential to the health and vibrancy of our Lodges. Your willingness to serve, to lead, and to support the Brethren of Ottawa District 1 is truly appreciated. You exemplify what it means to lead with humility and purpose.

A special note of thanks as well to Very Worshipful Brother George Chaiban. George, thank you for putting your name forward for the office of DDGM, knowing full well the time, energy, and commitment that it requires. Your continued service to this District, having sat in several Chairman roles, has been a meaningful contribution to our collective success.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Your dedication and leadership have strengthened this District, and I know your influence will continue to be felt for years to come.

It is with great pleasure that I offer my sincere congratulations to our incoming DDGM, Worshipful Brother Abe Garcia. Abe, I know you will embrace this journey with grace, humility, and purpose. I also know that you will have the support of this remarkable District, just as I have had. You are about to experience something truly special. Brethren, thank you for allowing me the honour to serve you. Thank you for your trust, your friendship, and your example.

As I step away from this role, I do so with a full heart and a renewed sense of purpose. The lessons I have learned from you will stay with me always. Let us continue to lead with light, to act with love, and to be the steady hands this world so desperately needs.

May we never forget that to be a Mason is not just to belong to something ancient, but to be part of something enduring. And in that work together, we leave behind not only a legacy, but light for those who follow.

With deepest gratitude and fraternal affection,

Sam  
R. W. Bro. Sam Roberts  
District Deputy Grand Master  
Ottawa District 1  
Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario

## Communications - Bro. Joe Burchill



### **Ottawa District One District Event Coordinator Report**

Tuesday, April 29th, 2025

District Communications Report

R.W. Sir,

As the District Communications Chairman it is my responsibility to ensure seamless communication between Lodges, the District Secretary, and the District Deputy Grand Master (DDGM).

This involves providing updates to district events, official visits, and installations, ensuring that the District is well informed on current details for important dates.

To facilitate this, event and meeting details are shared to the district secretary for distribution, and with the district webmaster for calendar updates. These updates are maintained by ongoing communication with the Secretaries and Worshipful Masters of the District.

Throughout the year the communications team obtained Lodge tyle times, festive board specifics, RSVP requirements, and the planned work for the evening for DDGM official visits. Acquiring these details and communicating them to the district provides the Brethren are informed and prepared for important meetings and events. This practice continues to yield positive results for the district and the team is currently working on retrieving the details for each of the Installations in the District.

Following the District Meeting in January, it was suggested that the communications team compile a list of degrees that are being conducted each month. The district degree matrix was then developed with the help of the Worshipful Masters to be distributed to the District at the beginning of each month. Similarly, the District Events matrix continued to be distributed monthly.

In conclusion, the District Communications Committee has strived to keep the District in the know about all important events and degrees.

S&F,

Bro. Joe Burchill

District Communications

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

## District Grand Lodge Programs - W. Bro. Daniel Gray

April 28, 2025



Dear: R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts  
District Deputy Grand Master

This is my final report to you for the Grand Lodge Programs as District Chairman for Ottawa District One.

Your goal was for me to focus on the Corner Stone Program and this is a great program that promotes activity and strengthens our lodges along with the entirety of our District. Following the criteria to become a Cornerstone Lodge, is a great tool for Lodges to become vibrant and successful. The more widely the Cornerstone Program is adopted, the stronger our Gentle Craft will become within our jurisdiction.

I am happy to report that there were five (5) lodges in our District that had Cornerstone status by completing the set requirements when I first started as chairman this year, and by the end of my term it is very possible there will be nine (9).

There is currently one (1) lodge that has completed the first year of the two (2) years certification process. There are also four (4) lodges that are in the home stretch or completing the entire program to gain Cornerstone certification. I hope these presentations occur during the upcoming installations.

At this point we have a total of ten (10) lodges actively working within the Cornerstone program. I have provided the details and status of each lodge on the following page. It has been a pleasure to have served as your Ottawa District 1 Chairman for Grand Lodge Programs and focusing on the Cornerstone program and I thank you for your leadership this year Sam.

Thank you,  
Daniel D. Gray  
Grand Lodge Programs District Chairman  
Ottawa District One

## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

### **Ottawa District One Lodge Cornerstone Status Update**

#### **St. John's Lodge No. 63**

This lodge was certified for 2023-2025. They have completed the requirements for recertification. I hope for a Certificate presentation at installation on May 14, 2025.

#### **Doric Lodge No. 58**

This lodge was certified for 2024-2026, they are continuing the program for recertification in 2026. They are making good progress towards recertification.

#### **Hazeldean Lodge No. 157**

This lodge was certified for 2024-2026, they plan on continuing the program for recertification for 2026-2028. At this point the status for recertification is uncertain.

#### **St. Andrews Lodge No. 560**

This lodge was certified for 2024-2026, they plan on continuing the program for recertification for 2026-2028. At this point the status for recertification is uncertain.

#### **Temple Lodge No. 665**

This lodge was certified for 2024-2026. They have completed the requirements for recertification. I hope for a Certificate presentation at installation on May 6, 2025.

#### **Carleton Lodge No. 465**

This lodge started the program for the first time in 2023. They will complete the requirements for recertification. I hope for a Certificate presentation at installation on June 26, 2025.

#### **Civil Service Lodge No. 148**

This lodge was certified for 2023-2025. They have completed the requirements for recertification. I hope for a Certificate presentation at installation on May 13, 2025.

#### **Goodwood Lodge No. 159**

They have Cornerstone Leads/ Committee, and are working on filling out the standards for approval. They hope to achieve the program certification in 2026

#### **Edinburgh Defenders 590**

They have Cornerstone Leads/ Committee, and are working on filling out the standards for approval. They hope to achieve the program certification in 2026

#### **Acacia Lodge No. 561**

They have Cornerstone Leads/ Committee, and are working on filling out the standards for approval. They hope to achieve the program certification in 2026 or 2027



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**District Historian - W. Bro. Neil Lillico**



GRAND LODGE A.F. & A.M. OF CANADA  
IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO  
Ottawa District One  
District Historian's Final Report

April 29, 2025

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, District Deputy Grand Master,  
Ottawa District One.

Dear R.W. Sir:

I am pleased to provide a report outlining my activities undertaken for the 2024-25 Masonic Year.

I have obtained relevant Masonic Activity photos from the District Photographers, members of the Craft, or from the individual Lodge postings on Facebook or Lodge websites. Select photos from this group will be included in the Historical Summary to be produced at the end of the 2024-25 Masonic Year.

I have prepared a monthly summary of activities by Lodge, based primarily upon the summonses, and will continue to update the summaries as the information is received.

I have requested and obtained photos and biographical profiles of Grand Lodge Officers so the information can be included in the Historical Summary of the 2024-25 Masonic Year.

I will obtain a photo collage of all the District Chairmen, and all the Worshipful Masters for Masonic year 2024-25 from R. W. Bro. Alan Wright - if it is available.

The District Chairmen have been asked to provide their final reports to the District Secretary to summarize the activities undertaken by each Committee during the current Masonic Year. Once they are all received, I will include this information in the District History for 2024-25.

Using the foregoing information I will prepare a Historical Summary of District One's activities during the Masonic Year 2024-25. I expect the document will be finalized in late July or early August 2025.

Sincerely and Fraternally,  
Neil Lillico, PM, Acacia Lodge No. 561  
District Historian, Ottawa District One.

## District Management (By-Laws & Planning) - W. Bro. Rob Bryce



### By-law Chairman Update

District Meeting, April 29, 2025, 7:00 PM, 2140 Walkley Road

#### MOTION

I move the following which amounts to alterations to the District By-laws as per the documentation circulated prior to this meeting:

- That Article 1, Section 1, item b, be stricken,
- That Article 4, Section 4 be re-organized into items, secret balloting be removed, and

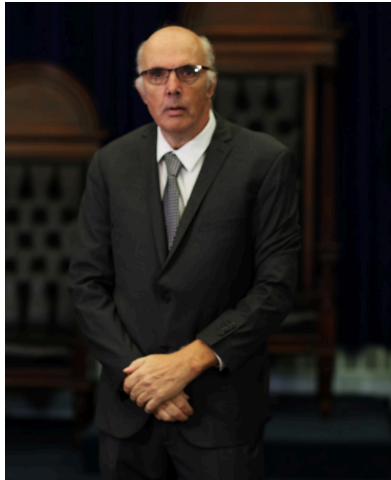
that scrutineers be at the discretion of the DDGM,

- That Article 4, Section 1 indicate the DDGM be elected by electronic ballot,
- That Article 4, Section 2 have the text around the District Secretary being from the same lodge as the DDGM be removed,
- That Article 4, Section 5 include a limitation on Financial Examiners serving more than two consecutive terms unless at the discretion of the DDGM,
- That Article 5, Section 2, the standing committees be re-organized to match the current working reality of the District,
- That Article 6, Section 2, that the distribution of the District Trestle Board be in nominal quantities be removed, and the District Secretary serve as a signing authority on any District bank account,
- That Article 7 be re-vamped with new committee names and modern responsibilities,
- That Article 8, Section 2 be added to cause the District Secretary to complete the financial records of the prior Fiscal Year before the last day of July,
- That Section 2 have its reference to a meeting held at Grand Lodge be removed,
- That Article 9 have its reference to a replacement cost for a copy of the District Bylaws be removed as PDFs are both free and plentiful.
- That Appendix A – Scale of Expenditures – DDGM, item 2 be amended to utilize Google Maps for distance calculations,
- That Appendix A – Scale of Expenditures – DDGM, include an allotment of \$1,800 limited to the acquisition of a hospitality suite and for no other purpose, and
- That Appendix A – Scale of Expenditures – DDGM, switch the term telephone charges to cellular charges, and that photocopying be amended to be both photocopying and Printing.

A copy of the revised By-Laws is attached as an [Addendum](#) at the end of the District One History.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**District Photography - R.W. Bro. Al Wright, W. Bro. David Brown & W. Bro. Ivan Harris**



April 29, 2025

To R.W. Bro. S. Roberts DDGM Ottawa 1  
Cc W. Bro. D. Learning District Secretary

**Photography Report Ottawa District 1 Masons  
2024 - 2025**

This year I have had the pleasure of sharing the task of recording the visual events of the District with W. Bro David Gary Brown of Edinburgh Defenders Lodge and W. Bro. Ivan Haris of Hazeldean Lodge.

We have had some very memorable nights such as the awarding of a William Mercer Wilson award, which was the only one in Ontario this year, and hopefully an article reflecting the event will be in an upcoming Ontario Mason magazine. Likewise, a 60 years a mason night, attended by many Grand Lodge Officers, including the Grand master was also captured.

An event that was captured, but could not be reported, was a visit by a group from the Bahamas to Doric Lodge. The privacy policy of Grand Lodge makes it quite clear that unless an announcement prior to photos being taken is made, they may not be shared without consent. Since there was a person who did not want their image shared, no pictures from the event could be used since that statement was not made.

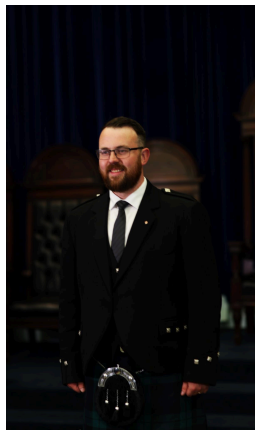
The team of photographers have good eyes for great shots; however, they have not been trained in editing. The result has been a delay in this year's Master's collage. We hope we can improve on that as we move forward.

It has been recent practice to photograph the District Chairmen and put them in a separate collage like the WMs. I think these positions do need to be photographed for web page identification, but a collage is not necessary.

I have enjoyed the year so far and I look forward to finishing out the year in a similar manner.

In Sincerity and Fidelity.  
Respectfully submitted by  
R.W. Bro. Al Wright PDDGM Ottawa 1

## District Piper - W. Bro. Jordan McConnell



Submitted by: W. Bro. Jordan McConnell

Submitted to: R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts

**Purpose of the Role:** The primary responsibility of the District Piper is to provide bagpiping services at all official visits of the District Deputy Grand Master (DDGM), as well as at any additional events requested by the DDGM or individual lodges within the district.

### **Official Visits Attended**

Over the past year, I had the honour of piping at 14 of the 15 Official Visits conducted by the DDGM. Regrettably, I was unable to attend the official visit to Prince of Wales Lodge No. 371 due to illness.

### **Special Events Attended**

In addition to regular official visits, I had the privilege of supporting several special events, offering ceremonial music and contributing to the dignity of each occasion.

These included:

- The visit of the Deputy Grand Master (DGM) to a Grand Lodge Appreciation Night hosted jointly by Ottawa Districts One and Two.
- The Empty Chair Ceremony held at St. Andrew's Lodge No. 560.
- An international engagement in Nassau, Bahamas, where I had the honour of piping for the Canadian delegation during the installation of Lodge C.R. Walker No. 1808 SC. This lodge was established by a diverse group of brethren, including eight Canadian Masons, primarily from Doric Lodge No. 58.
- The 60-Year Pin Presentation and Celebration for R.W. Bro. John Forester, an event graced by the presence of the Grand Master (GM), Deputy Grand Master (DGM), District Deputy Grand Masters, and other Grand Lodge Officers.

### **Upcoming Commitments**

Looking forward, I will be piping for the Eastern Tour visitations and for Ottawa District One's District Divine Service. I remain at the service of the District and will continue to support any Lodge Installations or special ceremonies as requested.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W. Bro. Jordan McConnell  
District Piper

## District Protocol, Education and Instruction - W. Bro. Abraham "Abe" Garcia



### **Final Report for the District Chair of Protocol, Education and Instruction**

In the meeting of August 2024, the District Deputy Grand Master appointed me as the Chairman for Protocol, Education and Instruction. The duties of which can be found in Article 6 Section 5 and 6 of the District By-Laws. Some of which are:

- to provide Masonic Education throughout the district;
- to assist individual lodges in the performance of authorized work and all other rituals and ceremonies, and to promote a high standard of Masonic work and ritual in the district.

Specifically, R.W. Bro. Roberts has delegated to me the task of organizing the Day of Masonry which will be a fun-filled day of Masonic Education, Social Interaction and Personal Development. This is the second year the district has held this event. Last year was a success and this year is shaping up to be just as successful. The date was originally scheduled for October 2024 but due to conflict in schedule with the Grand Master's Homecoming, it was moved to May 17, 2025, which is in-line with the Eastern Tour.

The posters have been distributed and a ticketing system (Eventbrite) has been set up. Links and QR code have been emailed to the secretaries of the district. They have also been shared to our sister districts: District 2, Eastern, Frontenac and St. Lawrence. There will be 10 lectures during that day plus 1 session of Questions and Answers with the Grand Master – M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland. Also in attendance is the Deputy Grand Master – R.W. Bro. Art M. Di Cecco, who will do a lecture over lunch time.

I've also been tasked to create a database of Degree Proficient Masons. This is to help lodges who might be missing some key positions to put on a degree. Worksheets in Excel and PDF format have been created and distributed to the lodge secretaries. About a dozen so far have answered the call. I ask the brethren who have not yet submitted to fill-up the forms and send it back to me, so that it can be shared with the incoming Worshipful Masters. This list will help all of us in the district. Who knows, one day you might actually refer to this database when putting on a degree at your own lodge.

As a District Chairman, I have accompanied the DDGM on his travels. I have been present in all of his Official Visits, where I made announcements about the Day of Masonry and the Database of Degree Proficient Masons. With 1 exception when I had to attend to a personal matter. I have also attended several social events in the District such Goodwood's Pigroast, Civil Service Lodge's Ladies' Night, Lodge of Fidelity's Oktoberfest, Hazeldean Lodge's A

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Night in the Philippines, Russell Lodge' Bonspiel and St. Andrew's event to honour a long-time member – R.W. Bro. John Forster.

I thank R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts for appointing me as the District Chairman for Protocol, Education and Instruction. It's an honour serving the District as one of his Chairmen.

Respectfully submitted,  
W. Bro. Abraham R. Garcia  
District Chairman of Protocol, Education and Instruction  
Ottawa District 1



## District Regalia - W. Bro. Derek Brook



### **Final report of Regalia Chair Derek Brook, presented April 29th, 2025**

W. Bro. Josh Bizjak reached out to me in August 2024 inquiring about the availability of a silver master's collar as theirs was in dire need of replacement. I reached out to W. Bro. Rob Bryce to inquire as they had just upgraded to gold to see about the availability of their silver collar. He informed me that they had one that he was willing to donate to Temple Lodge if he could get the necessary dispensation from the members of Edinburgh Defenders. At their next CGP, the question was raised and they graciously agreed to donate their silver collar to Temple. It was given to W. Bro. Abraham Garcia to be given to W. Bro. Bizjak for their on-going usage. The only thing asked by the regalia chair was a donation in the amount of \$50 minimum to the DD charity.

In November, Temple Lodge had some regalia stolen from their lodge. W. Bro. Rob Bryce and the brethren of Edinburgh Defenders once again answered the call and donated a Director of Ceremonies wand as well as a pair of Stewards wands, all silver. They also sent a sword to Temple Lodge as a loan until they are able to replace the one that went missing. The agreed upon cost of the regalia was a donation to the DD charity at the official visit.

On January 26, 2025, an inventory of regalia was taken from the storage areas of Walkley Rd. The inventory is as follows.

- 1 set of gold wands (2 Deacon and 2 Stewards wands)
- 1 altar bible with dividers
- 1 heavy setting maul
- 3 gavels (one was engraved from a past master of Prince of Wales Lodge, given to Al Wright)
- 2 cast iron round wand stands
- 4 wooden wand stands
- 1 aluminum Jacob's Ladder approx. 4' tall
- 1 off white grave cloth embroidered with Chaudière Lodge.
- 1 silver D of C wand in good condition
- 1 gold D of C wand, head snapped off end
- 3 wooden squares
- 1 set of silver metal square and compasses
- 1 Past Master jewel, no collar or ribbon attached.
- 1 pair of wooden columns
- 1 gold Master's collar in plastic carry bag
- 2 sets of bible markers, 1 good, 1 set really faded and worn
- 4 gold collars, all jewels missing or need replacement

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

- 1 blue altar cloth
- 1 hard cover Book of the Constitution
- 1 Past Master jewel engraved with Prince of Wales, given to Al Wright
- 2 initiation bibles
- 13 soft sided apron cases (apron folds in half)
- 13 hard sided apron cases (apron folds in half)
- 1 silver S & C tie pin

Misc. Non-Blue Lodge items

- 1 mantle for Preceptory
- 1 silver apron from GL of France with paperwork dated 1967
- 2 Royal Arch sashes
- 1 Royal Arch apron
- 1 Scottish Right jewel (apparently not our jurisdiction)
- 1 baggie of various coins
- 1 bag of various GL aprons
- 1 box of misc. paperwork and books

Recommend for donation/destruction\*

- 34 silver MM aprons in various levels of degradation
- 3 gold MM aprons in various levels of degradation
- 9 silver Master's aprons in various levels of degradation
- 3 gold Master's aprons in various levels of degradation
- 12 plastic apron cases (quad fold on the apron) hard and brittle
- 2 cotton EA aprons that would need to be bleached back to white
- \*All are available in the lobby of Walkley for inspection

As an addendum to the mid-term report above dated 04/21/25, I would like to add that while much of the aged regalia that was voted to be donated at our last district meeting, there is still a large portion of it still sitting in the cabinet where it was placed in January.

I now recommend that with the time it has been there, and the fact that it has been picked through, I propose we do a proper disposal of the remaining unwanted regalia. As I am unsure of the proper disposal method, any course of action acceptable to Grand Lodge would be appreciated.

This year has been informative. I would like to say how much I appreciate the lodges stepping up to assist other lodges with their needs when it comes to regalia. There were several occasions where I was able to facilitate communication to enable unused regalia, such as a silver master's collar, to go from a lodge that had just turned to gold to a lodge that was in need that still required silver.

The co-operation of anyone that I reached out to made the job of regalia chair seamless and smooth.

Thank you, the brethren of Ottawa District 1. Your assistance this masonic year was very much appreciated.

Derek Brook, Regalia Chair, Ottawa District 1, Masonic Year 2024-2025

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**District Secretary - Wor. Bro. Don Learning**



Please see the Minutes of the [District Meetings](#) following the District Secretary's Report.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

## District Senior Warden Mentoring - V.W. Bro. George Chaiban



Ottawa, April 28th, 2025

Report of The Senior Warden Mentoring Chair

R W Bro Sam Roberts  
District Deputy Grand Master  
Ottawa District 1

Right Worshipful Sir,

I am happy to report that, as a chair for the Senior Warden mentoring committee, we have provided regular instruction sessions for the Senior wardens advancing in the chairs and they are found to be well skilled in our noble science and royal art and duly instructed in our mysteries .

The Committee held several meetings /practices and social events ( Including Joint socials with Ottawa District 2) over the course of this Masonic year.

The Senior wardens in district 1 were provided at every step of the way with the guidance to plan and prepare for their year in the chair and direct them to where they can find the necessary tools available for them from GL as well from our district for a successful year.

In closing, I am confident that the Future Leaders of our District 1 Lodges are equipped with what's needed for their success, qualified for the discharge of their respective high and important office and they are as well fully aware that help is just a telephone call away.

Respectfully Submitted  
W.Bro George Chaiban  
Chair

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**District Chairman Social Events - W. Bro. Jim Kent**



RW Brother Sam Roberts,  
District Deputy Grand Master,  
Ottawa District 1  
April 28th, 2025

Dear R.W. Brother Roberts,

As your Social Chairman, I promoted District 1 events through various Masonic sites, including posting on What'sApp, Past Masters groups, emails, and telephone calls and text messages.

I coordinated and organised an Oktoberfest and a Whisky tasting event with W. Bro. Jim Carty.

I encouraged Masons to attend the district events and put up posters promoting Masonic events throughout the year at the Ottawa Masonic Centre.

It has been a pleasure to support you this year.

Regards  
W. Brother Jim Kent  
Lodge of Fidelity No.231

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**District Webmaster - W. Bro. Colin Mackenzie**



Please see the next page for W. Bro. Mackenzie's District Communications Report.



# ottawa district 1 report

april, 2025



## computer resources

Throughout the 2024-2025 Masonic year, the majority of the activities for the District website have involved updating the site and back-end resources for the current year, including:

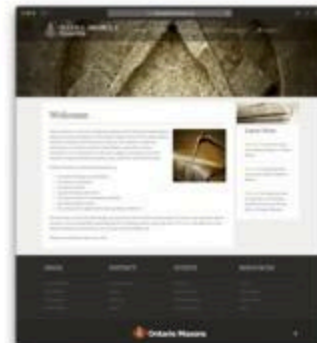
- Update of information for the DDGM and District Chairmen profiles/photos, including email forwarding
- Updating information for individual Lodges (contacts, WM/Secretary), and the District Charity
- Ongoing updating of relevant online and calendar information from the Trestle Board, including regular Lodge activities, Lodge and District special events, DDGM official visits, and Travelling Gavel activities
- Highlighting of District activities and special events

## ongoing activities

In addition, throughout the year a number of design updates were made to ensure the website was current with Grand Lodge standards and branding (updated logo, Ontario Masons branding, minor style improvements, and expansion of photo gallery and links content). Technical updates were also completed this year to implement an SSL security certificate for our website server, to enable secure HTTPS website connections. In addition, setup and configuration was completed for the website to enable Google Analytics tracking, in order to provide ongoing analytics and reporting about website traffic and usage going forward.

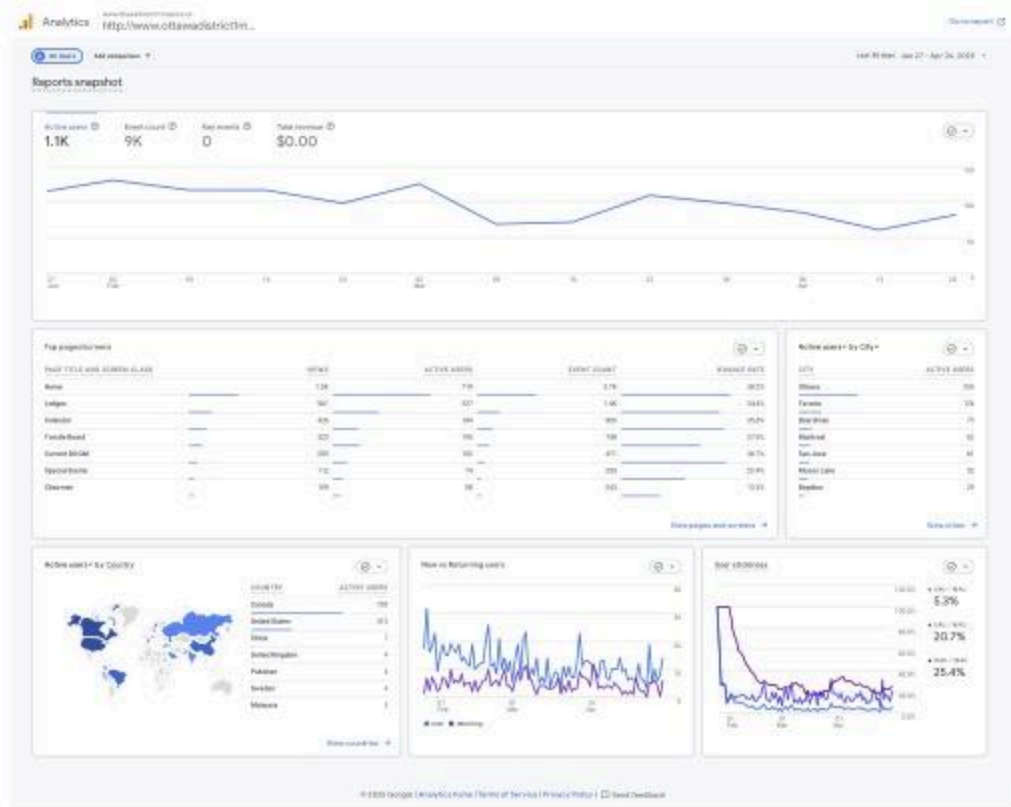
Analysis of website traffic and visitors through the website analytics (overview on the following page) showed that there was active use of the District website this year, with a concentration of website traffic focused on Lodge details, events calendar, Trestle Board, DDGM information, special events, and Chairmen, and visitors not only from across Ontario, but also from around the world.

As with previous years, support was provided this year for the Ottawa Masonic Charity Ball website, updated to include current event information and charity and donor details for the 2025 event.



# District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25

## analytics overview



## Liaison: Prince Hall - R.W. Bro. Jim Bowman



### **Ottawa District 1 Year End Report Prince Hall Masons Liaison**

April 28, 2025

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, DDGM, W. Bro. Don Learning, Dist. Sec.,  
Brethren of Ottawa District 1,

This is the year-end report as the Prince Hall Masons Liaison. It was a pleasure to serve, and I thank R.W. Bro. Roberts for having confidence in me for this task.

The year started out last fall with some communications with Prince Hall Brethren. They were invited to three different meetings/events, but were unable to attend due to conflicts with their own schedule. Likewise, I was invited to a 50 Year Celebration of their lodge, but could not attend due to conflict in my own schedule.

Communication with the Prince Hall Secretary and Master seemed to be intermittent. I am aware that W. Bro. Learning added them to his Distribution List for events and meetings. They had ample opportunity to reach out and attend.

It was my belief that they didn't make many overtures with us because of a weak membership, and that they were in a rebuilding phase. I have since been able to confirm this status just two weeks ago.

An event happened on April 2, 2025 that ended up opening up better relations with the Prince Hall Brethren. One of their members, a Past District Grand Master, Bro. Ellsworth Murray, was in hospital. He was in an emergency room, dying. His wife, Cheryl, didn't know what to do, as she was all alone in this struggle. Mrs. Cheryl Murray knew that her husband was a Freemason, but didn't know who to contact. She ended up phoning the Ottawa Masonic Center, and spoke to Mrs. Marleen Clauson. Marleen contacted W. Bro. Don Learning who, with the direction of R.W. Bro. Roberts, then put out an email asking if anyone knew Bro. Murray, and could assist.

I had availability of time, and was in the vicinity. I responded to Mrs. Cheryl Murray and went to sit with her and Bro. Ellsworth. I stayed with them until he passed, and then drove her home. I provided some assistance to her the next day to help with the legal process that a family member must go through when someone passes. I gave her contact numbers that would help, and I reached out to King Solomon's Lodge, Prince Hall Masons, to inform them of the passing of one of their own.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

A couple weeks later, Mrs. Murray phoned me asking for more assistance, as she was getting bogged down with the legal system. She gave me the phone number of the current District Grand Master, Bro. Leslie O'Brian. I then contacted Bro. O'Brian, and we had good discussions in regards to the Murray situation. I was also informed, through conversation, of the situation of King Solomon's Lodge. This is how I came to know of their 're-building status'.

Through communication that I have with the current Master of Lodge Claudius R. Walker, 1808, Nassau, Bahamas, Bro. Stephen Gay, an idea came up. I have since conferred this idea to Bro. Leslie O'Brian, the District Grand Master, and he has been very receptive and appreciative of it. The idea involves making contact with some Bahamian Prince Hall Brethren who are currently living in Ottawa. It is hoped that these Brethren might take an interest in visiting a Prince Hall Lodge, and even assisting this Lodge in holding meetings, and in re-establishing stability.

Getting the names and making contact with these Brethren is a work in progress at this point. However, one great outcome of this work is that Freemasonry is working together to help build and sustain. This work is being done across the jurisdictional lines of three Grand Lodge Jurisdictions. It is being done in harmony. And it is proof that if positive motives are in our hearts, that the Light of Freemasonry can shine brighter.

I want to express my thanks to R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts for asking me to be the Prince Hall Liaison, for his enthusiastic support of these rebuilding initiatives, and for giving me personal support through the trying time of Bro. Murray's passing, as I was dealing with a family member of my own who was in a hospice.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

R.W. Bro. Jim Bowman

PDDGM

## **Liaison: Scottish Rite - V.W. Bro. John Guinn**



### **Liaison for Ottawa District 1 to The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite**

Final Report April/2025

#### **Providing Guidance and Information to Prospective Members**

As the liaison for Ottawa District 1 to The Ancient Scottish Rite, my role is pivotal in bridging the gap between the Lodges within our district and the esteemed Masonic Body of The Ancient Scottish Rite. This position has allowed me to interact with numerous Lodges, providing valuable insights and information to members who show interest in continuing their Masonic journey.

#### **Visiting Lodges in the District**

It has been a privilege to visit the various Lodges within Ottawa District 1. These visits have given me the opportunity to engage with the brethren and offer general information that can help them make informed decisions about joining The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

During these visits, I usually have the freedom of the Lodge Room to get close to the members and convey my message.

#### **Offering Information on The Ancient Scottish Rite**

As liaison my role is to offer comprehensive and accurate information about The Rite. I always carry an assortment of pamphlets to provide to any member who wishes more information. My goal is to ensure that interested members are well-informed about the benefits and commitments involved.

During my presentation I explain the different Degrees and opportunities for personal and spiritual growth that they offer. Additionally, I share the various activities, and programs The Valley of Ottawa and its members are part of. Our programs are meant to strengthen the bond between the brethren and everyone is encouraged to join in.

#### **Answering Questions and Concerns**

Presentations are made at the end of the Lodge meeting, and the members are encouraged to seek me out to answer any questions they may have.

This role is both a privilege and a responsibility. By acting as a liaison, I contribute to the growth and enrichment of our Masonic community, helping members explore new dimensions of their Masonic path through The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

Respectfully submitted,  
V.W. Bro John Guinn

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Liaison: Shrine - R.W. Bro. Dennis Saikaley**



**Ottawa District #1 Masons  
Report of Tunis Shriners Liaison**

April 29th District Meeting

It is My Duty To Serve,

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to rise again as the District's Tunis Liaison. Tunis continues to be active.

Here is a snapshot of what lies ahead for 2025!

**Saturday, May 24th – Tunis Ceremonial**

This is one's chance to become a Shriner. The event will be held here at 2140 Walkley Road. The deadline for applications is Tuesday, May 6th.

**Saturday, June 7th – International Legion of Honour Wreath  
Laying Ceremony and Ceremonial Feast**

Ill. Sir Doug Dockrill has seized this opportunity to split the Banquet from the Ceremonial. The host hotel is Brookstreet in Kanata. The Wreath Laying will be at 10:00 a.m. at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier downtown, followed by a luncheon. The feast will be that evening. We are honoured to have with us that weekend, Grayson, our International Patient Ambassador and his parents from Louisville, KY. To put the proverbial 'icing on the cake', we will have our Imperial Potentate, Imperial Sir Richard Burke and his Lady Judy along with the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Shriners Childrens, Illustrious Sir Leslie 'Doc' Stewart and Lady Megan. This is a unique opportunity. Please be a part of it. Information and a more complete agenda can be found on the Tunis website.

On an ongoing basis, the Shriners Hospital for Children – Canada has teamed up with CHEO on a research Fellowship. This is a four year commitment with two 'fellows' each for a two year term, with one year at SHC-Canada and the other at CHEO. They then switch hospitals for the second year. Tunis is funding this.

The Tunis Shrine and Masonic Golf Tournament will be held on Thursday, August 7th at the Meadows Golf Club on Hawthorn Road. Please see our website for more information.

Although it is not the third week of July yet, I would like to personally thank our District Deputy Grand Master and District Secretary for their leadership and commitment during their term. You are leaving Ottawa District #1 in a good position as your predecessors did.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to serve.

Respectfully Submitted,

R.W. Bro. Dennis M. Saikaley,

Tunis Shrine Liaison to Ottawa District #1



## Liaison: York Rite - W. Bro. Steve Young



### **Report on York Rite liaison activities Masonic Year 2024-2025**

The main activity of the York Rite liaison chair was to coordinate and promote York Rite activities within the District.

Main activities this year include a workshop on the York Rite during the Day of Masonry 16 May, attending various DDGM nights and liaising with members of the District to coordinate calendars.

While the York Rite liaison function is not a particularly busy one, it is important since the York Rite is very active in Eastern Ontario.

Some of the Concordant bodies that are active in the District include:

- Royal Arch Chapters (there are 10 in Eastern Ontario)
- Cryptic Rite Council (Ottawa)
- Royal Ark Mariners (Ottawa)
- Sovereign Grand Priory (Preceptory 'knights templar') (Ottawa)
- Red Cross of Constantine (various locations)
- York Rite Sovereign College (Kemptonville)
- Order of the High Priesthood (various locations)
- Allied Masonic Degrees (Ottawa)

Given the number of organisations active in the region, it is important to coordinate activities so as to minimise scheduling conflicts.

Submitted by:

W. Bro. Steve Young,  
IPM St. Andrew's lodge #560  
Chair York Rite Liaison

## **Ottawa District One Events**

### **Social and Masonic Events**

There were numerous events held during the course of the 2024-25 Masonic Year. Here is a list of the Events held during 2024-25.

August 17, 2024: Goodwood Lodge Pig Roast.

August 24, 2024: Masons attended the Football Game between the Ottawa Redblacks and the B.C. Lions.

October 26, 2024: Lodge of Fidelity Oktoberfest.

November 9, 2024: Russell Lodge Pig Roast.

November 23, 2024: Goodwood Lodge Annual Curling Bonspiel.

January 25, 2025: Hazeldean Lodge - A Night in the Philippines.



January 31, 2025: Trivia & Pub Night.

February 8, 2025: Valentine Charity Ball.

March 15, 2025: Carleton Lodge Pancake Breakfast.

## District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25

March 16, 2025: District Divine Service - Joint with Ottawa District Two.



March 31, 2025: Ottawa Masonic Association Wing Night.

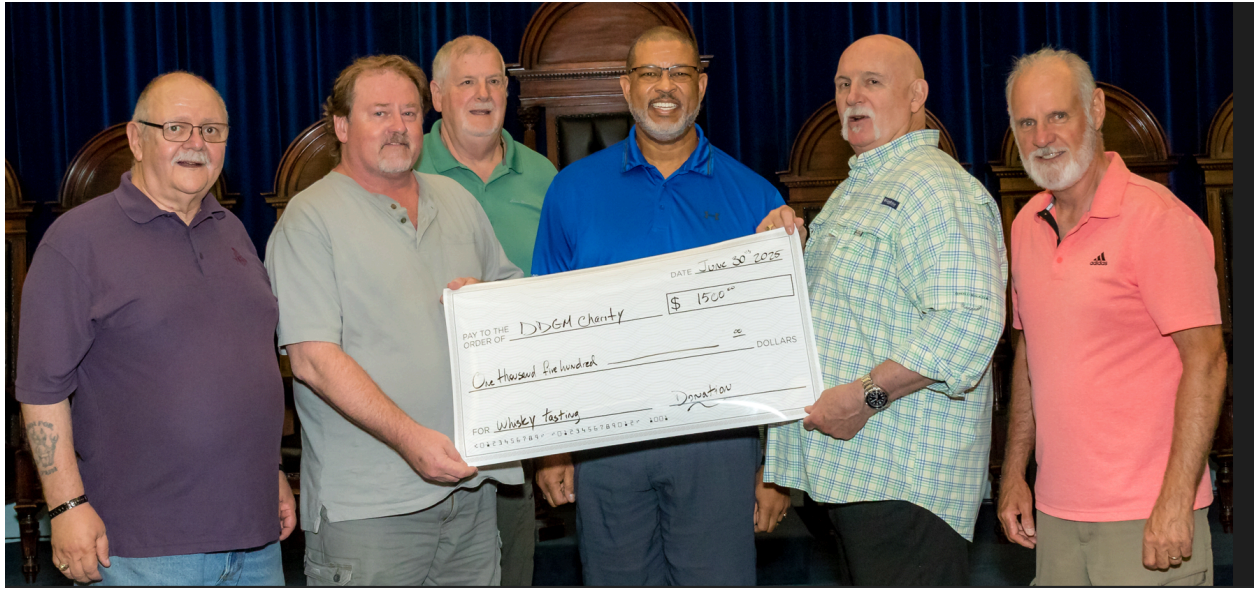
April 5, 2025: Russell Lodge Curling Bonspiel.

April 24, 2025: Carleton Lodge 35th Annual Arctic Char Dinner.



## District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25

April 26, 2025: Lodge of Fidelity Whiskey Tasting for the Perley Health Centre.



May 17, 2025: Day of Masonry.

May 24, 2025: Russell Lodge East Coast Kitchen Party.

May 30, 2025: Temple Lodge Lobster Dinner.

June 4, 2025: Lodge of Fidelity & Sidney Albert Luke BBQ.



June 13, 2025: Prince of Wales Lodge Chuck Norris and Bacon Night.

June 22, 2025: Masonic Remembrance Service at Beechwood Cemetery Masonic Burial Grounds.

June 27, 2025: Masonic Golf Tournament.

## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

Unfortunately I did not receive photos to include for each of these events. However, for additional information I would refer the readers to the Ottawa Freemasons Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/12593948443/> which has numerous posts by individual Brethren, and individual Lodge's, regarding the activities that were undertaken between July 2024 and June 2025.

## **District Meetings**

### **Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario**

#### **Agenda Ottawa District One - Meeting 1 - August 13, 2024 - 7:30 pm**

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, District Deputy Grand Master, 1280 Herron Mills Road, Lanark  
613-898-7046 ddgmroberts2024@gmail.com

W. Bro. Donald Learning, District Secretary, 293 Centrepointhe Drive, Ottawa 613-795-6840  
distsecy2024@gmail.com

6:30 – 7:25 Photos of Worshipful Masters and District Chairmen in Lodge Room 1 (Masters:  
Tuxedos and Regalia/Chairmen: Dark Business Suit)

7:30 Call to Order – Upstairs Lounge

Invocation

Opening Remarks - DDGM

Minutes of previous District Meeting (30 Apr 2024) - Secretary Introduction of District  
officers and Committee chairmen – DDGM Old Business

New Business

- Budget
- District Charity
- District Divine Service/Beechwood Masonic Memorial
- District Trestle Board
- Social Events

Closing Remarks – DDGM

Adjournment & Refreshments

Next Meetings: 28 Jan 2025 and 29 Apr 2025



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario**

**Minutes Ottawa District One - Meeting 1 - August 13, 2024 - 7:30 pm**

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, District Deputy Grand Master, 1280 Herron Mills Road, Lanark  
613-898-7046 ddgmroberts2024@gmail.com

W. Bro. Donald Learning, District Secretary, 293 Centrepointe Drive, Ottawa 613-795-6840  
distsecy2024@gmail.com

1. The committee meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa ON.
2. An Invocation was given by W. Bro. Jace Bart.
3. In attendance: 62 members.
4. Regrets:
  - a. V.W. Bro. Ian Hooker
  - b. V.W. Bro. Wladyslaw Kinastowski, St Andrew's 560
  - c. V.W. Bro. Russ Williams, Temple 665
  - d. W. Bro. Rob Bryce, Edinburgh Defenders 590
  - e. R.W. Bro. Jim Bowman, Russell Lodge 479
  - f. W. Bro. Douglas Campbell, Acacia Lodge 561
  - g. V.W. Bro. Doug Dockrill
  - h. V.W. Bro. Ian Hooker, Prince of Wales 371
  - i. W. Bro. John Bowman, Russell 479
  - j. Bro. Vimaj Nair, Temple 665
  - k. Bro. Serge Laroque, Civil Service Lodge 148
5. The DDGM:
  - a. Acknowledged the Grand Lodge officers present, and the past DDGMs present;
  - b. Welcomed the brethren and thanked them for their participation in the District Meeting.
6. W. Bro. Abraham Garcia moved a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by R.W. Bro. Jeff Christie.  
Carried.
7. R.W. Bro. Dennis Saikaley moved a motion to accept the minutes of the previous District Meeting of 30 Apr 24 as previously circulated. Seconded by V.W. Bro. John Guinn.  
Carried.
8. DDGM Opening remarks:
  - a. There was a great turnout by members of the district at the Grand Lodge Communication in July. R.W. Bro. Roberts thanked everyone for their support as we start a new year, and expressed his appreciation for the turn out at the District BBQ held at Goodwood Lodge in lieu of a Hospitality Suite at Grand Lodge.
  - b. Noted that R.W. Bro. Adam Thompson, past DDGM of Ottawa District 1, continues to serve on the Grand Lodge Board of General Purposes;
  - c. Noted that R.W. Bro. Barry Burchill has been appointed to the Board of General Purposes for a term of 1 year.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

d. The theme for the year will be Leadership. RW. Bro. Roberts spoke to the importance of translating this focus outside of Lodge through personal leadership and mentoring.

e. The DDGM introduced the District Officers and Committee Chairmen, as named on the Trestle Board, and thanked them for their willingness to shoulder extra responsibilities.

f. RW.Bro. Roberts noted that a review of the District By-laws will be undertaken this year under the leadership of W. Bro. Rob Bryce.

9. Old Business:

a. Nil.

10. New Business:

a. Budget:

i. R.W. Bro. Dennis Saikaley presented the report of the Financial Reviewers (R.W. Bro. Saikaley and W. Bro. Abe Garcia). R.W. Bro. Barry Burchill moved that the report of the reviewers be accepted. Seconded by Bro. Joe Radmore. Carried.

ii. W.Bro. Donald Learning presented the proposed budget for 2024-2025, explained its contents, and presented a proposal from R.W. Bro. Jim Bowman that the donation to Rainbow Girls be removed.

iii. R.W. Bro. Barry Burchill explained the history around the GM Reception item, and proposed that the wording "July 2025" be removed.

iv. R.W. Bro. Dennis Saikaley noted that the per km allowance in the budget should be the same as the Grand Lodge Allowance.

v. Bro. Patrick Halcro moved that the budget be accepted subject to the modifications & corrections proposed by R.W. Bros. Bowman, Saikaley and Burchill. Seconded by V.W. Bro. Ron Ashworth. Carried.

b. District Charity:

i. The DDGM announced his District Charity as the Geriatric Psychiatry and Dementia Unit at the Royal Ottawa Hospital as a worthy charity serving our local community.

ii. The brethren assembled showed their support.

See: [https:// www.theroyal.ca/patient-care-information/clinics-services-programs/geriatric-psychiatry](https://www.theroyal.ca/patient-care-information/clinics-services-programs/geriatric-psychiatry)

c. District Divine Service:

i. The District Divine Service this year is planned for 22 June 2025.

ii. The Custodian of the Work has agreed that the Divine service can be a combined event with the Beechwood Cemetery Masonic Memorial.

iii. R.W. Bro. Al Wright explained the history of the Masonic grave plot at Beechwood and its importance to masons in Ottawa and surrounding districts.

d. DistrictTrestleboard:

i. The Trestleboard is now published on the District Website, and has been sent to each Lodge Secretary.

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ii. Due to the number of events, the Trestleboard will be a dynamic document with updates as events pass and others are soon to be held. Please continue to submit your lodge events to the Communications Chairman (Bro. Joe Burchill) and the District Secretary so they can be included on the District Calendar and Trestleboard.

e. Social Events

i. The Grand Lodge Appreciation Night is being revived and will be held at the Westboro Temple on 30 Sep. 2024. There will be no lodge meeting. The guest speaker will be Deputy Grand Master R.W. Bro. Art M. Di Cecco.

ii. R.W.Bro. Dennis Saikaley announced that the Charity Ball will be held this year on Sat 8 Feb 2025 at St. Elias Centre.

11. Closing Remarks:

a. The DDGM expressed his enthusiasm for the upcoming Masonic year and his gratitude for the support of the brethren.

b. Next District Meetings:

i. January 28, 2025

ii. April 29, 2025.

12. Bro. Hockey moved a motion to adjourn, seconded by V.W. Bro. Blake Farmer.

Meeting Adjourned in harmony at 20:15 hrs.

W. Bro. Donald Learning District Secretary

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario**

**Agenda Ottawa District One - Meeting 2 - January 28, 2025 - 7:30 pm**

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, District Deputy Grand Master, 1280 Herron Mills Road, Lanark  
613-898-7046 ddgmroberts2024@gmail.com

W. Bro. Donald Learning, District Secretary, 293 Centreponte Drive, Ottawa 613-795-6840  
distsecy2024@gmail.com

7:30 Call to Order – Upstairs Lounge

Invocation - District Chaplain (W.Bro. Jace Baart)

Welcoming Remarks - R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, DDGM, Ottawa 1

Approval - Minutes of previous District Meeting (August 2024) DDGM Grand Lodge

Regional Meeting Update

District Chairmen - Mid-year Reports

Old Business

- Budget Update
- District Charity
- District Divine Service/Beechwood Masonic Memorial
- District Trestle Board

New Business

Closing Remarks – DDGM ~8:30 Adjournment

Next Meeting: 29 Apr 2025

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario**

**Minutes Ottawa District One - Meeting 2 - January 28, 2025 - 7:30 pm**

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, District Deputy Grand Master, 1280 Herron Mills Road, Lanark  
613-898-7046 ddgmroberts2024@gmail.com

W. Bro. Donald Learning, District Secretary, 293 Centrepointhe Drive, Ottawa 613-795-6840  
distsecy2024@gmail.com

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa ON.
2. Invocation was given by W. Bro. Jace Bart.
3. Attendance: As per enclosed sign-in sheets.
4. DDGM Opening Remarks:
  - a. Acknowledged the Grand Lodge officers present, and the past DDGMs present;
  - b. Welcomed the brethren and thanked them for their support.
  - c. Reported that he has travelled 4500 km. to 33 events thus far.
  - d. Reminded everyone of the Grandmaster's order that there are to be no open books in Lodge (excepting prompter), including at Installation.
  - e. Reiterated the Grand Master's priorities of Ritual, Education and Mentoring.
  - f. Reminded everyone that if email is sent to the Grand Secretary, the Grand Secretary will only reply to the DDGM (i.e. keep the DDGM in the loop).
5. Agenda: R.W. Bro. Dennis Saikaley moved a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by W. Bro. Abraham Garcia.  
Carried.
6. Previous Minutes: V.W. Bro. George Chaiban moved a motion to accept the minutes of the previous District Meeting of 24 August 2024 as previously circulated. Seconded by R.W. Bro. Dennis Saikaley.  
Carried.
7. District Chairmen Reports:
  - a. SW Mentoring (V.W. Bro. Chaiban). There have been 3 meetings, 2 socials as well as joint training with District 2. The SW group this year is named the "Water Buffaloes" and W. Bro. Joe Burchill is their elected President.
  - b. Benevolence (W. Bro. Hay). There have been 2 cases, One is resolved, and one is near resolution. Brethren are asked to be vigilant to any Brother in need.
  - c. District Charity (W. Bro. Weedmark). Noted that the Geriatric Psychiatry and Dementia Unit at the Royal Ottawa Hospital is this year's charity. The work the Royal does was explained, and an update on collections thus far was shared.
  - d. Charity Ball (R.W. Bro. Dennis Saikaley). The deadline for tickets is 28 January. The Ball will be at a new venue this year, and donations are being sought for the Silent Auction Event on 8 February at St. Elias Banquet Centre.

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- e. Protocol, Education and Instruction (W. Bro. Abraham Garcia). Outlined the duties of his position as contained in the bylaws, and noted that the main work thus far is the “Day of Masonry,” and a database of ritualists for use by Lodges needing help with degrees.
  - f. Social (W. Bro. Jim Kent). Promoted upcoming plans for a Whiskey Tasting and a “Spring Fling.” Both are to be held at Walkley Road Masonic Centre.
  - g. Cornerstone Liaison (W. Bro. Dan Gray). Reported that there are 10 Lodges in, or planning to participate in, the program. The Program is onerous but improves noticeably the quality of masonry. There are 3 workbooks to get through, but much of the work needed for certification is activity lodges are already doing.
  - h. Regalia (W. Bro. Derek Brook). Reported that Edinburgh Defenders Lodge No. 736 has donated a Worshipful Master’s Collar, and also wands, that had gone missing at Temple Lodge.
  - i. Shrine Liaison (R.W. Bro. Dennis Saikaley). Noted that the Shrine will be having a ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Details are contained in his report as sent to the District.
  - j. District Budget (W. Bro. Donald Learning). Provided a brief review of the Budget approved in August. No changes are needed or anticipated.
8. Old Business:
- a. Nil.
9. New Business:
- a. Masonic Remembrance Service:
    - i. R.W. Bro. Kosta Hatzis noted that the Service this year is on June 22, 2025. The Beechwood service is a rain or shine event. Brethren are encouraged to mark their calendars and come out.
  - b. Budget Correction:
    - i. R.W. Bro. Brian Adams noted that it was agreed at the last meeting to remove the budgeted item of \$150 for the Rainbow Girls.
  - c. Notice of Motion - Hospitality Suite at Grand Lodge:
    - i. R.W. Bro. raised a Notice of Motion that the outgoing DDGM will budget for, and book, the Hospitality Suite at Grand Lodge for the incoming DDGM-elect.
  - d. Disposal of District Regalia Inventory Items
    - i. W. Bro. Derek Brook moved a motion that old, unusable regalia in the inventory be destroyed or donated. Motion Seconded by W. Bro. Abe Garcia. Carried.
  - e. District By Law Update and Notice of Motion
    - i. W. Bro. Rob Bryce presented a Notice of Motion that changes to the District Bylaws will be voted on at the next district meeting.
  - f. Planning to revive Bus to Grand Lodge
    - i. V.W. Bro. Blake Farmer advised that St. Lawrence District is seeking interest in reviving a bus to Grand Lodge.
    - ii. It is envisaged that the Pick up and Drop off will be in Carp.
10. Closing Remarks:
- a. The DDGM expressed his gratitude for the on-going enthusiasm and support of the Brethren throughout the District.



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b. Next District Meeting: April 29, 2025.

11. Bro. Halcro moved a motion to adjourn, seconded by R.W. Bro. Brian Adams. 12.

Meeting Adjourned in harmony at 20:33 hrs.

W. Bro. Donald Learning, District Secretary

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario**

**Agenda Ottawa District One - Meeting 3 - April 29, 2025 - 7:30 pm**

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, District Deputy Grand Master, 1280 Herron Mills Road, Lanark  
613-898-7046 ddgmroberts2024@gmail.com

W. Bro. Donald Learning, District Secretary, 293 Centreponte Drive, Ottawa 613-795-6840  
distsecy2024@gmail.com

Call to Order – Upstairs Lounge

Invocation - District Chaplain (W.Bro. Jace Baart)

Welcoming Remarks - R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, DDGM, Ottawa 1

Approval - Minutes of previous District Meeting (January 2024)

District Chairmen - End-year Reports

Old Business

- District Divine Service/Beechwood Masonic Memorial
- GL Hospitality Suite - Booking and Funding (R.W. Hatzis)
- District Bylaw Update - W.Bro. Bryce

New Business

1. Day of Masonry - Update (W.Bro. Abe Garcia)
2. DDGM Elections: Nominations and Electronic voting

Closing Remarks – DDGM ~8:30 Adjournment

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario**

**Minutes Ottawa District One - Meeting 3 - April 29, 2025 - 7:30 pm**

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, District Deputy Grand Master, 1280 Herron Mills Road, Lanark  
613-898-7046 ddgmroberts2024@gmail.com

W. Bro. Donald Learning, District Secretary, 293 Centrepointhe Drive, Ottawa 613-795-6840  
distsecy2024@gmail.com

**MINUTES OF THE DISTRICT MEETING**

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa ON.
2. Invocation was given by W. Bro. Jace Bart, District Chaplain. W. Bro. Baart delivered an inspiring invocation followed closely by the tasteful “a man goes to heaven” – groaner joke. CLOSED
3. Attendance  
Including R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts – D.D.G.M. Ottawa District No.1 as per the enclosed sign in sheets was sixty (60) Brethren. Regrets were registered by: R.W. Bro. Brian Adams – Carleton No.465 and V. W. Bro. Ivan Harris – Hazeldean No.517, V. W. Bro. Gord Echlin – Mississippi No.147, V.W. Bro. Larry Harvey – Lodge of Fidelity No.231; W. Bro. James Kent – Lodge of Fidelity No.231 and W. Bro. Don Learning – Secretary, Ottawa District No.1. CLOSED
4. Welcoming Remarks - R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, DDGM, Ottawa 1
  - a. R.W. Bro. Roberts acknowledged the Grand Lodge officers, present and past.
  - b. R.W. Bro. Roberts welcomed the brethren and thanked them for their support during this past year. To the applause of the brethren present he further stated that it was his distinct honour and privilege to serve the brethren of Ottawa District 1 on a personal journey of Masonic discovery.
  - c. R.W. Bro. Roberts reported that thus far he has travelled 8000 km to 62 events in multiple lodges, towns and cities.
  - d. R.W. Bro. Roberts introduced V.W. Bro. Blake Farmer who accepted the invitation to sit in for W. Bro. Don Learning – District Secretary who this evening had a scheduling conflict for family matters. CLOSED
5. Approval - Minutes of previous District Meeting
  - a. R.W. Bro. Dennis Saikaley moved a motion to accept the minutes of the previous District Meeting of January 28th, 2025 as previously circulated. Seconded by W. Bro. Neil Lillico. CARRIED
6. District Chairmen - End-year Reports
  - a. **GL Programs - W. Bro. Dan Gray.** W. Bro. Dan Gray thanked R.W. Bro. Roberts – D.D.G.M. before reading out his final report stating that this year’s focus was on the Grand Lodge Cornerstone programme. W. Bro. Gray was pleased to state that five (5) District Lodges have previous Cornerstone status with four (4) additional Lodges in their first year of the accreditation process plus another one (1) Lodge now in its second and final year of

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obtaining accreditation. Totalling ten (10) lodges in Ottawa District 1 with or soon to have earned Cornerstone accreditation. CLOSED

- b. **Protocol, ED & Inst – W. Bro. Abraham Garcia.** W. Bro. Garcia thanked R. W. Bro. Roberts – D.G.G.M. for the opportunity to assist District Lodges raise the standard of work and ritual. Bro. Garcia further noted that the “Day of Masonry” is happening on May 17th, 2025 at the Ottawa Masonic Centre on Walkley Road with the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master attending. The Day of Masonry is in line with the Eastern Tour involving Eastern, Frontenac, St. Lawrence, Ottawa Districts 1 and 2. CLOSED

- c. **S.W. Mentoring – V. W. Bro. George Chiaban.** R.W. Sir: I am Happy to report that, as a chair for the Senior Warden mentoring committee, we have provided regular instruction sessions for the Senior wardens advancing in the chairs and they are found to be well skilled in our noble science and royal art and duly instructed in our mysteries.

The Committee held several meetings /practices and social events, Including joint socials with Ottawa District No.2 over the course of this Masonic year.

The Senior wardens in Ottawa District No.1 were provided at every step of the way with the guidance to plan and prepare for their year in the chair and direct them to where they can find the necessary tools available for them from GL as well from our district for a successful year.

In closing, I am confident that the Future Leaders of our District 1 Lodges are equipped with what’s needed for their success, qualified for the discharge of their respective high and important office and they are as well fully aware that help is just a telephone call away.

7. Old Business

- a. District Divine Service/Beechwood Masonic Memorial - R. W. Bro. Kosta Hatzis. R. W. Bro. Hatzis invited all brethren to join W. Bro. Baart and W. Bro. Steve Young and himself at Beechwood Cemetery at 2:30PM on Sunday, June 22nd for a walking tour culminating in a short service at the Masonic plot. Bro. Hatzis implored all that it would be “both beautiful and perfect” for this day to have a perfect number of brethren attending from each lodge in both Ottawa Districts. Additional details will soon be circulated. CLOSED

8. GL Hospitality Suite - Booking and Funding - R.W. Bro. Kosta Hatzis

- a. On a motion by R.W. Bro. Hatzis, seconded by V. W. Bro. Ian Hooker, the notice of motion as read at the District Meeting of January 28th was approved unanimously viz,
- b. “Be it resolved that the District Budget has monies assigned for the funding of a District Hospitality Suite at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication.
- c. And be it resolved the need for the Brethren of Ottawa District No. 1 to have a place to gather, opportunities for networking, fostering community and fraternal spirit, and enhancing member participation.
- d. We move that annually, the District Deputy Grand Master of Ottawa District No.1, be tasked with ensuring an Ottawa District No.1 Hospitality Suite is reserved on or as close to as possible the date the rooms become available at whichever facility is hosting the Annual Communication and this room’s

**District History, Ottawa District One  
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responsibility be transferred to the Brother of the District is elected as, District Deputy Grand Master – Elect, post the official election results issued by Grand Lodge.

- e. Any monies needed to secure the room be drawn upon that section of the budget set aside for that purpose”. CARRIED

9. District Bylaw Update - W. Bro. Rob Bryce

- a. After presenting the necessary updates to the Bylaws of Ottawa District 1 by W. Bro. Bryce and on a motion by R.W. Bro. Saikaley, seconded by V. W. Bro. John Guinn the updates were approved unanimously. CARRIED
- b. Full text of W. Bro. Bryce’s Bylaws update
  - i. That Article 1, Section 1, item b, be stricken.
  - ii. That Article 4, Section 4, be re-organized into items, secret balloting be removed, and that scrutineers be at the discretion of the D.D.G.M.
  - iii. That Article 4, Section 1, indicate the D.D.G.M. be elected by electronic ballot.
  - iv. That Article 4, Section 2 have the text around the District Secretary being from the same lodge be removed.
  - v. That Article 4, Section 5 include a limitation on Financial Examiners serving more than two consecutive terms unless at the discretion of the D.D.G.M.
  - vi. That Article 5, Section 2, the standing committees be re-organized to match the current working reality of the District.
  - vii. That Article 6, Section 2, that the distribution of the District Trestle Board be in nominal quantities be removed, and the District Secretary serve as a signing authority on any District bank account.
  - viii. That Article 7 be revamped with new committee names and modern responsibilities.
  - ix. That Article 7, Section 2 be added to cause the District Secretary to complete the financial records of the prior Fiscal Year before the last day of July.
  - x. That Section 2 have its reference to a meeting held at Grand Lodge be removed.
  - xi. That Article 9 have its reference to a replacement cost for a copy of the District Bylaws be removed as PDFs are both free and plentiful.
  - xii. That Appendix A - Scale of Expenditures - D.D.G.M., item 2 be amended to use Google Maps for distance calculations.
  - xiii. That Appendix A -Scale of Expenditures - D.D.G.M., includes an allotment of \$1,800 limited to the acquisition of a hospitality suite and for no other purpose.
  - xiv. That Appendix A - Scale of Expenditures – D.D.G.M, switch the term telephone charges to cellular charges, and that photocopying be amended to be both photocopying and printing.

10. New Business

- a. Day of Masonry – Update - W. Bro. Abraham Garcia

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- b. W. Bro. Garcia stated that the Day of Masonry, May 17th has already sold seventy (70) tickets and has fifteen (15) presenters for a total of eighty-five (85) attendees – so far. Tickets from Eventbrite are on sale until one week prior to the Day. CLOSED

**11. Hospitality Suite at Grand Lodge 2025**

- a. R.W. Bro. Don Healey asked if a room was booked by either of the two candidates for D.D.G.M. for the Ottawa District No.1 hospitality suite at Grand Lodge 2025 and furthered, if not then why not?
- b. R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts – D.D.G.M. stated Ottawa District No.1 does NOT have a hospitality room booked.
- c. W. Bro. Garcia stated that he had a room booked but NOT a hospitality room
- d. R.W. Bro. Saikaley furthered that he knows that Ottawa District No.2 does have a room booked and suggested that Ottawa District No.1 might approach District 2 and ask if we could “bunk in” for this year.
- e. R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts – D.D.G.M. stated he would follow up on this suggestion with R.W. Bro. Neil Blain – D.D.G.M. Ottawa District No.2.
- f. V.W. Bro. Chiaban stated that he had a room booked. CLOSED

**12. Electronic voting - R. W. Bro. Roberts – D.D.G.M.**

- a. R. W. Bro. Roberts stated; that any brother who is interested now or at any future time be interested in becoming a District Deputy Grand Master should contact him directly. There are six (6) forms to fill out plus a mandatory D.D.G.M. course delivered by Grand Lodge. CLOSED

**13. Electronic voting - R. W. Bro. Roberts – D.D.G.M.**

- a. R. W. Bro. Roberts stated; that voting for Grand Lodge officers is simple, easy and electronic. He stressed that it is IMPERATIVE that every Master and Warden register to vote AND VOTE.
- b. R.W. Bro. Saikaley furthered; that Ottawa District No.1 needs to improve our presence at Grand Lodge and any brother who is nominated for D.D.G.M. would be very wise to attend Grand Lodge this year. There are many Constitutional amendments to vote on and your attendance at Grand Lodge will both improve your networking and strengthen your nomination, now and in the future. R.W. Bro. Saikaley closed by inviting any brother looking for a room at the Hilton Gardens for Grand Lodge to please call him soonest for assistance if required. CLOSED

**14. District Financial Examiners and D.D.G.M. - Nominations - R. W. Bro. Roberts – D.D.G.M.**

- a. R. W. Bro. Roberts called for nominations for the positions of District Financial Examiners for the ensuing Masonic year.
- b. R.W. Bro. Saikaley and R.W. Bro. Don Healey both were honoured to accept the nomination.
- c. On a motion by W. Bro. Halcro, seconded by V.W. Bro. Sandy Stewart the nominees were accepted. CARRIED

**15. R. W. Bro. Roberts called for nominations for the office of District Deputy Grand Master – Ottawa District No.1 to be voted upon for the ensuing Masonic year or 2025/2026.**

- a. The following brethren were nominated;



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- i. V.W. Bro. George Chiaban, nominated by W. Bro. Sam Himyary – W.M. Civil Service 148.
    - ii. W. Bro. Abraham Garcia, nominated by Bro. Patrick Halcro – W.M. elect Temple 665.
    - iii. V. W. Bro. John Guinn, nominated by W. Bro. Jean Plamondon – W.M. Sidney Albert Luke 558.
    - iv. W. Bro. Daniel Gray, nominated by W. Bro. Peter Pregel – Treasurer, Carleton 465.
    - v. W. Bro. James Kent was nominated in absentia by V.W. Bro. Ron Taylor – J.W. Lodge of Fidelity 231.
    - vi. W. Bro. Matthew Weedmark was nominated by R. W. Bro. Jim Bowman, Russell 479.
  - b. R.W. Bro. Roberts, hearing no additional nominations, asked three (3) more times for any additional nominations. Hearing none, he ordered the nominations closed.
  - c. R.W. Bro. Roberts requested that V. W. Bro. Farmer, acting District Secretary, read back the nominations in reverse order, last to first. R.W. Bro. Roberts requested that each nominee stand and announce his intentions to decline or to let his name stand for election. The results were;
    - i. Declined
      - 1. W. Bro. Weedmark
      - 2. W. Bro. Kent – in absentia by V.W. Bro. Taylor
      - 3. W. Bro. Gray
      - 4. V. W. Bro. Guinn
    - ii. Accepted
      - 1. W. Bro. Garcia
      - 2. V.W. Bro. Chiaban
  - d. R.W. Bro. Roberts declared V.W. Bro. Chiaban and W. Bro. Garcia as duly nominated candidates for the election of D.D.G.M. Ottawa District No.1 for the ensuing Masonic year. CLOSED
16. Items from the floor
- a. After a brief discussion and on a motion by W. Bro. Derek Brook, Chair of the Regalia committee, seconded by R.W. Bro. Barry Burchill the old regalia collected, sorted and not spoken for will be disposed of in the appropriate manner. Carried
17. Thank you to R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts – D.D.G.M. and W. Bro. Don Learning – District Secretary
- a. On a motion by R.W. Bro. Burchill seconded by R. W. Bro. Saikaley that a big vote of thanks be made to R.W. Bro. Roberts and W. Bro. Don Learning and their respective ladies for all their dedication and hard work to make the 2024/2025 Masonic year such a success for Ottawa District 1. CARRIED
18. R.W. Bro. Roberts thanked the brethren for their kindness and further stated that he was very fortunate to have W. Bro. Learning, an excellent District Secretary who is “worth his weight in gold”.

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19. Closing Remarks – DDGM (comments about an email from B. Burchill – M.W. Bro. Gary Atkinson – see Sam Roberts for a copy.)
20. Adjournment
21. On a motion by W. Bro. Garcia, seconded by Bro. Joe Burchill the meeting was closed in peace and harmony at 8:19PM.

## District Divine Service

The District Divine Church Service was held at Calvin United Church, 276 Church Street, Pembroke, Ontario on March 16, 2025 at 10:00am. The Service was a Joint Service with both Ottawa District One and Two participating.



## **Beechwood Cemetery - Masonic Burial Plot**

### **A History of The Ottawa Masonic Burial Plot in Ottawa, Ontario at Beechwood Cemetery**

The Masonic lodge system was first developed to, among other things, help, socially, and in benevolence toward its members and families. In 1855 in Ontario, when our Grand Lodge was formed, there was no public safety net within our communities in which anyone could rely. This was one of the prime motivators for those who joined the fraternity. Charity was, and is, an important concept taught to everyone who is initiated into the Order.

Up until the early 1960s Canadians, for the most part, had no official help from public sources. Taking notice of Saskatchewan's health care reforms, brought about by Tommy Douglas's provincial government, the federal government under John Diefenbaker put together a national health care plan that was finally instituted by the next government leader, Lester Pearson.

Freemasons believe in charity, and the greatest form of charity, one mason toward another, is to aid in the final disposition of a brother's mortal remains when he has gone to the Grand Lodge Above.

In modern times it is hard to imagine the hardship placed on families in those times when tasked with the preparation and transportation of the dead for a journey even to the next town prior to the widespread use of the automobile. The lack of understanding of disease transmission even led to an Ottawa Ordinance to only allow cemeteries to allow burials outside the boundaries of the city. This added even further complexity to the problem. Even a cemetery, previously in Sandy Hill, was moved primarily; the bodies ended up at Beechwood Cemetery, which was just outside the municipal boundary at the time. It stood to reason that local masons would step in to help avoid the forced impoverishment and distress of relatives when entrusted with a brother's care.

The Ottawa Masonic Board of Relief was constituted with the enactment of its bylaws on December 3, 1875. It helped masons and their families through many concerns, also including taking care of an indigent mason's burial when entrusted to their care. In January 1876 the Board bought the land in the then new Beechwood Cemetery, which had been previously established in 1873, known as the "Masonic Burial Plot", costing \$350. The first burial seems to have happened in grave number 1, two years later. It is likely Beechwood was selected since most local masonic lodges met in down-town Ottawa and the cemetery had its office on Sparks Street, in the heart of the city. Interestingly, while never a mason, Tommy Douglas also rests in another part of Beechwood Cemetery.

## **District History, Ottawa District One**

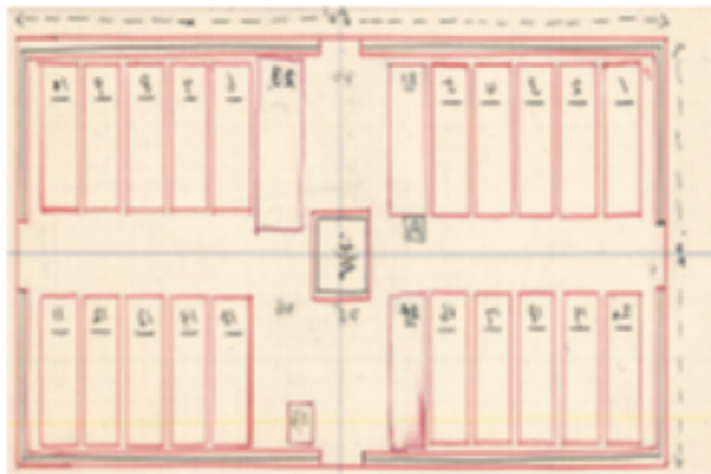
### **2024-25**

The idea of establishing a District-wide Masonic Burial Plot was not original to Ottawa, however our example pre-dates the pattern of similar likenesses found in Toronto and Sarnia. The initiative seems to have originated in the United States in the latter half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The earliest I have found of this masonic practice was a monument found in New York State unveiled in 1872.

The Masonic Burial plot at Beechwood is in section 37, lot number 83. It is 20 feet (6.1m) East to West and 50 feet (15.2m) North to South. It has been used exclusively for indigent masons since its start. Name markers are not part of the service provided by the Board to protect the privacy of a brother who may have distressingly died in poverty. There have been newspaper reports, probably placed by family members, reporting specific burials and one family has had a marker placed in the grass and in one other case, at the expense of her family, the wife of a departed brother, after predeceasing her, had her ashes deposited next to him. These are exceptions to our long-held practice of not publicly identifying those within the gravesite or joining other family members. While the Plot has space for 24 full casket burials, only cremated remains are interred, thereby making room for 750, all placed in an Easterly orientation. There are fewer than 100 in total laid to rest at the plot as of the end of 2022. Most of them prior to the 1940s. There have been a few, however, laid to rest there into the 20-teens.



District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25



On Thursday, May 31, 1888, at the conclusion of a Grand Lodge Communication, held at the Byward Market Building in Ottawa the Deputy Grand Master led a large delegation of masons and their families to Beechwood Cemetery to unveil a monument on the plot land.

The report discovered in the **Ottawa Citizen** of Friday, June 1 states:

*"The scheme of a Beechwood burial plot was conceived by the late Right Worshipful Bro. Kerr, who, in conjunction Bro. E. D. Parlow, Chairman of the Burial Plot Committee, and Bro. S. W. H. Baldwin, Secretary Treasurer, were largely instrumental in carrying the scheme to a successful issue, being ably assisted by the following brethren, also members of the committee, viz:*



**District History, Ottawa District One  
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*H. P. Webb, **Builders Lodge**, A. Walsh, **Prince of Wales**, A. Perriton, **Eddy Lodge**, W. C. Teague, **Fidelity**, And, Thomas Kennedy, **Chaudière Lodge***



*Some dozen of the deceased brotherhood have already been buried in the plot. The extra cost of the plot and monument is in the vicinity of \$2000 (almost \$63000 in 2023 dollars). It is one of the most tasteful and imposing structures in the cemetery and is composed of two heavy granite bases surmounted by stonework bearing the words "Masonic Burial Plot" and various emblems of the Order, upon which rests the altar, with a volume of the sacred law open thereon, surrounded by four polished red granite columns, which support the upper part, upon which also are inscribed various emblems. The whole is surmounted by a polished granite globe symbolic of the university of masonry."*

Reports of the unveiling of the 13 feet (4m) tall by 4 feet (1.2m) wide, monument at the Masonic Burial Plot, as well as the consecration of new lodge facilities and an "At Home" held on the same day, can also be found in the **1888 Grand Lodge Proceedings:**

*Page 12*

*In addition to the ceremonies of Consecration and Dedication reported herewith, a large number of brethren assembled in the afternoon of the same day and went out to Beechwood Cemetery where the beautiful monument on the Masonic Burial Plot was unveiled, and an excellent address was given to the brethren and the public present by R. W. Bro. Walkem. In the evening of the same day an "At Home" was held in the Masonic Hall, attended by fully a thousand friends of the brethren. The day's proceedings wound up with a banquet in honour of Grand Lodge.*

## District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25

*Probably the most important Masonic event of the year, so far as the Capital is concerned, was the consecration and dedication of the new Masonic Hall, on May 31st. A special communication of Grand Lodge was held, and in the presence of over two hundred city and visiting brethren, R. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, D. G. M., performed the solemn duties devolving upon him in a most impressive manner. The new Temple, for such it may well be designated, was built by Bro. E. Wallace, and has been leased from him by the city Lodges for the term of ten years. It contains a large Lodge room, handsomely furnished, with commodious anterooms, refreshment room, lavatories, etc., in fact possesses every convenience, and is certainly a hall of which the Ottawa District have every reason to be proud. Later in the day, R. W. Bro. Walkem, attended by a large number of brethren, proceeded to Beechwood cemetery, and there in the presence of several hundred spectators the acting Grand Master unveiled the beautiful monument recently erected on the Masonic burial plot.*

*In the evening an "At Home" was held in the new hall, at which about a thousand Masons and their lady friends were present. Subsequently a banquet was tendered by the R. W. the acting Grand Master, at the Grand Union Hotel, (This appears to be the same building found at the corner of Sparks St. and Elgin today.) and at which nearly one hundred and fifty brethren sat down. The affair was a great success and was a fitting termination of a memorable day's work. At the different assemblages R. W. Bro. Walkem delivered earnest practical addresses which will long be remembered by those who heard them. This was Bro. Walkem's first official visit to Ottawa, and by his genial disposition, his knowledge of Craft lore, and the ability with which he fulfilled all the important duties devolved upon him, he entirely won the hearts of all the brethren.*

*Other details of note include the purchase of perpetual care for the site in 1921. Also, very interestingly, after the unveiling, and at least until the 1930s, where there is a sporadic journalistic record, that every year, on June 24<sup>th</sup> (St. John Baptiste Day – who is the patron saint of Freemasonry) the local brethren would have a remembrance service at the plot in memory of our past brethren.*

*June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, dispensation was received and Lodge of Fidelity 231 hosted a 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary Remembrance Service at the Masonic Plot. The Cemetery has further booked the Sunday closest to June 24<sup>th</sup> moving forward for this tradition to continue.*

*Thank you.*

*I would like to acknowledge and thank the following people who helped collect many of the details in this report:*

- *Our Grand Historian, V.W. Bro. Marshall Kern,*
- *The President of the Ottawa Board of Relief, V.W. Bro. Devon Fermoye,*
- *Ottawa 1 District Historian, W. Bro. Neil Lillico and*

**District History, Ottawa District One  
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- *Past Master of Acacia Lodge and a staff member at Beechwood Cemetery, W. Bro. Chris Wanna.*
- *I took the photo of the monument.*

*RW Bro Allen B. Wright*

*PDDGM Ottawa 1, 2014-15*

District History, Ottawa District One  
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## Worshipful Masters, Ottawa District One, Photo Collage



Sidney Albert Luke Lodge 558  
W. Bro. J. F. Plamondon



Temple Lodge 665  
W. Bro. J. Bizjak



Lodge of Fidelity 231  
W. Bro. D. Peate



District Secretary  
W. Bro. D. Learning



*Worshipful Masters*

OTTAWA DISTRICT 1 MASONS,  
2024 - 2025



Civil Service Lodge  
148 W. Bro. S. Himyar



Carleton Lodge 465  
W. Bro. K. Fields



St. John's Lodge 63  
W. Bro. C. Morrow



Edinburgh Defenders Lodge 590  
W. Bro. R. Bryce



Mississippi Lodge 147  
V.W. Bro. G. Echlin



Acacia Lodge 561  
W. Bro. D. Brook



Hazeldean Lodge 517  
W. Bro. C. Mackenzie



Russell Lodge 479  
W. Bro. J. Bowman



Prince of Wales Lodge  
371 W. Bro. J. Warra



St. Andrew's Lodge 560  
W. Bro. J. Frederic



Goodwood Lodge 159  
W. Bro. J. McConnell



Doric Lodge 58  
W. Bro. M. Cadotte



District Deputy Grand Master  
R.W. Bro S. Roberts

## Worshipful Masters, Ottawa District One

Lodge No.	Lodge Name	W.M. First Name	W.M. Last Name
58	Doric Lodge	Mike	Cadotte
63	St. John's Lodge	Chris	Morrow
147	Mississippi Lodge	Gordon	Echlin
148	Civil Service Lodge	Sam	Himyary
159	Goodwood Lodge	Jim	McConnell
231	Lodge of Fidelity	David	Peate
371	Prince of Wales Lodge	Jason	Waara
465	Carleton Lodge	Kenneth	Fields
479	Russell Lodge	John	Bowman
517	Hazeldean Lodge	Colin	Mackenzie
558	Sidney Albert Luke Lodge	J. F.	Plamondon
560	St. Andrew's Lodge	Jesus	Frederico
561	Acacia Lodge	Derek	Brook
665	Temple Lodge	Josh	Biziak
736	Edinburgh Lodge	Rob	Bryce



## Ottawa District One - Lodge Activities

### Summary of Lodge Activities by Individual Lodge

#### Doric Lodge No. 58, GRC In The Province Of Ontario - Instituted 1855

Summary of Events – Masonic Year 2024-25

Meets the third Thursday of each Month except June, July & August

#### Doric Lodge No. 58 - Summary of Events

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Emergent	September 5, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, You are hereby summoned to attend an Emergent meeting, to be held at 2140 Walkley Rd. Ottawa on 5 September 2024 @ 19:30 hrs.</li><li>• Practice opening/closing in the three degrees.</li></ul>
Regular	September 19, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, You are hereby summoned to attend a Regular meeting, to be held at 2140 Walkley Rd. Ottawa on 19 September 2024 @ 19:30 hrs.</li><li>• To present a petition for initiation of a potential candidate.</li><li>• To prove and present the Bible Charge to Bro. Stephen Campbell.</li><li>• To invest Bro. Campbell to the office of Junior Steward.</li><li>• To provide Masonic education.</li></ul>
Regular	October 19, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, You are hereby summoned to attend a Regular meeting, to be held at 2140 Walkley Rd. Ottawa on 17 October 2024 @ 19:30 hrs.</li><li>• To welcome our Bahamian brethren from Lodge C.R. Walker No.1808 SC on their fraternal visit celebrating 30 years of friendship.</li><li>• To welcome R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts DDGM, on his Official Visit.</li><li>• Pending a favourable review of the Board of Inquiry on the candidates Mr. Louis Chamberland, and Mr. Audrey Jonathan</li></ul>



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>Agaloos to conduct a ballot for admission to Doric Lodge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To conduct a ballot for reinstatement of Bro. John Marcus Coffey of East Legon, Accra, Ghana.</li> <li>• To present a petition for initiation of Mr. Jay Albania.</li> <li>• To give Notice of Motion to vote at the next Regular Meeting on the amendments to the Doric Bylaws as distributed electronically to the Brethren.</li> <li>• To provide Masonic education.</li> </ul>
Emergent	October 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Emergent	November 7, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother, You are hereby summoned to attend an Emergent meeting, to be held at 2140 Walkley Rd. Ottawa on 7 November 2024 @ 19:30 hrs.</li> <li>• To pass Bro. Darryl Lim to the 2nd degree</li> </ul>
Regular	November 21, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother, You are hereby summoned to attend a Regular meeting, to be held at 2140 Walkley Rd. on 21 Ottawa on 21 November 2024 @ 19:30 hrs.</li> <li>• To vote on the amendments to the Doric Bylaws as distributed electronically to the brethren.</li> <li>• To conduct the Empty Chair Ceremony.</li> <li>• To provide Masonic education.</li> </ul>
Emergent	December 5, 2023	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother, You are hereby summoned to attend an Emergent meeting, to be held at 2140 Walkley Rd. Ottawa on 5 December 2024 @ 19:30 hrs.</li> <li>• To initiate Mr. Louis Chamberland, sponsored by W. Bro. Daniel. R. Charron and Bro. Robert Spirito.</li> </ul>
Regular	December 19, 2023	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother, You are hereby summoned to attend a Regular meeting, to be held at 2140 Walkley Rd. on 21 Ottawa on 19 December 2024 @ 19:30 hrs.</li> <li>• To ballot for initiation Mr. Jay Albania, pending favourable outcome of board of inquiry,</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>sponsored by W. Bro. Allan Statham and Bro. Bob Moulton.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To initiate Mr. Audrey. J. Angaloos, sponsored by W. Bro. Daniel R. Charron and Bro. Stephen Campbell.</li> </ul>
Regular	January 16, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, You are hereby summoned to attend a Regular Meeting 16 January 2025 @ 19:30 hrs. 2140 Walkley Rd. Ottawa.</li> <li>To initiate Mr. Jay Albania, Sponsored by W. Bro. Daniel R. Charron and Bro. Stephen Campbell.</li> </ul>
Emergent	January 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Emergent	February 6, 2025		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, You are hereby summoned to attend a Regular Meeting (by Dispensation) on 6 February 2025 @ 19:30 hrs. at 2140 Walkley Rd. Ottawa.</li> <li>To vote on the motion to pass the bylaws as included with this Summons.</li> <li>To welcome the Shriner Degree Team and distinguished guests to Doric.</li> <li>To Raise Bro. Darryl Lim to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.</li> </ul>
Regular	February 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Emergent	March 6, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your participation to accompany the Worshipful Master on a fraternal visit to St Andrews Lodge on Thursday, 6 March at 19:30 hrs. would be most appreciated.</li> </ul>
Regular	March 20, 2025		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, You are hereby summoned to attend a Regular Meeting on 20 March 2025 @ 19:30 hrs. 2140 Walkley Rd. Ottawa.</li> <li>To conduct the regular business of the Lodge.</li> <li>To welcome our friends and families to our 170th celebration of Doric Lodge via an open house after the meeting.</li> </ul>
Emergent	April 3, 2025		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, You are hereby summoned to attend an Emergent Meeting 3 April @ 19:30 hrs. 2140 Walkley Rd. Ottawa.</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To pass worthy Brother Audrey “Jigs” Agaloos to the 2nd Degree.</li> </ul>
Regular	April 17, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, You are hereby summoned to attend a Regular Meeting 17 April @ 19:30 hrs. 2140 Walkley Rd. Ottawa.</li> <li>To conduct a ballot on the application for affiliation of R.W. Bro. James Bowman</li> <li>To vote on a motion to amend Doric’s Bylaws</li> <li>To elect officers for the coming Masonic year 2025-26</li> <li>To enhance our Knowledge of Masonry with a presentation of Bro. Darryl Lim’s trip abroad.</li> </ul>
Emergent	May 1, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, You are hereby summoned to attend an Emergent Meeting 1 May @ 19:30 hrs. 2140 Walkley Rd. Ottawa.</li> <li>Degree work and “Step Up Night” in preparation for the installation.</li> </ul>
Regular	May 15, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, You are hereby summoned to attend a Regular Meeting 15 May (by dispensation) @ 19:30 hrs. 2140 Walkley Rd. Ottawa.</li> <li>To install the Worshipful Master and elected officers with their respective responsibilities for the incoming Masonic Year.</li> </ul>

\* “M” – minutes; “S” – summons. Some Lodges were reluctant to share their minutes outside of the Lodge. As a result, the historical summary was prepared from the Lodge Summons. Therefore, in some instances the information may not be entirely accurate as it is based on planned activities rather than the actual events that transpired. While the Summons records what the Lodge planned to do, numerous events can take place which prevents the planned from becoming the achieved – for example, a candidate may not be ready, principal officers are absent due to their public or private avocations, weather related snowstorms may result in the cancellation of a meeting etc., etc.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Doric Lodge No. 58 - Messages from the Worshipful Master**

**Regular Meeting Summons, September 21, 2023**

Brethren,

I am taking this opportunity on behalf of the brethren to congratulate and thank W. Bro. Bill Stanfield, our Past Master for having done a great job this past year leading Doric Lodge with great success. We attained once again our Cornerstone designation. Thank you brethren for making it happen once more and, to W. Bro. Allan Statham for coordinating the paperwork and making sure we crossed the "Ts" and dotted the "Is". Now with the beginning of our new Masonic Year 2024-2025, we have a busy calendar of Masonic degrees and various social events to attend in the coming months.

I look forward to your support in the various District events and to continue promulgate Doric's name in the district and to our continued success in growing our membership.

Sincerely and fraternally,

W. Bro. Mike Cadotte, Worshipful Master

**Regular Meeting Summons, October 17, 2024**

Brethren,

We had a strong finish in September as we conducted a proving and presented the Bible Charge to Bro. Stephen Campbell, who was then Invested as Junior Steward. This was followed by an educational presentation on the history of Doric Lodge's Bible Charge. The month ended with a Perfect Delegation of 7 to Prince of Wales Lodge No. 371 where we presented the District Travelling Gavel.

With that being said, the month of October is a very important month to Doric for historical reasons. On October 17th at our Regular Meeting, we will have the privilege of receiving the DDGM R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts on his Official Visit to Doric Lodge. We will also have the privilege of receiving our brethren from Claudius R. Walker Lodge No. 1808, SC. Nassau, on their Fraternal Visit.

This will be a special night as we will commemorate our ongoing 30-year relationship with the brethren of C.R. Walker Lodge. Founding fathers of CRW Lodge Include R. W. Bro. Gary Gossling, V.W. Bro Bill Edwards and other brethren from Doric and from the Lodge of Fidelity who have passed on. Bro. Idris G. Reid who was a Worshipful Master of Doric, 1993-94 when he was posted to Ottawa as the Bahamian High Commissioner became the first Worshipful Master of CR Walker Lodge, September 3, 1994 on his return to the Bahamas. To this day brethren from Doric, Russell, Temple, Fidelity, Goodwood Lodges and other brethren from Ottawa continue to visit our brethren in the Bahamas

I look forward to a joyous and memorable occasion with the brethren.

Sincerely & fraternally,

W. Bro. Mike Cadotte, Worshipful Master

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Regular Meeting Summons, November 21, 2024**

Brethren,

October was indeed a month of fellowship and celebration at Doric Lodge, highlighted by the visit of our esteemed delegation from the Bahamas, the much enjoyed Doric BBQ, and a Fraternal Visit to Russell Lodge. These gatherings not only honoured the remarkable 30-year bond between Doric Lodge and Lodge Claudius R. Walker but also underscored the spirit of unity and friendship central to Masonic tradition.

Looking ahead to November, we have significant events that reflect the depth of our values and heritage. We will perform a Second Degree, a ritual that strengthens the foundation of our brotherhood and allows members to advance in their journey of moral and spiritual growth. This ceremony reaffirms our commitment to the virtues of wisdom, strength, and beauty, the essential tenets in Freemasonry.

In addition, our Annual Remembrance Day observance, known as the "Empty Chair Ceremony," holds special meaning for us. This solemn tribute, steeped in Masonic tradition, honours the Brethren who courageously gave their lives in service to our country. By setting an empty chair, we acknowledge their absence yet preserves their presence in our hearts, paying homage to the ultimate sacrifice made in the defence of freedom and peace. This ceremony not only memorializes our fallen brothers but also reminds us of the enduring Masonic principles of loyalty, duty, and brotherly love. November promises to be a month of reflection, reverence, and continued dedication to our Masonic traditions.

Sincerely & fraternally,

W. Bro. Mike Cadotte, Worshipful Master

**Regular Meeting Summons, December 19, 2024**

Brethren,

Halloween has come and gone, and as we move toward the festive season of Christmas and the close of 2024, it is a time of reflection and preparation for the year ahead. With 2025 just around the corner, I wish to address the importance of our collective efforts as we reach the halfway mark of this Masonic year.

The coming months promise to be a busy and meaningful time for our lodge. Your feedback, support, and active participation are essential—not only in our Emergent and Regular Meetings but also in the Committee of General Purpose (CGP) Meetings. These meetings play a crucial role in the continued growth and vitality of our lodge.

Whether you are a newly initiated Brother, a seasoned 70-year member, or somewhere in between, your presence and contributions are invaluable. The strength and health of our lodge do not rest solely on the Worshipful Master but are built on the collective efforts of all its members. It is through new ideas, dependable participation, and a willingness to assist with degree work, social functions, and meetings that we ensure our lodge thrives.

I humbly ask for your assistance and participation to the extent of your cable tow. Together, we can maintain the harmony and strength of our lodge and ensure its bright future.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Thank you for your attention and your ongoing commitment to our Masonic principles. I look forward to your continued involvement and seeing many of you at our upcoming meetings.

Sincerely & fraternally,

W. Bro. Mike Cadotte, Worshipful Master

**Regular Meeting Summons, January 16, 2025**

Brethren,

Christmas has come and gone, and as I write these "Words From The East," the New Year is knocking at our door. I hope each of you and your families enjoyed a joyous Christmas filled with warmth and love and are now looking forward to a safe and festive New Year's celebration.

As we start 2025, we have an excellent opportunity to reflect on the past year's successes and challenges while preparing for the exciting work ahead. Our lodge's strength and vitality lie in the collective efforts of all our members, from the newly initiated to the seasoned veterans. Your contributions, whether large or small, play a vital role in our continued success.

In the spirit of Brotherhood, I kindly invite and encourage your participation in the upcoming months. January brings us the privilege of conducting another 1st Degree Initiation, followed by a 3rd Degree in February. These are important events in the life of our Lodge, and your presence and assistance mean a great deal.

Whether through attending meetings, assisting in degree work, or supporting our social functions, your engagement strengthens our bond and furthers our shared mission. Remember, every effort - whether an idea shared, a helping hand lent, or simply your attendance when within the length of your cable tow - matters greatly.

Let us greet the New Year with a renewed commitment to our principles and a unified vision for the future of our Lodge. Together, there is no limit to what we can accomplish.

Wishing you and your loved ones health, happiness, and prosperity in the year ahead. I look forward to seeing you at the lodge and sharing in the work and fellowship that lies ahead.

Fraternally yours,

W. Bro. Mike Cadotte, Worshipful Master

**Regular Meeting Summons, February 6, 2025**

Brethren,

As we approach the conclusion of this Masonic year, I want to take a moment to thank you all for your dedication and support over the past months. Together, we've achieved much, and as we enter February 2025, we have several special events that promise to make this month truly memorable.

First, on February 6, we have the distinct honour and privilege of raising Brother Darryl Lim to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. Adding to the significance of this evening, we are delighted to welcome the Shriner's Degree Team, who will perform this important Degree Ceremony. This is an extraordinary opportunity to witness their exemplary work and celebrate Brother Lim's progress in Masonry. Your presence would greatly enhance the evening and demonstrate the strength of our Brotherhood.



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Later in the month, on February 20, we will embark on a long- overdue Fraternal Visit to Mississippi Lodge for their Official Visit. This is a wonderful opportunity to rekindle connections, share fellowship, and show our solidarity as we travel together to support our fellow Brethren. Your participation in this visit would mean a great deal and reflect the spirit of unity that defines our Craft.

I kindly ask for your help and involvement in making these events a success. Whether by attending, assisting with preparations, or extending your support from afar, your contributions will make a difference. Let us come together to mark these important moments with pride and camaraderie.

Thank you, Brethren, for all you do for our Lodge and the greater Masonic family. I look forward to seeing many of you at these upcoming events as we continue to strengthen the bonds that unite us.

Fraternally yours,

W. Bro. Mike Cadotte, Worshipful Master

**Regular Meeting Summons, March 20, 2025**

Brethren,

As Worshipful Master, I am delighted to announce we will celebrate the 170th Anniversary of Doric Lodge No. 58, on March 20, 2025. This momentous occasion allows us to reflect on our rich history and the enduring principles that have guided us for nearly two centuries.

Our journey began with a petition by seven esteemed Past Masters of Dalhousie Lodge #835 ER (known as Dalhousie Lodge No. 52, G.L. of Canada in the Province of Ontario). This petition led to the dispensation of February 17, 1855, and our first meeting on March 28, 1855. Subsequently, a Warrant dated August 20, 1855, was issued by the United Grand Lodge of England, officially establishing Doric Lodge.

Throughout these 170 years, Doric Lodge has been a steadfast presence, witnessing the ebb and flow of Masonic events in Ottawa, across Canada, and around the world. Notably, Doric Lodge, the oldest lodge in the Greater Ottawa Area, predates the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario, which was established on October 10, 1855. We take pride in our history and the fact that we were here before the current Grand Lodge was formed, with the first installed Grand Master, M.W. Bro. William Mercer Wilson, duly installed on November 2nd, 1855.

This anniversary celebration will be a time to honor our founders, acknowledge the contributions of past members, and reaffirm our commitment to the values of Freemasonry. We will be hosting a special event known as an "Open House" which is for family, friends and fellow brethren to help Doric Lodge celebrate this milestone.

Please join us as we celebrate this remarkable milestone in the history of Doric Lodge No. 58.

Fraternally yours,

W. Bro. Mike Cadotte, Worshipful Master

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Note from the District Historian:**

The following information was included in the Summons under the Heading:

*170th Doric, Happy Birthday.*

Bro. Samuel Adams the great American Patriot and Freemason - "Nil desperandum - Never Despair. That is a motto for you and me. All are not dead; and where there is a spark of patriotic fire, we will rekindle it."

And to paraphrase a Freemason and one of the Greatest motivators of all times, Bro. Winston Churchill: This is the lesson: "Never give in. Never give in. Never, never, never, never--in nothing, great or small, large or petty--never give in, except to convictions of honour and good sense. Never yield to (the) force(s) that confound you. Never yield to the apparently overwhelming might of the enemy (of apathy that prevails)."

**Regular Meeting Summons, April 17, 2025**

Brethren,

March, as we know, marked a significant milestone for our Lodge. We were privileged to commemorate our 170th Birthday, a testament to the enduring principles and fraternal bonds that have sustained us through the decades. This celebration was not merely a retrospective glance, but a reaffirmation of our commitment to the values of Freemasonry. Furthermore, we have been fortunate to strengthen our fraternal ties through visits to our Brother Lodges within Ottawa Districts 1 and 2, and indeed, across the Ottawa River into Gatineau. These exchanges are vital to the health and vitality of our fraternity, fostering understanding and mutual respect.

In particular, I wish to acknowledge the unprecedented Fraternal Quad Lodge Meeting, a historic gathering of Carleton, Doric, Mississippi, and St. Andrew's Lodges. This inaugural event stands as a testament to our collective desire to deepen our connections and cultivate a stronger, more unified Masonic presence within the Ottawa region.

As we move forward, we approach the culmination of our current Masonic year. We are soon to confer the Second Degree upon Brother Audrey (Jigs) Agaloos, a significant step in his Masonic journey. Following this, in April, we will undertake the crucial task of electing our Officers for the upcoming Masonic Year of 2025-2026. This process, conducted with due deliberation and respect, ensures the continued leadership and stewardship of Doric Lodge.

Finally, in May, we will be preparing for our upcoming Installation and Investiture of the Worshipful Master and the Officers of Doric Lodge No. 58. These ceremonies, steeped in tradition and symbolism, mark the transition of leadership and the commencement of a new chapter in our Lodge's history.

Brethren, let us continue to uphold the principles of Freemasonry, fostering harmony, charity, and brotherly love in all our endeavors. May we approach the coming elections and installation with wisdom and unity, ensuring the continued prosperity and strength of Doric Lodge.

So mote it be.

Fraternally yours,

W. Bro. Mike Cadotte, Worshipful Master

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Regular Meeting Summons, May 15, 2025**

Brethren,

As we approach the final stretch of this Masonic year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the journey we've shared and the exciting milestones ahead. The year 2024/2025 has been one of great progress and brotherhood, and it is with immense pride that we now turn our attention to our final gatherings of the year.

Our "Step-Up Night" on May 1st will serve as a powerful reminder of the responsibility we all bear as members of this Lodge. It is an evening to celebrate the stepping up of our officers and to reaffirm our commitment to the ideals of Freemasonry. However, the true highlight of this year will undoubtedly be our **\*\*Installation and Investiture\*\*** on May 15, 2025.

This event is a profound honour for Doric Lodge, as we will be hosting the Deputy Grand Master and welcoming the Eastern Tour. This occasion marks a significant moment in our Lodge's history, and it is a privilege we must hold with the utmost respect and dedication. The Deputy Grand Master's presence, along with the Grand Lodge representatives, will surely elevate the ceremony to new heights, and it will be a testament to the strength and unity of our Lodge.

With such a distinguished event on the horizon, I cannot stress enough the importance of all hands on deck. The success of our Installation and Investiture is dependent on the participation and enthusiasm of every Brother. Your support, whether in preparation, attendance, or simply lending a helping hand, will ensure that we make this a night to remember.

Let us come together, as we always do, to honour the tenets of our Craft and make Doric Lodge a shining example of Masonic tradition. Together, we will make this year's Installation & Investiture a fitting tribute to the history and future of our Lodge.

Please mark your calendars and make the necessary arrangements to join us for both the **\*\*Step-Up Night\*\*** on May 1st and the **\*\*Formal Installation & Investiture\*\*** on May 15th. These are events that should not be missed, and I look forward to seeing all of you there as we celebrate the strength of our fraternity.

So mote it be.

Fraternally yours,

W. Bro. Mike Cadotte, Worshipful Master

**Doric Lodge No. 58 - Select Photos**

No photos were provided.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**St. John's Lodge No. 63, GRC In The Province Of Ontario - Instituted 1843**

Summary of Events – Masonic Year 2024-25

Meets the second Wednesday of each Month except June, July & August

**St. John's Lodge No. 63 - Summary of Events**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	September 11, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brethren: By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned, and visitors are cordially invited, to attend a Regular Meeting of St. John's Lodge at the Carleton Place Masonic Temple, 55 Bridge Street Carleton Place, Ontario on Wednesday, September 11, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.</li><li>• Receive R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts on his first visit to St. John's Lodge #63.</li><li>• Ballot to be passed for Initiation of Mr. Gabriel Leclerc, recommended by V. W. Bro. Shawn Todd and Bro. Steve Lawson.</li><li>• Past Masters Appreciation Night.</li></ul>
Emergent	September 28, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brethren: By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned, and visitors are cordially invited, to attend an Emergent Meeting of St. John's Lodge at the Carleton Place Masonic Temple, 55 Bridge Street Carleton Place, Ontario on Saturday, September 28, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.</li><li>• First Degree for Mr. Ryan Colclough.</li></ul>
Regular	October 9, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brethren: By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned, and visitors are cordially invited, to attend a Regular Meeting of St. John's Lodge at the Carleton Place Masonic Temple, 55 Bridge Street Carleton Place, Ontario on Wednesday, October 9, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.</li><li>• Receive R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, DDGM, on his Official Visit to St. John's Lodge No. 63.</li><li>• Masonic Education.</li><li>• To Ballot on an Application for Affiliation from Bro. Prescott James. Recommended by Bro. Alan Gschwind and W. Bro. Andrew Valley.</li></ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One**  
**2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To Ballot on an Application for Initiation from Mr. Cyrille Lombardo. Recommended by W. Bro. Chris Morrow and W. Bro. Andrew Valley.</li> </ul>
Emergent	October 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	November 13, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brethren: By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned, and visitors are cordially invited, to attend a Regular Meeting of St. John's Lodge at the Carleton Place Masonic Temple, 55 Bridge Street Carleton Place, Ontario on Wednesday, November 13, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.</li> <li>Visit To Sidney Albert Luke Lodge on Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.</li> </ul>
Regular	November 26, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brethren: By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned, and visitors are cordially invited, to attend a Regular Meeting of St. John's Lodge at the Carleton Place Masonic Temple, 55 Bridge Street Carleton Place, Ontario on Wednesday, November 26, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.</li> <li>Advance to the Third Degree.</li> <li><i>Note from the District Historian. I used the information from the Summons to complete this information. Based on what I read, St. John's Lodge held two Regular Meetings. See the Master's Message for additional details.</i></li> </ul>
Regular	December 11, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brethren: By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned, and visitors are cordially invited, to attend the following meeting(s) held at the Carleton Place Masonic Temple, 55 Bridge Street, Carleton Place, Ontario. Lodge Regular Meeting Wednesday, December 11, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.</li> <li>Ballot on an Application for Affiliation from Bro. Bro. Prescott James, recommended by Bro. Alan Gschwind and W. Bro. Andrew Valley.</li> <li>To Raise Bro. Alan Gschwind to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason.</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Emergent	December 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	January 8, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brethren: By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned, and visitors are cordially invited, to attend the next Regular Meeting of St. John's Lodge to be held at the Carleton Place Masonic Temple, 55 Bridge Street, Carleton Place, Ontario. Lodge Regular Meeting Wednesday, January 8, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.</li> <li>To Initiate Mr. Gabriel Leclerc and Mr. Cyrille Lombardo.</li> <li>To Ballot on Applications for Initiation received from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Duncan Rogers, sponsored by R.W. Bro. Ivan Bailey and V.W. Bro. Steve Kipp.</li> <li>Mr. Brayden Rogers, sponsored by R.W. Bro. Ivan Bailey and V.W. Bro. Steve Kipp.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Emergent	January 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	February 12, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brethren: By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned, and visitors are cordially invited to attend the next Regular Meeting of St. John's Lodge No. 63, held on Wednesday, February 12th, 2025 at the Carleton Place Masonic Temple, 55 Bridge Street, Carleton Place, Ontario.</li> <li>Masonic Education.</li> </ul>
Emergent	February 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	March 12, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brethren: By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned, and visitors are cordially invited to attend the next Regular Meeting of St. John's Lodge No. 63, held on Wednesday, March 12th, 2025, 7:30 p.m., at the Carleton Place Masonic Temple, 55 Bridge Street, Carleton Place, Ontario.</li> <li>To Initiate Mr. Duncan Rogers of Carleton Place into the secrets and hidden mysteries of Freemasonry.</li> </ul>



# District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To Initiate Mr. Braden Rogers of Carleton Place into the secrets and hidden mysteries of Freemasonry.</li> </ul>
Emergent	March 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	April 9, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brethren: By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned, and visitors are cordially invited to attend the next regular meeting of St. John's Lodge No. 63, held on Wednesday, March 12th, 2025, 7:30 p.m., at the Carleton Place Masonic Temple, 55 Bridge Street, Carleton Place, Ontario.</li> <li>Election of the Worshipful Master and Officers for the 2025-26 Masonic Year.</li> </ul>
Emergent	April 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	May 14, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brethren, By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned, and visitors are cordially invited to attend the next regular meeting of St. John's Lodge No. 63, held on Wednesday, May 14th, 2025, 7:30 p.m., at the Carleton Place Masonic Temple, 55 Bridge Street, Carleton Place, Ontario.</li> <li>Annual Installation of the Worshipful Master and Officers.</li> </ul>
Emergent	May 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>

\* "M" – minutes; "S" – summons. Some Lodges were reluctant to share their minutes outside of the Lodge. As a result, the historical summary was prepared from the Lodge Summons. Therefore, in some instances the information may not be entirely accurate as it is based on planned activities rather than the actual events that transpired. While the Summons records what the Lodge planned to do, numerous events can take place which prevents the planned from becoming the achieved – for example, a candidate may not be ready, principal officers are absent due to their public or private avocations, weather related snowstorms may result in the cancellation of a meeting etc., etc.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**St. John's Lodge No. 63 - Messages from the Worshipful Master**

**Regular Meeting Summons, September 11, 2024**

Brethren,

I would like to officially welcome you back and we will be starting the year with an exciting event.

We are going to hold a "Past Masters Appreciation Night" to celebrate all our past masters who have contributed countless hours to make a great Lodge. The evening will consist of an early festive board enjoying a nice supper and a few surprises. If all Past Masters were able to attend it would be a milestone for St. John's lodge. The DDGM will be in attendance. I intend to have a photo taken to commemorate the evening.

We are bringing back the Lodge family picnic this year. Always a great event to meet for a great BBQ and see friends we have missed over the summer. Circle the date of September 8th (add time and location here) on your calendars. As event planning is always difficult, please contact the Junior Warden if you know you are attending. If it is the last minute that's OK, we'd still love to see you.

We are participating in "Doors Opens Carleton Place" on Saturday, September 14th from 10 am. to 4 pm. and require some volunteers to assist with answering the public's questions. If we can have a commitment of 2hrs, it shares the effort over many shoulders. Please contact the Junior Warden or Lodge Secretary.

That's not all. We have a new candidate who we will initiate into Masonry at an emergent meeting September 28th. If you have some time Saturday morning, come support our newest Brother and our officers. To all involved, practice dates are Sept. 15 and Sept. 22, at 7pm.

Please note that our first CGP meeting will occur on Tuesday September 3rd, at 7:30 due to the Labour Day holiday.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W. Bro. Chris Morrow,

Worshipful Master, St. John's Lodge No. 63

**Regular Meeting Summons, October 9, 2024**

Brethren,

We kicked off our Masonic year with our summer BBQ. It was a great time for friends and family. I discovered a new way to butter corn on the cob whose invention is credited to our late Bro. Taggard. Very ingenious!

Our September meeting was an outstanding success with us honouring the Past Masters of St. John's Lodge. Many of our Past Masters were in attendance and were provided with an excellent talk from R.W. Bro. Bayley and our current DDGM, R. W. Bro. Roberts. Our Past Masters were gifted a stein with their Masonic year etched on the back which I hope they enjoy filled with their favourite libation.

For those Masters who could not attend, you are not forgotten, and your gift is available in the Lodge. These steins are also available for purchase with 100% of profits going to support the district charity.

Additionally, we returned the time capsule with our historical updates for future Masons to rediscover. A very special evening for all.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
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We also participated in “Doors Open Carleton Place” and am pleased to report we had many members come to support the day. It had a good turnout as we had 137 guests visit us, all very curious.

October is always a special time at St. John’s as we welcome our DDGM R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts on his official visit. Join us for a great catered meal and Masonic education provided by its members.

Moving forward this fall we have a busy schedule of new candidates and degree work. I am looking forward to your continued support.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W. Bro. Chris Morrow,

Worshipful Master, St. John’s Lodge No. 63

**Regular Meeting Summons, November 13, 2024**

Brethren,

October was a wonderful evening as we welcomed our DDGM R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts on his official visit. We had a good attendance with great food and even managed to slide in a birthday cake.

We held a Masonic Service for our Brother W. Bro. James McIsaac who passed to the grand lodge above, in October. The service was held in our lodge room for friends and family.

As we do each year, we will be placing a wreath of remembrance, both in Carleton Place, and in Beckwith. I encourage all who participate in person to come join our Brothers in this act of honour and respect.

In support of our Brothers at Sidney Albert Luke Lodge No. 558, we will be visiting (Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, Ontario) on Nov. 13th which is our normal meeting night and their DDGM official visit. Meeting time is 7:00pm. This will be a very special and rare occasion for all of us. It would be nice to see as good participation from St. John’s as we have at our scheduled meetings. A carpool will be arranged from various locations. More information will be provided closer to the date.

Please note that our regular meeting will take place in November. 26th, at 7:30. At this meeting we will demonstrate our lodge proficiency to the DDGM by going to the third degree and collecting the necessary information from the brothers. This will satisfy the Grand Lodge requirements for the year.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W. Bro. Chris Morrow,

Worshipful Master, St. John’s Lodge No. 63

**Regular Meeting Summons, December 11, 2024**

Brethren,

In November we were fortunate to visit Sidney Albert Luke Lodge on their “official visit” evening. To my knowledge and recollection that has never been done as they meet the same evening as St. John’s. We had a great turn out and the members of SAL were very appreciative of our attendance.

This month we will be performing a third degree for a brother who joined us during the pandemic. It is a testament to his patience that he is still with us.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
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Our annual Christmas party will take place this month, and I look forward to seeing everyone. If you have not been to lodge recently, here is a great opportunity to come and bread some bread with us in the spirit of the holidays.

As the fall colors give way to the snow and cold of winter and our outside activities move inside, we throw another log on the fire as the thermometer dips. December tends to be a busy time for most. Preparing for the holidays and the gathering of friends and family, we rush in anticipation of seeing those we have missed during the past year.

During this time, I would like you to give thought to those less fortunate. The lonely widow, the family who struggles to put food on the table or give a small present for their children. As Masons, one of our underlying principles is charity. Remember your first introduction to Masonry. You were asked to give, but you had nothing.

Charity comes in many forms. Perhaps you have time to volunteer at a food bank or soup kitchen. Maybe you prefer to make a financial contribution or food donation. Whichever you choose, please spend some time thinking about how you can incorporate charity into your holiday plans.

Wishing you the best this holiday season.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W. Bro. Chris Morrow,

Worshipful Master, St. John's Lodge No. 63

**Regular Meeting Summons, January 8, 2025**

Brethren,

December saw the Lodge perform a very successful Third Degree for Brother Gschwind with a great soup/stew provided by our Junior Warden. We also had the opportunity to welcome the Travelling Gavel delivered by W. Bro. Colin Mackenzie and the Brothers of Hazeldean Lodge No. 517.

On the social side, we had a wonderful Christmas Dinner hosted by the Carleton Place Legion. The event was well attended and it was nice to see us come together with our ladies.

Thanks to Bro. Dorland who spearheaded the donation to the CPDMH Foundation. This has always been a cause that St. John's has supported, so thank all of you for the continued support.

Special thanks to Bro. Forsyth who ran a very successful food drive on behalf of the Lanark County Food Bank in Carleton Place.

January has us beginning early with a double First Degree. It is nice to see a renewed interest in Masonry after a difficult couple of years. On January 15, 2025 we will be travelling to Edinburgh Defenders Lodge No. 590 to deliver the Travelling Gavel to W. Bro. Robert Bryce. They tyle at 7:30 at 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa.

With Christmas behind us, and the New Year ahead, I would like to say "Thank You" for your support. It has been very appreciated.

Wishing you the best this Holiday Season and for the New Year.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W. Bro. Chris Morrow,

Worshipful Master, St. John's Lodge No. 63

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Regular Meeting Summons, February 12, 2025**

Brethren,

I would begin this month with welcoming our newest members to St. John's, Bro. Gabriel Leclerc and Bro. Cyrille Lombardo. The First Degree was held in January and was extremely well performed by members and guests.

Later that month we presented the Traveling Gavel to W. Bro. Bryce and Edinburgh Defenders Lodge No. 590 with a good number in attendance.

With the wrath of winter clearly upon us, sometimes it may be difficult to put on the suit, warm up the car, and attend Lodge or visit another. At these times it's important to remember that we are Masons all year and not just when the weather is warm and sunny. I would encourage you this month to visit a lodge which perhaps is new to you.

Looking forward to seeing you in February.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W. Bro. Chris Morrow,

Worshipful Master, St. John's Lodge No. 63

**Regular Meeting Summons, March 12, 2025**

Brethren,

We had a wonderful visit to Mississippi Lodge last month with V.W. Bro. Gord Echlin and R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts providing Masonic Education during the DDGM's Official Visit. Thanks to all that came out to support Brother Echlin.

March brings us back to some Degree work. This will be the last opportunity this spring to see a First Degree at St. John's, so all visitors are welcome. Note that the festive board will be held before the meeting at 6:30pm.

Lodge elections and installation are a few months away and I am encouraged by the new faces we have welcomed to St. John's this year. It is a good sign of the health of our lodge. I would strongly encourage current members to strongly support our Brothers both with education, visitation, and friendship. It is our responsibility to them as we have been supported.

Please mark on your calendar's the March official visits,

Mar 4th, Goodwood Lodge No. 159 (Tyle 7:30pm),

Mar 5th Edinburgh Defenders Lodge (Tyle 7pm),

Mar 28th Prince of Wales Lodge (Tile 7:30)

Please try to join us on these dates to support our Lodge and DDGM.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W. Bro. Chris Morrow

Worshipful Master St. John's Lodge No. 63

**Regular Meeting Summons, April 9, 2025**

Brethren,

March brought us an opportunity to hold a double First Degree for a father and son. Mr. Duncan and Braden Rogers who were Initiated at the same meeting. Indeed, it is a very rare event in Masonry. I would like to welcome our two newest Members. The quality of the Degree Team was excellent, with our new E.A.'s Bro. Colclough and Bro. Lombardo contributing to the Degree in perfect fashion.

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I had the opportunity to visit Edinburgh Defenders Lodge on their Official Visit and witnessed a Third Degree which was very well performed.

April brings spring and with it Lodge elections. With our new "Master Elect" waiting in the wings, I reflect on my year. It really does pass quickly as many say. It seems we are entering very uncertain times. Some aspects of life, many of us took for granted, seem less certain. I would encourage all of us to come together for our country and Masonry. Support local business and Canada to remain "strong and free". Something to think about as we end each meeting

Please mark on your calendars the April Official Visits. April 21, 2025, Russell Lodge (Tyle 7:30pm). Please try to join us on that date to support our Lodge and the DDGM.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W. Bro. Chris Morrow

Worshipful Master St. John's Lodge No. 63

**Regular Meeting Summons, May 14, 2025**

Brethren,

I would like to begin by congratulating W. Bro. Corey Snow, Master Elect for the coming Masonic Year as well as the new Officers of St. John's. I hope you enjoy the new roles and responsibilities. Please support W. Bro. Snow as you have supported me.

I am pleased to announce that St. John's has qualified for our CornerStone Lodge Certification and "thank you" to all that have contributed. We resurrected the CornerStone program in 2022 and I am proud that we have continued to qualify each year.

The annual six lodge visitation night was Thursday, April 24th, Lost Villages Lodge No. 256, 11 Memorial Square, Ingleside ON. It was a great evening of fellowship.

As this is my last message as your Worshipful Master, I would like to convey my great appreciation to all that have helped me throughout the past year. We had some degree work, education and fun this past year. Time seems to pass quickly sitting in the East.

We have had a very successful year with five new members joining our Lodge. This bodes well for our Lodge and the health of Masonry in general. It has been a very rewarding experience, and I look forward to becoming the Immediate Past Master for St. John's.

Installation will take place in our May 14th meeting, and I am looking forward to seeing you all there as we begin a new Masonic year.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W. Bro. Chris Morrow

Worshipful Master St. John's Lodge No. 63



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**St. John's Lodge No. 63 - Select Photos**



Travelling Gavel from Hazeldean Lodge to St. John's Lodge on December 11, 2024



St. John's Lodge Installation on May 14, 2025

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Mississippi Lodge No. 147, GRC In The Province Of Ontario - Instituted  
1861**

Summary of Events – Masonic Year 2024-25  
Meets the third Thursday of each Month except June, July & August

**Mississippi Lodge No. 147 - Summary of Events**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	September 19, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned and Brother Masons of other lodges are cordially invited to attend the regular meeting of Mississippi Lodge No. 147, being held in the lodge room, 34A Mill Street, Almonte, Ontario on Thursday, September 19, 2024 at 7:30 P.M.</li><li>• General Lodge business.</li></ul>
Emergent	September, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No meeting was held.</li></ul>
Regular	October 17, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned and Brother Masons of other lodges are cordially invited to attend the regular meeting of Mississippi Lodge No. 147, being held in the lodge room, 34A Mill Street, Almonte, Ontario on Thursday, October 17, 2024 at 7:30 P.M.</li><li>• Pending a favourable report of inquiry on the application of Mr. William Affleck, sponsored by R.W. Bro. Tony St. Dennis and Bro. John L. Fulton, and receiving confirmation from G.L., a ballot will be held.</li><li>• Bro. Gerry Murphy to be passed to the Second Degree.</li></ul>
Emergent	October, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No meeting was held.</li></ul>
Regular	November 21, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned and Brother Masons of other lodges are cordially invited to attend the regular meeting of Mississippi Lodge No. 147, being held in the lodge room, 34A Mill Street, Almonte, Ontario on Thursday, November 21st, 2024 at 7:30 P.M.</li></ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Observation of Remembrance Day</li> <li>• Pending a favourable report of inquiry on the application of Mr. William Affleck, sponsored by R.W. Bro. Tony St. Dennis and Bro. John L. Fulton, and receiving confirmation from G.L., a ballot will be held.</li> <li>• Bro. Ian Frost will be raised to the Third Degree.</li> </ul>
Emergent	November, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Emergent	December 17, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend an Emergent meeting of Mississippi Lodge No. 147, being held in the lodge room, 34A Mill Street, Almonte, Ontario on Tuesday, December 17th, 2024 at 7:30 P.M..</li> <li>• Raising Bro. Jerry Murphy to the 3rd degree.</li> </ul>
Regular	December 19, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned and Brother Masons of other lodges are cordially invited to attend the regular meeting of Mississippi Lodge No. 147, being held in the lodge room, 34A Mill Street, Almonte, Ontario on Thursday, December 19th, 2024 at 6:30 P.M.</li> <li>• Opening and Closing the Lodge.</li> </ul>
Regular	January 16, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned and Brother Masons of other lodges are cordially invited to attend the regular meeting of Mississippi Lodge No. 147, being held in the lodge room, 34A Mill Street, Almonte, Ontario on Thursday, January 16th, 2025 at 7:30 P.M.</li> <li>• Ceremony of Initiation for Mr. William Affleck.</li> </ul>
Emergent	January 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	February 20, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother:</li> <li>• By order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned and Brother Masons of</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>other lodges are cordially invited to attend the regular meeting of Mississippi Lodge No. 147, being held in the lodge room, 34A Mill Street, Almonte, Ontario on Thursday, February 20th, 2025 at 7:30 P.M.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcoming the DDGM on his Official Visit to the Lodge</li> <li>• Masonic Education: Freemasonry and Society Today.</li> </ul>
Emergent	February 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	March 20, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned and Brother Masons of other lodges are cordially invited to attend the regular meeting of Mississippi Lodge No. 147, being held in the lodge room, 34A Mill Street, Almonte, Ontario on Thursday, March 20th, 2025 at 7:30 P.M.</li> <li>• Pending a favourable report from the Committee of Enquiry, and already having been cleared by Grand Lodge, we will ballot on the application for Initiation from Mr. Allen Holman, sponsored by W. Bro. Tom Adam and the W.M., W. Bro. Gord Echlin.</li> <li>• Passing Bro. Gerry Nault to the Second Degree.</li> <li>• Proving Bro's. Kulvir Bains, Ian Frost and Gerry Murphy in the Third Degree.</li> </ul>
Emergent	March, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held</li> </ul>
Regular	April 17, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned and Brother Masons of other lodges are cordially invited to attend the regular meeting of Mississippi Lodge No. 147, being held in the lodge room, 34A Mill Street, Almonte, Ontario on Thursday, April 17th, 2025 at 7:00 P.M.</li> <li>• Mr. William Affleck and Mr. Allen Holman will be initiated into the First Degree of Freemasonry.</li> </ul>



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lodge elections will be conducted.</li> </ul>
Emergent	April 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	May 15, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother: By order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned and Brother Masons of other lodges are cordially invited to attend the regular meeting of Mississippi Lodge No. 147, being held in the lodge room, 34A Mill Street, Almonte, Ontario on Thursday, May 15th, 2025 at 7:00 P.M.</li> <li>Investiture of Officers. The Installing Master for the Investiture is R.W. Bro. Tony St. Dennis.</li> </ul>
Emergent	May 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>

\* "M" – minutes; "S" – summons. Some Lodges were reluctant to share their minutes outside of the Lodge. As a result, the historical summary was prepared from the Lodge Summons. Therefore, in some instances the information may not be entirely accurate as it is based on planned activities rather than the actual events that transpired. While the Summons records what the Lodge planned to do, numerous events can take place which prevents the planned from becoming the achieved – for example, a candidate may not be ready, principal officers are absent due to their public or private avocations, weather related snowstorms may result in the cancellation of a meeting etc., etc.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Mississippi Lodge No. 147 - Messages from the Worshipful Master**

**Regular Meeting Summons, September 19, 2024**

It has been a very busy masonic summer. We have participated in several public events (Celtfest, Puppets UP, Highland Games and the Mississippi Mills Open House). We have had mentor meetings every week (thanks to V.W. Bro. Tony St. Dennis et. Al.), with surprising participation that includes the mentees as well as senior members.

This month, we are starting out with a de-rust night as we are going up to the 3rd to prove our stewards. That can get the cobwebs out so please take advantage of the opportunity. It is also important to note that an important Mississippi legacy as one of the anchor lodges for Maple-Granite Chapter 61 Royal Arch Masons is being celebrated by the Chapter having its 150th anniversary re-consecration in our Temple in October. We will have a discussion about that in the meeting. We will also celebrate some of our long term members with years of service pins. With Covid we fell behind on this practice but we're going to really work to bring it back on a monthly basis

Last, but not least, R.W. Bro. Barry Burchill was once again deservedly appointed to the Board of General Purposes. What an accomplishment!

Welcome back Brethren! I am so enthused about being a part of this Lodge!

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W. Bro. Gord Echlin, Worshipful Master

**Regular Meeting Summons, October 17, 2024**

We had a core team turn out in September for a very nice proving of Bro. Greg Donaldson. He did an outstanding job, and we're very happy to see him join the ranks of the officers.

This was a testimony to the hard work R.W. Bro. Tony St. Dennis and his dedicated students and allies have put in over the summer. I am expecting that more of us are going to see the fruits of these labours when we pass Bros. Gerry Murphy, Chris Sibley and Gerry Nault this month. Please come out and enjoy participating and watching these degrees.

Sincerely and Fraternally

W. Bro. Gord Echlin, Worshipful Master

**Regular Meeting Summons, November 21, 2024**

We had a solid October receiving the Travelling Gavel from Civil Service lodge and then passing Brother Gerry Murphy to the 2nd degree. We also passed Brother Chris Sibley in an emergent on the 26th. The degrees were both well done, with some obvious improvement by the team from one to the other. I had to get over the early jitters.

We will be delivering the Travelling Gavel to Temple Lodge on November 5th. Hopefully we can match the numbers that Civil Service Lodge graced us with.

November is a month where we will be marking the sacrifices made by those who have and still serve in our armed services to protect our freedom and represent our values around the globe. Unfortunately it's beyond my cabletow to attend the service on Nov 11 at the Cenotaph but I encourage whomever can to be there in regalia. We will also be fittingly conferring the third degree on Brother Ian Frost. I trust that we will show up in goodly numbers to support him on his raising.



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Sincerely and Fraternally,  
W. Bro. Gordon Echlin

**Emergent Meeting Summons, December 17, 2024**

We're about to confer our 4th degree this year, and 2nd third. Very exciting. I think we did quite well in our first time around for Bro. Frost, so now we're all practiced up and ready to go. I can tell you it's great to work with this team, and looking forward to January and our first initiation of the year. But in the meantime, Bro. Murphy has done a fabulous job progressing from being passed to being prepared for the third degree, and we shall reward that enthusiasm by moving him forward.

Sincerely and Fraternally, Gord Echlin  
Worshipful Master

**Regular Meeting Summons, December 19, 2024**

Brethren,

Hard to believe that it is Christmas already! It's been a very busy year so far, with 3 and almost 4 degrees in the bag, lots of visitation, the travelling gavel. Not to mention a summer of community participation. We can now look forward to a nice little break and enjoying our annual potluck tradition with our significant others. Don't worry, we'll be right back at it in January.

Sincerely and Fraternally,  
W. Bro. Gordon Echlin

**Regular Meeting Summons, January 16, 2025**

Brethren,

Happy New Year to all.

I hope you were able to enjoy a short break at the end of the year. Certainly we have been very busy and productive so far, with some excellent degrees conferred. I am very proud of the work that everybody has put in so far, both ritually and in community activities.

Given the business of the fall, I am planning to shift gears a little bit for the new year, and slow down the degrees. I am only planning a 1st degree in our January meeting and another degree in March, to be determined. Otherwise, we will focus on more education and variety in our meetings. Unless you are all addicted to degrees now.

Sincerely and Fraternally,  
W. Bro. Gordon Echlin

**Regular Meeting Summons, February 20, 2025**

Brethren

I hope that everybody enjoyed our exemplification of the First degree with complementary pauses for education. I certainly had fun, and I think the four Entered Apprentices who participated, and perhaps some older Masons, learned some things. Of course our real candidate did not work out, but we made lemonade out of lemons. Now we may be doing a double first in April. Mississippi Lodge is action central!

This month we are welcoming R.W. Brother Sam Roberts, DDGM of Ottawa District 1 on his Official Visit. We'll make it brief, there will be some education from me, and then

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

we'll have a nice social banquet courtesy of our awesome Junior Warden and Senior Steward.

Lastly, I would like to mention that Maple-Granite Chapter 61 will be having a Master Mason night on their regular meeting night on March 5th in the Carleton Place Masonic Temple. The Chapter will call off, give some education, and then there will be a dinner. For those not familiar with the Royal Arch, it's a good opportunity to learn more. It has a unique position as the completion of the third degree.

Sincerely and Fraternally,  
W. Bro. Gordon Echlin

**Regular Meeting Summons, March 20, 2025**

Brethren:

What a DDGM night we had! Good turnout of lodge members and visitors, and great camaraderie over an excellent meal, thanks to the extraordinary efforts of Brother Greg Donaldson and Brother Stephane Bourre ... and of course there was Lorraine Sadler's pies. We also had a really fabulous contribution to the charity plate, which we will contribute to the DDGM's charity, a cause that really supports us all.

The theme of the DDGM's final words hit right on target for the fundamental purpose of Freemasonry: alignment in perfect trust with people of like minds, to the betterment of all society. I couldn't agree more!

This month we will be conferring the second degree on Brother Gerry Nault. We will also be proving Bro's Kulvir Bains, Ian Frost and Gerry Murphy in the 3rd degree. In April we will be welcoming our first new member this year, and pending a successful investigation and ballot, that is very likely to become a double first. We are growing!

Finally, I am very encouraged by the work that Brother Donaldson has been doing in pursuit of a replacement carpet. The results are very exciting from a cost perspective. Another important goal upon which we are focusing.

W. Bro. Gordon Echlin

**Regular Meeting Summons, April 17, 2025**

Brethren

Bro. Kulvir Bains, Bro. Gerry Murphy and Bro. Ian Frost have now proven their proficiency in the Third Degree, and they were amazing. I cannot recall watching three Master Masons all prove themselves with such confidence and so expertly. It is a testimony to the work that they have put in, and the ongoing efforts of our mentor team, led by R.W. Bro. Tony St. Dennis (with many others helping out). Bro. Gerry Murphy and Bro. Ian Frost even lent themselves to assist by asking the questions.

This month we are going to keep our momentum up by initiating two more members, Mr. William Affleck and Mr. Chris Holman, both young men who will add to the vibrancy of Mississipp 147. Please come out and show these young men the energy of our Lodge.

This month we will also hold our elections for our Officers next year. Be sure you come out to participate in this and make your voice known in the direction of our Lodge. Finally, under the stewardship of our Junior Steward Greg Donaldson, we continue to move forward to finding a replacement for our old carpet that will be worthy of the

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

beauty of the current one. We hope it will be as close as possible to the original as possible, to maintain the comfort and familiarity of our home.

Sincerely and fraternally,  
W. Bro. Gordon Echlin.

**Regular Meeting Summons, May 15, 2025**

Brethren,

We're wrapping up what was a pretty busy year, with the investiture of the Officers for 2025/2026. No installation, as you were all foolish enough to vote me in again. Other than that questionable decision ... what a great meeting we had in April, welcoming Brother William Affleck and Brother Allen Holman to our Lodge and our Fraternity. In all seriousness, back to the election, Brethren I am honoured by your confidence in my ability to serve you once again as Worshipful Master. I am looking forward to working with the rest of the Officer team next year.

I would like to look forward to the summer and discuss what community activities we might participate in. We had some good interaction last year, but maybe there are other things to do, or a different way of doing it. I'm eager to hear your opinions.

Sincerely and fraternally,  
W. Bro. Gordon Echlin

**Mississippi Lodge No. 147 - Select Photos**

No photos were provided.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Civil Service Lodge No. 148, GRC In The Province Of Ontario - Instituted  
1861**

Summary of Events – Masonic Year 2024-25  
Meets the second Tuesday of each Month except June, July & August

**Civil Service Lodge No. 148 - Summary of Events**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	September 10, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the duties of the Lodge at a Regular Meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 10th, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. in Lodge Room No. 1, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa.</li><li>• To conduct a Ballot on Applicant James Matthew Forgie.</li><li>• To receive a report on the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge - July 2024.</li><li>• Bro. Jason Barichello will Prove himself in the Master Masons Degree.</li></ul>
Emergent	September 24, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the duties of the Lodge at an Emergent Meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 24th, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. in Lodge Room No. 1, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa.</li><li>• To Raise Bro. Roch Seguin to the Master Masons Degree.</li></ul>
Regular	October 8, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the duties of the Lodge at a Regular Meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 8th, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. in Lodge Room No. 1, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa.</li><li>• To Receive the Travelling Gavel from Goodwood Lodge No. 159.</li><li>• To confer the Entered Apprentice Degree on Mr. Matthew Forgie.</li></ul>
Emergent	October 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No meeting was held.</li></ul>
Regular	November 12, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the duties of</li></ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>the Lodge at a Regular Meeting to be held on Tuesday, November 12th, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. in Lodge Room No. 1, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To Conduct a Ballot on applicant Mr. Ghassan Badri Aba. Recommended by V.W. Bro. George Chaiban &amp; Bro. Robbie David</li> <li>• Masonic Education.</li> </ul>
Emergent	November 26, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the duties of the Lodge at an Emergent Meeting to be held on Tuesday, November 26th, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. in Lodge Room No. 2, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa.</li> <li>• To confer the Entered Apprentice Degree on an eligible Applicant.</li> </ul>
Regular	December 10, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the duties of the Lodge at an Emergent Meeting to be held on Tuesday, December 10th, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. in Lodge Room No. 2, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa.</li> <li>• To confer the Fellow Craft Degree on Bro. James Armstrong.</li> </ul>
Emergent	December 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CANCELLED. However, we will attend St. Andrew's Lodge for the DDGM's Official Visit, which Tyles promptly at 7:00 P.M.</li> </ul>
Regular	January 14, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the duties of the Lodge at a Regular Meeting to be held on Tuesday, January 14th, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. in Lodge Room No. 1, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa.</li> <li>• Masonic Education.</li> </ul>
Emergent	January 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	February 11, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the duties of the Lodge at a Regular Meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 11th, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>Lodge Room No. 1, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To receive R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts District Deputy Grand Master on his Official Visit.</li> <li>• Brother Roch Seguin will Prove himself in the Master Masons Degree.</li> <li>• Masonic Education.</li> </ul>
Emergent	February 27, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	March 11, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the duties of the Lodge at a Regular Meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 11th, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in Lodge Room No. 1, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa.</li> <li>• To Conduct a Ballot on an Application for Initiation, received from Mr. Boutros Assaf and recommended by W. Bro. Anwar Ibrahim &amp; Bro. Adoni Farah.</li> <li>• To confer the Fellow Craft Degree on Bro. Matthew Forgie</li> </ul>
Emergent	March 20, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our Worshipful Master Bro. Sam Himyary requests your Attendance for an Official visit to St. Andrew's Lodge on March 20, 2025 for a Second Degree ceremony at the Walkley Rd Temple.</li> </ul>
Regular	April 8, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the duties of the Lodge at a Regular Meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 8th, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in Lodge Room No. 1, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa.</li> <li>• To elect the Worshipful Master, Officers and Representatives for the 2025-2026 Masonic year.</li> <li>• To Confer the Master Mason degree on Bro. Elias Ibrahim.</li> </ul>
Emergent	April 22, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the duties of the Lodge at an Emergent Meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 22nd, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in</li> </ul>



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>Lodge Room No. 2, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conduct an Entered Apprentice Degree on Mr. Boutros Assaf by a team of Step-up Officers under the direction of Bro. Adoni Farah.</li> </ul>
Regular	May 13, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the duties of the Lodge at a Regular Meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 13th, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in Lodge Room No. 1, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa.</li> <li>Ceremony of Installation of the Worshipful Master Elect Bro. Adoni Farah and the Investiture of Officers for the year 2025 – 2026 by a team of Past Masters and Brethren under the direction of V.W. Bro. George Chaiban.</li> </ul>
Emergent	May 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>

\* "M" – minutes; "S" – summons. Some Lodges were reluctant to share their minutes outside of the Lodge. As a result, the historical summary was prepared from the Lodge Summons. Therefore, in some instances the information may not be entirely accurate as it is based on planned activities rather than the actual events that transpired. While the Summons records what the Lodge planned to do, numerous events can take place which prevents the planned from becoming the achieved – for example, a candidate may not be ready, principal officers are absent due to their public or private avocations, weather related snowstorms may result in the cancellation of a meeting etc., etc.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Civil Service Lodge No. 148 - Messages from the Worshipful Master**

**Regular Meeting Summons, September 10, 2024**

Greetings Brethren

Hope you all had a good summer! I know it was short but as it comes to an end we get excited by the leaves changing colours as well as the return to Lodge and reconnecting with our Brethren. I am grateful to the gatherings and conversations we had during the summer and looking forward to building on it in the incoming Masonic year.

We should be proud to see many of you at the District Meeting in August and the Brother-to-Brother events. You are leading by example. We will start this year by proving Bro. Barichello at the regular meeting in September then raise Bro. Seguin at the emergent meeting in September.

We have a fun and busy year ahead of us.

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

S & F

W. Bro. Sam Himyary

**Regular Meeting Summons, October 8, 2024**

Brethren.

October is a particularly special month this year as we will be receiving the Travelling Gavel from Goodwood Lodge on October 8th, a moment made even more significant by the attendance of our DDGM. On this same evening, we will also have the honour of initiating Mr. Forgie into our lodge and welcoming him into our Craft.

We encourage full participation from all, as this is a unique opportunity to reaffirm the bonds that unite us as Masons. Additionally, we aim to assemble a perfect number of brethren to deliver the Travelling Gavel to Mississippi Lodge on October 17th, continuing this cherished tradition of fellowship and visitation.

As you know, the Masonic Travelling Gavel is more than just a symbol; it embodies the unity that binds us as a brotherhood across lodges. It encourages us to strengthen our fraternal ties, reminding us that the essence of Freemasonry transcends the walls of any single lodge.

Let's embrace this tradition with full enthusiasm and make the most of it this year!

S & F

W. Bro. Sam Himyary

**Regular Meeting Summons, November 12, 2024**

Dear brethren,

As we approach this meaningful time of year, we're reminded of the importance of reflection, gratitude, and unity. November brings two significant observances: Remembrance Day on November 11th in Canada, and Thanksgiving later in the month in the United States.

On Remembrance Day, we honour and remember the sacrifices of our veterans, current members of the armed forces, and their families. This day is a solemn reminder of the courage and dedication of those who have served, protecting the

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

freedoms we hold dear. We invite you to take a moment of silence with us at the eleventh hour on the eleventh day to honour these brave individuals.

Later in the month, our American brethren and friends celebrate Thanksgiving. This holiday is a time to gather, share, and express gratitude for the blessings we enjoy and the bonds we cherish. In the spirit of friendship and fellowship, let us all take a moment to reflect on the positive things in our lives and to reach out to those who may need an extra measure of kindness and support.

As always, we are grateful for each of you and for the sense of community and mutual respect that makes Civil Service Lodge a family. May this season bring peace, gratitude, and warmth to you and your loved ones.

S & F

W. Bro. Sam Himyary

**Regular Meeting Summons, December 10, 2024**

Dear Brethren,

As we enter the festive season, let us reflect on the values that unite us as Masons—charity, brotherly love, and kindness. This time of year calls us to not only give to those in need but also to reach out to one another, strengthening the bonds of fellowship that define our fraternity.

Let the spirit of Christmas inspire us to share kindness, offer support, and ensure that no Brother or family member feels alone during this season of joy. Together, let us carry the light of Freemasonry into our communities and homes, spreading hope and goodwill.

Wishing you and your families a joyous holiday season filled with warmth, peace, and love. Looking forward to seeing you all there!

S & F

W. Bro. Sam Himyary

**Regular Meeting Summons, January 14, 2025**

Dear Brethren,

Happy New Year! I hope this message finds you all in good health and high spirits. May this year bring you success, peace, and an abundance of brotherly love.

I trust you enjoyed a joyous holiday season surrounded by family and friends. As we step into this New Year, let us recommit to strengthening our bonds by reaching out, checking on one another, and approaching our endeavors with renewed energy and enthusiasm.

To kick off the year, we will be hosting an Education Night at our regular January meeting. This will be a wonderful opportunity to refresh our knowledge and deepen our understanding of the Craft while growing closer as brethren in our beloved fraternity.

I look forward to seeing you all at our meeting and continuing this journey together in harmony and fellowship.

S & F

W. Bro. Sam Himyary

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Regular Meeting Summons, February 11, 2025**

Greetings Brethren,

We have an exciting month ahead at our lodge!

This month, we will be hosting the annual official visit of the DDGM. The work of the evening will include proving Bro. Roch Séguin, along with valuable Masonic education. Following our meeting, we will enjoy our traditional Festive Board, featuring the renowned Feast from the East, led by Bro. Robbie David and our Middle Eastern brethren of Civil Service Lodge. Bro. David has been spearheading this event for over 40 years, and it promises to be another exceptional evening of fellowship and great food.

Additionally, I'm pleased to announce that our Friend-to-Friend Committee will be hosting a special event on March 1st. Stay tuned for further details from the committee.

I also encourage you to review the DDGM's official visit schedule and attend as many Lodge visits as possible. These visits are a wonderful opportunity to strengthen our brotherhood within our Lodge and across the district.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

S & F

W. Bro. Sam Himyary

**Regular Meeting Summons, March 11, 2025**

Brethren.

Traditionally at our Civil Service Lodge, we celebrate DDGM Night. This year, we achieved a record-breaking DDGM Night—a true highlight of the Masonic year under our Sitting Master's guidance. Following this success, we will begin next month by planning for the transition to the new team.

We also have a Friend-to-Friend event scheduled for March 1st. I encourage everyone to attend and support this initiative, ideally bringing along friends and family.

At our regular meeting in March, we will have the honor of advancing Brother Forgie to the Second Degree. I trust that his sponsors, along with the rest of our brethren, will ensure he is well prepared for this significant milestone.

Additionally, instead of convening an emergent meeting, we will be visiting St. Andrews Lodge on March 20th for their Second Degree ceremony. This visit is a wonderful opportunity to further strengthen our fraternal bonds.

Finally, as our lodge puts its name forward for the highest office in the district with V. Wor. Brother Chaiban, it is essential that we travel to enjoy our fraternity, show our support, and showcase the strength of our Lodge.

S & F

W. Bro. Sam Himyary

**Regular Meeting Summons, April 8, 2025**

Dear Brethren,

As we welcome the arrival of spring and the changing season, it is also time for our Lodge to prepare for the year ahead with the assembly of a new officer team for the upcoming Masonic year.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Our Regular meeting in April will include elections, and I strongly encourage all Brethren to make a sincere effort to attend and cast their vote. Regardless of rank, each member's vote carries equal importance - your presence matters.

That evening, we will also be conferring the sublime degree of a Master Mason upon Bro. Elias Ibrahim.

At our Emergent meeting, we will hold a Degree of Initiation for Mr. Boutros Assaf. This will be our step-up night, where the incoming officers will have the opportunity to lead the work.

Brethren, this is an exciting and meaningful time of year. Let us move forward together with constructive spirit and positive energy.

S & F

W. Bro. Sam Himyary

**Regular Meeting Summons, May 13, 2025**

MASTER'S MESSAGE

Brethren of Civil Service Lodge # 148

It has been a profound privilege to serve as your Worshipful Master this past year. Together we deepened our bonds of brotherhood, advanced our charitable efforts, and welcomed new Brethren into our Craft. I am grateful for the dedication of our Officers, the creativity of our Committee Chairs, and the support of every Brother whose presence and ideas strengthened our Lodge.

As I pass the torch to Bro. Adoni Farah, our incoming Master, I invite each of you to remain engaged—whether by participating in degree work, volunteering for community initiatives, or sharing your insights at our gatherings. Your involvement is the lifeblood of our fraternity and the foundation of our continued growth. When challenges arise, let us lean on each other with steadfast resolve and mutual support.

I have full confidence in Bro. Farah and our Line Officers to lead with wisdom, integrity, and unity. Their commitment to preserving our traditions while embracing fresh ideas will guide our Lodge toward an even brighter future

S & F

W. Bro. Sam Himyary

INCOMING MASTER'S MESSAGE

Brethren,

As we look towards the Installation and the beginning of a new Masonic year, I wish to express my sincere gratitude for the trust and confidence you have placed in me by electing me as your Worshipful Master.

I eagerly look forward to the year ahead, working together for the good of our Lodge. You have my commitment that I will do my very best to serve you and the lodge faithfully.

Sincerely & Fraternally,

Bro. Adoni Farah

District History, Ottawa District One  
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Civil Service Lodge No. 148 - Select Photos



DDGM, R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, Fraternal Visit to Civil Service Lodge on January 15, 2025



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Goodwood Lodge No. 159, GRC In The Province Of Ontario - Instituted  
1863**

Summary of Events – Masonic Year 2024-25

Meets the first Tuesday of each Month except July & August

**Goodwood Lodge No. 159 - Summary of Events**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	September 3, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, The Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Jim McConnell, hereby summons you to the Regular Meeting of Goodwood Lodge No. 159 on Tuesday, September 3, 2024 at 7:30pm</li><li>• To conduct a ballot.</li><li>• Masonic Education.</li></ul>
Emergent	September 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No meeting was held.</li></ul>
Regular	October 1, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, The Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Jim McConnell, hereby summons you to the Regular Meeting of Goodwood Lodge No. 159 on Tuesday, October 1, 2024 at 7:30pm.</li><li>• Receive the Travelling Gavel from Prince of Wales Lodge No. 371</li><li>• To Initiate Mr Tibet Akyurekli.</li></ul>
Emergent	October 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No meeting was held.</li></ul>
Regular	November 5, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, The Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Jim McConnell, hereby summons you to the Regular Meeting of Goodwood Lodge No. 159 on Tuesday, November 5, 2024 at 7:30pm.</li><li>• Ballot on Mr. Bryson Hancock.</li><li>• Conduct the Empty Chair Ceremony in honour of Remembrance Day.</li><li>• Masonic Education.</li></ul>
Emergent	November 27, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, The Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Jim McConnell, hereby summons you to an Emergent Meeting of Goodwood Lodge No. 159 on Wednesday, November 27, 2024 at 7:30pm.</li><li>• Third Degree for Bro Ayden Slade</li></ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	December 3, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, The Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Jim McConnell, hereby summons you to the Regular Meeting of Goodwood Lodge No. 159 on Tuesday, December 3, 2024 at 7:30pm.</li> <li>Attend our annual Christmas dinner at Richmond Gourmet Restaurant, 3518 McBean St.</li> </ul>
Emergent	December 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	January 7, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, The Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Jim McConnell, hereby summons you to the Regular Meeting of Goodwood Lodge No. 159 on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 7:30pm.</li> <li>Masonic Education.</li> </ul>
Emergent	January 30, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, The Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Jim McConnell, hereby summons you to an Emergent Meeting of Goodwood Lodge No. 159 on Thursday, January 30, 2025 at 7:30pm.</li> <li>To conduct a 1st degree.</li> </ul>
Regular	February 4, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, The Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Jim McConnell, hereby summons you to a Regular Meeting of Goodwood Lodge No. 159, on Tuesday, February 4th at 6:30 P.M.</li> <li>To conduct the business of the Lodge.</li> <li>To conduct a Fraternal Visit to Temple Lodge No. 665.</li> </ul>
Emergent	February 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	March 4, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, The Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Jim McConnell, hereby summons you to a Regular Meeting of Goodwood Lodge No. 159, on Tuesday, March 4th at 7:30 P.M.</li> <li>Fraternal visit from Temple Lodge No. 665.</li> <li>To receive the DDGM R.W. Bro Sam Roberts on his official visit.</li> <li>Masonic Education.</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Emergent	March 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	April 1, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, The Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Jim McConnell, hereby summons you to a Regular Meeting of Goodwood Lodge No. 159, on Tuesday, April 1st at 7:30 P.M.</li> <li>Confer a double Second Degree for Bro. Adebiyi and Bro. Akyurekli.</li> </ul>
Emergent	April 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	May 6, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother: The Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Jim McConnell, hereby summons you to a Regular Meeting of Goodwood Lodge on Tuesday, May 6th at 7:30 P.M.</li> <li>We will be holding Elections for Officers for the upcoming, 2025/2026 Masonic Year.</li> <li>Officer step-up night</li> <li>Third Degree proving.</li> </ul>
Emergent	May 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	June 3, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother: The Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Jim McConnell, hereby summons you to a Regular Meeting of Goodwood Lodge on Tuesday, June 3rd at 7:30 P.M.</li> <li>To Install the Worshipful Master and Principal Officers of Goodwood Lodge No. 159.</li> <li>To Appoint other Officers of Goodwood Lodge No. 159.</li> </ul>
Emergent	June, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>

\* "M" – minutes; "S" – summons. Some Lodges were reluctant to share their minutes outside of the Lodge. As a result, the historical summary was prepared from the Lodge Summons. Therefore, in some instances the information may not be entirely accurate as it is based on planned activities rather than the actual events that transpired. While the Summons records what the Lodge planned to do, numerous events can take place which prevents the planned from becoming the achieved – for example, a candidate may not be ready, principal officers are absent due to their public or private avocations, weather related snowstorms may result in the cancellation of a meeting etc., etc.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Goodwood Lodge No. 159 - Messages from the Worshipful Master**

**Regular Meeting Summons, September 2, 2024**

Where did the summer go?

As we are about to start our Masonic Year with a new slate of officers, let us all continue to support each other and the Lodge as we have done in the past. I look forward to supporting you all, and with regular attendance I am confident we will have a successful and fun year.

We have lost a brother but have grown with two new members on the books and more slated to join. I hope this continues for the foreseeable future for the benefit of the Lodge and for the Craft in general.

I hope to see you all come September 3rd to catch up on what happened over the summer.

S & F,

W. Bro. Jim McConnell,

Worshipful Master, Goodwood Lodge No.159

**Regular Meeting Summons, October 1, 2024**

Brethren,

I hope all is well as we continue to move forward. Some of our members have faced setbacks in life, and the heartfelt support shown by everyone has been truly uplifting. With our third practice for the degree on Tuesday, I trust we will demonstrate the same quality of work we've shown in the past. Let's continue to offer our humble support and dedication to our candidate, showing him how we've grown into better men through Masonry.

W. Bro. Jim McConnell,

Worshipful Master, Goodwood Lodge No.159

**Regular Meeting Summons, November 5, 2024**

Brethren, as we approach November it is time that we remember those who have given their lives for the freedom we have today. We must also remember those who continue the order so that we may enjoy friendship and brotherly love today and for the generations to come.

Brethren, also remember that the Goodwood Curling Bonspiel is approaching, get your teams together and let's bring home the trophy!

W. Bro. Jim McConnell,

Worshipful Master, Goodwood Lodge No.159

**Regular Meeting Summons, December 3, 2024**

From The Worshipful Master

Brethren, we've successfully completed two events recently, a B2B card night and the annual curling bonspiel. Both events were well-supported and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

With one degree already completed, an Emergent Third Degree coming up and another initiation in January, we're making great progress.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Next up is our annual Christmas Dinner. With December being a busy time of the year, let's take this opportunity to enjoy the final moments of 2024 together. 2025 will bring fresh challenges and we'll be ready to face them together.

For those traveling this holiday season, stay safe and have a joyful holiday season!

W. Bro. Jim McConnell,

Worshipful Master, Goodwood Lodge No.159

**Regular Meeting Summons, January 7, 2025**

From The Worshipful Master

Good day brethren. We just finished the festive season, and I am hoping everything was joyful and rewarding.

As we are starting the second half of the Masonic year, we have a 1st degree at the end of January for Mr. Bryson Hancock.

The next couple of months will be busy with fraternal visits and the official DDGM visit in March.

Let's show everyone support to the fraternity and enjoy our Masonic time together.

W. Bro. Jim McConnell,

Worshipful Master, Goodwood Lodge No.159

**Regular Meeting Summons, February 4, 2025**

From The Worshipful Master

Good day brethren, it's that time of year when we get to host our DDGM, R.W. Bro Sam Roberts on his official visit to Goodwood Lodge including current and past Grand Lodge Officers. We are also welcoming other Masters from the District and a delegation from Temple Lodge No 665 on their Fraternal visit. Let's all show how great it is to have these visitors to our lodge and show brotherly love to the fullest in this great fraternity.

As we are entering into the last quarter of the Masonic year, we need to continue to enjoy the remaining social events planned and each other's company. I am looking forward to the upcoming Second degree this April.

W. Bro. Jim McConnell,

Worshipful Master, Goodwood Lodge No.159

**Regular Meeting Summons, March 4, 2025**

Good day brethren,

It's that time of year when we get to host our DDGM, R.W. Bro Sam Roberts on his official visit to Goodwood Lodge including current and past Grand Lodge Officers. We are also welcoming other Masters from the District and a delegation from Temple Lodge No. 665 on their fraternal visit.

Let's all show how great it is to have these visitors to our Lodge and show brotherly love to the fullest in this great fraternity. As we are entering into the last quarter of the Masonic year, we need to continue to enjoy the remaining social events planned and each other's company. I am looking forward to the upcoming Second Degree this April.

W. Bro. Jim McConnell,

Worshipful Master, Goodwood Lodge No.159

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Regular Meeting Summons, April 1, 2025**

Greetings Brethren:

Our April meeting will be our last big work of the year until we Install the new Master for the 25/26 year in June.

Let's enjoy the time we have all spent together and keep Goodwood growing successfully. We are headed in the right direction in making Goodwood a place to come and enjoy. We have worked hard over the past years to keep it active and enjoyable for all. We are all looking forward to all the up-coming events.

Keep safe and healthy till we come together again.

W. Bro. Jim McConnell,

Worshipful Master, Goodwood Lodge No.159

**Regular Meeting Summons, May 6, 2025**

Brethren,

The time has almost come for me to step aside as Master of Goodwood Lodge. My time in King Solomons' chair improved as the year went on and I would like to thank the Brethren of Goodwood that have made my year memorable as Master. I would also like to thank all the Brethren that stood with me and helped make my experience as Master a remarkable one.

Knowing the active members and the possible Master Elect for 2025/2026 Masonic year, I know the Lodge is in good hands.

One last thanks to the Brethren for the privilege of being the Master of Goodwood Lodge and representing Goodwood throughout the district.

S & F,

W. Bro. Jim McConnell

Worshipful Master, Goodwood Lodge.

**Regular Meeting Summons, June 3, 2025**

Dear Brethren,

What a year we had, First, Second and Third Degrees. We have been on a slow steady climb and are headed in the right direction to become a strong healthy lodge.

For me, what a year but sadly it is coming to an end with only one more meeting. The support you have shown me, the pride in your work has been noticed and appreciated. I know that Bro. Joe Burchill will do a good job in bringing our lodge forward with great success.

To the young Brethren coming up in the degrees or chairs, enjoy the journey as I have. Congratu- lations to all the upcoming officers of Goodwood Lodge and I wish you the best in the upcoming Masonic year.

S & F,

W. Bro. Jim McConnell

Worshipful Master, Goodwood Lodge.



District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25

Goodwood Lodge No. 159 - Select Photos



Goodwood Lodge Meeting - September 3, 2024

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**



**Goodwood Lodge Meeting - October 1, 2024  
Initiation of Mr Tibet Akyurekli.**



**Goodwood Lodge Meeting - November 4, 2024  
Empty Chair Ceremony**



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**



Goodwood Lodge Emergent Meeting - January 30, 2025  
Initiation of Mr. Bryson Hancock

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**



**Goodwood Lodge Meeting - March 4, 2025  
Official Visit of the DDGM, R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts**



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**



Goodwood Lodge Meeting - April 1, 2025  
Confer a double Second Degree  
for Bro. Adebisi and Bro. Akyurekli

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**



**Goodwood Lodge Meeting - May 6, 2025  
Election of Officers for 2025-26 Masonic Year**



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Lodge of Fidelity No. 231, GRC In The Province Of Ontario - Instituted  
1870**

Summary of Events – Masonic Year 2024-25  
Meets the third Tuesday of each Month except June, July & August

**Lodge of Fidelity No. 231 - Summary of Events**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	September 17, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are hereby summoned, and visitors cordially invited to a Regular Meeting of Lodge of Fidelity No. 231, September 17th, 2024 at 2140 Walkley Rd., Ottawa at 7:30 PM.</li><li>• The Festive Board will commence before the meeting at 6:30 PM. All members who plan to attend must RSVP with the Junior Warden, V.W. Bro Ron Taylor. The cost is \$20.00.</li><li>• Investiture of the Tyler and Junior Warden.</li><li>• Balloting on the affiliations of:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Bro. Mark Kit Lo a member in good standing of Royal Sussex Lodge #501 UGLE (Hong Kong), sponsored by W. Bro. Jim Kent and V. W. Bro. Ron Taylor;</li><li>○ Brother Birol Saran a member in good standing of Lodge of Fidelity with the Grand Lodge of Turkey, sponsored by W. Bro Jim Kent and W. Bro David Peate.</li></ul></li><li>• The reinstatement of Steve Capello, demitted dues clear May 15, 2018.</li><li>• The passing of Bro. Aiden La Rusic to the Second Degree.</li></ul>
Emergent	September, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No meeting was held.</li></ul>
Regular	October 15, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are hereby summoned, and visitors cordially invited to a Regular Meeting of Lodge of Fidelity No. 231, October 15th, 2024 at 2140 Walkley Rd., Ottawa at 7:30 PM.</li><li>• The Festive Board will commence before the meeting at 6:00 PM. All members who plan to</li></ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>attend must RSVP with the Junior Warden, V.W. Bro Ron Taylor. The cost is \$20.00.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To receive the District Deputy Grand Master, R. W. Bro. Sam Roberts on his Official Visit.</li> <li>• Ballot on Mssrs. Steve Capello, Peter Jackson, Max Drobotiy and Joseph Dubois.</li> <li>• Raise Bro. Luwamah Senesi Jr. to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.</li> </ul>
Emergent	October 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	November 19, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are hereby summoned, and visitors cordially invited to a Regular Meeting of Lodge of Fidelity No. 231, November 19th, 2024 at 2140 Walkley Rd., Ottawa at 7:30 PM.</li> <li>• The work of the evening will be to Initiate Mr Joseph Dubois and Mr. Maksym Drobotiy.</li> <li>• There will also be balloting on Steve Capelo.</li> </ul>
Emergent	November 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Emergent	December 3, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are hereby summoned, and visitors cordially invited to an Emergent Meeting of Lodge of Fidelity No. 231, December 3rd, 2024 at 2140 Walkley Rd., Ottawa at 7:30 PM.</li> <li>• To initiate Mr. Peter Jackson into the mysteries and privileges of AF &amp; AM Masonry.</li> </ul>
Regular	December 17, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are hereby summoned, and visitors cordially invited to an Emergent Meeting of Lodge of Fidelity No. 231, December 17th, 2024 at 2140 Walkley Rd., Ottawa at 7:30 PM.</li> <li>• Our annual Festive Celebration.</li> </ul>
Regular	January 21, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brethren: Members are summoned and visitors are cordially invited by the Worshipful Master, to a Regular Meeting night on the 21st January 2025 - 7:30 PM at 2140 Walkley Road Ottawa.</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Raise an eligible Candidate to the 3rd Degree.</li> <li>● To Conduct a ballot for Mr. Charles Villyani Bokor. Initiated, Passed and Raised in Royalmount Lodge No. 117 Grand Lodge of Quebec. Demitted Dues Clear.</li> </ul>
Emergent	January 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	February 18, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dear Sir and Brethren: Members are Summoned and visitors are cordially invited by the Worshipful Master, regular Meeting of Lodge of Fidelity, Tuesday, February 18th 2025 at 7:30 PM in Lodge Room 1, Ottawa Masonic Centre 2140 Walkley Road. Festive board at 6:30 PM. Dress: Officers - tuxedo; Members-dark suit.</li> <li>● Ballot on Mr. Charles Villanyi Bokor pending a favourable investigating committee report and clearance from Grand Lodge.</li> <li>● To pass Bro. Peter Jackson to the second degree.</li> </ul>
Emergent	February 26, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● EMERGENT MEETING AT THE PERLEY VETERANS HOME</li> <li>● In keeping with what we do annually in February. We will be having a very short meeting with lots of fellowship. We have been able to do this for a number of years. We go to them because they cannot come out to be with us. This year's meeting will be held on 26th of February and the meeting will start at 7pm sharp. The work of the evening will be fellowship with members who are residents and a very short lecture.</li> </ul>
Regular	March 18, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dear Sir and Brethren: Members are summoned and visitors are cordially invited, by the Worshipful Master, to attend the regular Meeting of Lodge of Fidelity, on Tuesday, March 18th 2025 at 7:30 PM in Lodge Room 1, Ottawa Masonic Centre 2140 Walkley Road.</li> <li>● Festive board at 6:30</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● To Ballot on a number of affiliations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bro. Laroque, sponsored by Larry Harvey and Jim Carty.</li> <li>○ Bro. Strebkov, sponsored by Jim Kent and Ron Taylor.</li> <li>○ Bro. Burtch, sponsored by Jim Kent and Ron Taylor.</li> <li>○ Pending a favourable review by Grand Lodge, W. Bro. Charles Vilanyi Bokor, [Note from the District Historian, the names of sponsors were not provided in the Summons.}</li> </ul> </li> <li>● We will be Raising Brother Peter Jackson to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason.</li> </ul>
Emergent	March 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	April 15, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dear Sir and Brethren: Members are summoned and visitors are cordially invited, by the Worshipful Master, to attend the regular Meeting of Lodge of Fidelity, on Tuesday, April 15th 2025 at 7:30 PM in Lodge Room 1, Ottawa Masonic Centre 2140 Walkley Road. Festive board at 6:30 PM.</li> <li>● To Ballot on Charles Vilyani Bokor for membership sponsored by Jim Kent and David Peate.</li> <li>● Elections of Officers for the next Masonic Year.</li> <li>● A Memorial Service.</li> <li>● New Master Masons will prove their proficiency in the Third Degree, if ready.</li> <li>● Masonic Education about the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. This will be the Lecture of the Master Mason Tracing Board and will be presented by Special guest W. Bro. Leonard Goins.</li> </ul>
Emergent	April 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	May 20, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dear Sir and Brethren: Members are summoned and visitors are cordially invited, by the Worshipful Master, to attend the</li> </ul>

# District History, Ottawa District One

## 2024-25

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>regular Meeting of Lodge of Fidelity, on Tuesday, May 20th 2025 at 7:00 PM in Lodge Room 1, Ottawa Masonic Centre 2140 Walkley Road.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To install the Worshipful Master and invest the other officers of Lodge of Fidelity for the ensuing 12 months.</li> <li>• There will NOT BE A MEAL for our Regular Meeting in May. There will be a Strawberry Social after the meeting.</li> </ul>
Emergent	May 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>

\* "M" – minutes; "S" – summons. Some Lodges were reluctant to share their minutes outside of the Lodge. As a result, the historical summary was prepared from the Lodge Summons. Therefore, in some instances the information may not be entirely accurate as it is based on planned activities rather than the actual events that transpired. While the Summons records what the Lodge planned to do, numerous events can take place which prevents the planned from becoming the achieved – for example, a candidate may not be ready, principal officers are absent due to their public or private avocations, weather related snowstorms may result in the cancellation of a meeting etc., etc.



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Lodge of Fidelity No. 231 - Messages from the Worshipful Master**

**Regular Meeting Summons, September 17, 2024**

Brethren, welcome to the onset of a new Masonic year. We commence with applications, a petition for rejoining from a former member, and several affiliations.

A busy schedule awaits us, including degree work, Masonic education, and special events like our ongoing Oktoberfest and Whisky Tasting. An eventful year lies ahead, and it should be greeted with enthusiasm.

It is with a heavy heart that I announce the passing of W. Bro. Harold Miller. There will be no service as per his widow's request. Harold was a steadfast presence in the Lodge, serving as Treasurer when I entered Masonry. His quiet demeanour belied the wisdom of his words, which were always worth heeding. His absence will be deeply felt. Let us hold his wife Elsie and daughter Dawn in our thoughts and prayers.

S & F,

W. Bro. David Peate

**Regular Meeting Summons, October 15, 2024**

No Master's Message included with the Summons.

**Regular Meeting Summons, November 19, 2024**

No Master's Message included with the Summons.

**Regular Meeting Summons, December 17, 2024**

No Master's Message included with the Summons.

**Regular Meeting Summons, January 21, 2025**

As we enter a new calendar year, I extend special welcome to our newest members: Joe, Max, Peter, and the returning Steve!

There is still much to look forward to in the realm of Freemasonry this year.

Our meetings will be filled with degree work as we advance our newest members; the masonic year is barely halfway through.

As a special treat, Lodge of Fidelity members will conduct a second degree at Hawkesbury Lodge on February 22nd at 10:00 AM.

I hope you all had a restful and joyous holiday. I look forward to seeing all bright-eyed and bushy-tailed in the new year! Happy New Year!

W. Bro. David Peate, Worshipful Master.

**Regular Meeting Summons, February 18, 2025**

Brethren,

Please make every effort to attend our fraternal visit to Hawkesbury Lodge in Vankleek Hill, 94 Main Street East, at 10:00 AM with a brunch afterwards.

We will jointly pass Bro. Max Drobotiy to the second degree and enjoy some fellowship and brunch afterwards, all at a very historic and interesting lodge.

Hawkesbury are wonderful hosts and I am certain Max will want as many fellow Lodge of Fidelity members there as possible. Any lodge members that can possibly make it to his second degree will make this special! We will carpool where possible. If people are leaving cars at the centre the centre must be advised or your car will be towed at your

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

expense. Expect to be back in Ottawa by about 2:30 - 3:00 PM. *(Note from the District Historian: There was no date mentioned in the Masters Message.)*

W. Bro.David Peate, Worshipful Master

**Regular Meeting Summons, March 18, 2025**

From The East

Hope to see you at the meeting!

This is a reminder that the General purpose meeting has been moved to the first Wednesday of each month. You can come in person or via ZOOM.

W. Bro.David Peate, Worshipful Master.

**Regular Meeting Summons, April 15, 2025**

Gentlemen, it has been a pleasure serving as your Worshipful Master for the last two years. This year we will elect a new WM and I wish him and all of the other Officers elected the best of luck in the upcoming year. We have welcomed several new members this year and lost a few to demits. Overall, our numbers have increased and I look forward to seeing this trend continue so long as we guard the West Gate appropriately. We are strong financially, in our ritual, in our membership and in our character. Long Live the Lodge of Fidelity!

W. Bro.David Peate, Worshipful Master.

**Regular Meeting Summons, May 20, 2025**

Brethren, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the officers and members of the Lodge, as well as our wonderful visitors, for an incredible two years. We have grown in numbers, strengthened our rituals, and deepened our camaraderie - all thanks to the enthusiastic participation of every member. We are leaving the Lodge in excellent hands with V. W. Bro. Ron Taylor and his newly elected and appointed slate of officers. Wishing them all the best in their leadership ahead!

W. Bro.David Peate, Worshipful Master.

District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25

Lodge of Fidelity No. 231 - Select Photos



Lodge of Fidelity - Installation Meeting, May 20, 2025



Lodge of Fidelity - Installation Meeting, May 20, 2025 - Lodge Officers



District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25



Lodge of Fidelity - Installation Meeting, May 20, 2025

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Prince of Wales Lodge No. 371, GRC In The Province Of Ontario -  
Instituted 1879**

Summary of Events – Masonic Year 2024-25

Meets the fourth Friday of each Month except June, July, August and December

**Prince of Wales Lodge No. 371 - Summary of Events**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Emergent	September 13, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brethren, you are hereby summoned to attend an Emergent meeting of Prince of Wales Lodge No. 371 to be held on Friday Sept 13, 2024 at 7:30 pm at 2140 Walkley Rd, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.</li><li>• The Emergent Meeting will be a practice.</li></ul>
Regular	September 27, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brethren, you are hereby summoned to attend a Regular meeting of Prince of Wales Lodge No. 371 to be held on Friday Sept 27, 2024 at 7:30 pm at 2140 Walkley Rd, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.</li><li>• To confer degrees on eligible candidates.</li><li>• To recognize long service.</li></ul>
Emergent	October 11, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brethren, you are hereby summoned to attend an Emergent meeting of Prince of Wales Lodge No. 371 to be held on Friday October 11, 2024 at 7:30 pm at 2140 Walkley Rd, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.</li><li>• The Emergent Meeting will be a practice.</li></ul>
Regular	October 25, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brethren, you are hereby summoned to attend a Regular meeting of Prince of Wales Lodge No. 371 to be held on Friday Oct. 25, 2024 at 7:30 pm at 2140 Walkley Rd, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.</li><li>• To confer degrees on eligible candidates.</li><li>• To recognize long service.</li></ul>
Regular	November 22, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brethren, you are hereby summoned to attend a Regular meeting of Prince of Wales Lodge No. 371 to be held on Friday, November 22, 2024 at 7:30 pm at 2140 Walkley Rd, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.</li><li>• To confer degrees on eligible candidates.</li><li>• To recognize long service.</li></ul>
Emergent	November 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No meeting was held.</li></ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	December 13, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brethren, you are hereby summoned to attend a Regular meeting of Prince of Wales Lodge No. 371 to be held on Friday, November 22, 2024 at 7:30 pm at 2140 Walkley Rd, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.</li> <li>• To receive petitions, communications, and accounts. To confer degrees on eligible candidates, recognize long service and conduct all other business that may be presented.</li> <li>• After the Regular meeting, we will be holding a Memorial Service. Family and friends are welcome to attend.</li> </ul>
Emergent	December 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	January 24, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brethren, you are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of Prince of Wales Lodge No. 371 to be held on Friday January 24, 2025 at 7:30 pm at 2140 Walkley Rd, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.</li> <li>• Conduct a Third Degree for Bro. Tib Murali.</li> </ul>
Emergent	January, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	February 28, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brethren, you are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of Prince of Wales Lodge No. 371 to be held on Friday February 28, 2025 at 7:30 pm at 2140 Walkley Rd, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.</li> <li>• Host the Shrine Degree Team who will Raise Bro. Tib Murali to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason.</li> </ul>
Emergent	February, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	March 28, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brethren, you are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of Prince of Wales Lodge No. 371 to be held on Friday March 28, 2025 at 7:00 pm at 2140 Walkley Rd, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.</li> <li>• To Prove Brothers Bros. Murali &amp; Iles in the Third Degree.</li> </ul>
Emergent	March 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>



# District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	April 25, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brethren, you are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of Prince of Wales Lodge No. 371 to be held on Friday March 28, 2025 at 7:00 pm at 2140 Walkley Rd, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.</li> <li>• Due to differences between the wording of POW By-laws and the Constitution, we will be voting on the following resolution: "Prince of Wales Lodge #371 approves the reinstatement of Salman Khalek, in accordance with Article 203 (a) of The Constitution of Grand Lodge."</li> <li>• Election of Officers for Masonic Year 2025-26.</li> <li>• To ballot on the petition of Johnston (John) Mehan.</li> </ul>
Emergent	April 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	May 23, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brethren, You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of Prince of Wales Lodge No. 371 to be held on Friday May 23, 2025 at 7:00 pm at 2140 Walkley Rd, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.</li> <li>• To Install the Worshipful Master and Officers for the coming Masonic year.</li> <li>• To ballot on the petition of Johnston (John) Mehan.</li> </ul>
Emergent	May 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>

\* "M" – minutes; "S" – summons. Some Lodges were reluctant to share their minutes outside of the Lodge. As a result, the historical summary was prepared from the Lodge Summons. Therefore, in some instances the information may not be entirely accurate as it is based on planned activities rather than the actual events that transpired. While the Summons records what the Lodge planned to do, numerous events can take place which prevents the planned from becoming the achieved – for example, a candidate may not be ready, principal officers are absent due to their public or private avocations, weather related snowstorms may result in the cancellation of a meeting etc., etc.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Prince of Wales Lodge No. 371 - Messages from the Worshipful Master**

**Regular Meeting Summons, September 27, 2024**

Brethren

I hope everyone had a great and relaxing summer to recharge our batteries and get us ready for a new Masonic Year at Prince of Wales No. 371.

I would first like to thank our IPM W. Bro. Eric Owen on leading our Lodge for the last two years. He truly did an amazing job, and I am lucky to have him by my side this year. We also must recognize R.W. Kosta Hatzis on his amazing year of being the DDGM for District 1. He made a big impact on the District, as well as our Lodge.

Our September meeting will be a busy one. On this night we are planning on a 1st degree, we are going to accept the Travelling Gavel from Doric Lodge No. 58 and we are also going to invest V.W. Bro. Ian Hooker as a Grand Lodge officer which should be a great experience.

As a lodge, I would appreciate it if everyone could bring a non-perishable food item (if you are able) to donate to the Ottawa Food Bank every Lodge meeting. Food insecurity affects over 8.7 million Canadians based on the latest data from Statistics Canada and many children go to school hungry and malnourished. Let's see if we can help.

Lastly, I would like to see everyone help and support each other. If a member is having issues learning a piece, offer to help. If a member is feeling ill, bring them a meal. If a member just needs to chat, call me or anyone at the Lodge. We are all in this together.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W.M. Jason Waara

Worshipful Master

Prince of Wales Lodge #371

**Regular Meeting Summons, October 25, 2024**

Brethren of Prince of Wales,

Our September meeting was an outstanding success with the Initiation of a new Brother, Nick Pyper. Not only did we do an Initiation, but Prince of Wales also received the Travelling Gavel from Doric Lodge No. 58, hosted the DDGM on his Fraternal Visit, and Installed V.W. Bro Ian Hooker into his new role as a Grand Lodge officer.

This month will also be a busy one. On October 1st, Prince of Wales delivered the Travelling Gavel to Goodwood Lodge No.159 and we watched a great 1st Degree. We are also planning a double 2nd Degree on October 25, 2024 for Bro. Tib Murali and Bro. Christopher Iles with a practice for line officers on October 11, 2024 at 7:30pm.

I would appreciate it if everyone could bring a non-perishable food item (if you are able) to donate to the Ottawa Food Bank. This initiative, although small, can make a difference in people's lives, as Charity, is one of the core concepts of Masonry.

Lastly, please reach out to Brethren that may not have been to Lodge in a while. Some, because of the length of their cable tow, may not have been able to attend Lodge, but they are still our Brothers and we should be engaging and welcoming to them, always.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W.M. Jason Waara, Prince of Wales #371

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Regular Meeting Summons, November 22, 2024**

Brethren of Prince of Wales,

Our October meeting was an outstanding success. Bro. Tib Murali and Bro. Chris Iles were passed to the second degree and both did an excellent job in their obligations. The Brethren did all the parts and the floor work was outstanding. Great job.

This month we will try to do some housekeeping by installing the Senior Steward, Director of Ceremonies and have some masonic education. It will be a great night. I must also note that visiting other lodges is a great and fun way to meet other brethren, make new friends, and promote Prince of Wales lodge. Enlarging your masonic circle is always a good thing.

Like always, please bring a can or two of food to donate to the Ottawa food bank. Every can of food makes a difference in someone's lives.

Sincerely and fraternally,

W. Bro. Jason Waara, Prince of Wales #371

**Regular Meeting Summons, December 13, 2024**

Brethren of Prince of Wales,

The month of November was a time of remembrance for those that have kept our country safe and to those that have paid the ultimate sacrifice. Lest we forget.

We had a great meeting with some excellent masonic education and we finally invested our Director of Ceremonies R.W. Kosta Hatzis.

This month we are having our annual Memorial service followed by a holiday potluck and trivia night and we are encouraging all our members to bring your spouse/partner, friends, children to join in the festivities.

As always, please bring a can of food (if possible) to donate to the Ottawa Food Bank. This time of year, they need all the help they can get.

Sincerely and fraternally,

W. Bro. Jason Waara, Prince of Wales #371

**Regular Meeting Summons, January 24, 2025**

Brethren of Prince of Wales,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a great holiday and are refreshed and ready for the last half of the year.

Unfortunately, our Memorial night and Christmas party had to be cancelled due to many members, including myself, being sick but hopefully that is mostly behind us.

This month, the Lodge is going to do a Third degree for a worthy member Bro. Tib Murali on January 24, 2025. A Practice on January 10, 2025 for all line officers to practice opening and closing in the Third Degree . Please show up to support Bro. Murali and the lodge.

Again, like always, we will be asking brethren to bring a small can of food for the Food Bank.

Sincerely and fraternally,

W. Bro. Jason Waara, Prince of Wales #371

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Regular Meeting Summons, February 28, 2025**

Brethren,

I would like to congratulate Bro Chris Iles on being raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. He was well prepared and performed flawlessly.

This month we are going to host the Shrine Degree team to help Raise Bro. Tib Murali, a candidate well prepared, and deserving. This will give the members a chance to find out what the Shrine does, ask questions, and possibly join this great fraternity which helps raise money for the largest pediatric sub-specialty healthcare systems in the world, with locations in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Also, I would like to remind the brethren to bring a can of food to help support the Ottawa Food bank. They need our help.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W. Bro. Jason Waara Prince of Wales #371

**Regular Meeting Summons, March 28, 2025**

Brethren of Prince of Wales,

At the last meeting we raised Bro. Tib Murali who was extremely prepared and did an outstanding job. For this raising, we hosted the Shrine Degree Team who did a fantastic job and may have inspired a few brethren to join this great organization.

This month is our Official Visit of our DDGM R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts which we will be having Bro Murali and Bro Iles prove in the 3rd degree. Please try to make this a priority to help support the lodge, help support our newly raised brethren, and give R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts a very welcoming experience. A practice will be held for all line officers on March 14, 2025 at 19:30.

Finally, never forget our three core principles of freemasonry, brotherly love, relief, and truth. With these three core principles, we can continue to make the Lodge strong, grow our membership, and make our guests feel welcomed.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W Bro. Jason Waara Prince of Wales #371

**Regular Meeting Summons, April 25, 2025**

To the brethren of Prince of Wales,

I would like to congratulate Bro. Chris Iles and Bro. Tib Murali on their outstanding proving of their proficiency in the Master Mason Degree in Open Lodge. It is a testament to the work they have put in, and the ongoing mentorship by the Brethren.

It is that time of year again when the Brethren of Prince of Wales No. 371 holds elections for the next round of Lodge Officers and a new Worshipful Master. The role of Worshipful Master is the highest honour a Lodge can bestow on a member and I am proud to have filled that role. We must now elect a new round of officers to help lead the Brethren of the Lodge.

Leadership is not just wearing a collar and calling yourself an Officer. It means that you take an active role in the Lodge, mentoring less experienced Masons, sharing knowledge of ritual and protocols, and ensuring harmony and continuance of the Lodge.

Look well to your ballot and vote for the good of the order.

Sincerely and fraternally, W. Bro. Jason Waara Prince of Wales #371

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Regular Meeting Summons, May 23, 2025**

Brethren,

I would like to congratulate Bro. Rob Lauzon on being the Master Elect of this lodge for the upcoming year. I would also like to congratulate the new and returning Lodge Officers to their new roles. It's a great step forward for our Lodge and shows how strong and united we are.

I am honored to have been the Worshipful Master of the Lodge and it's something I will cherish for the rest of my life. A big thank you to you all for making this year a very memorable one and helping me grow not only as a Mason but helping me grow as a human being.

I look forward to the upcoming installation night and other Lodge events scheduled for this summer especially including our famous Chuck Norris and Bacon Night.

Sincerely and fraternally,

W. Bro. Jason Waara Prince of Wales #371



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Prince of Wales Lodge No. 371 - Select Photos**



Prince of Wales Lodge - Installation Meeting, May 23, 2025



Prince of Wales Lodge - Installation Meeting, May 23, 2025

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Carleton Lodge No. 465, GRC In The Province Of Ontario - Instituted 1904**

Summary of Events – Masonic Year 2024-25

Meets the fourth Thursday of each Month except July & August

**Carleton Lodge No. 465 - Summary of Events**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	September 19, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother: By Command of the Worshipful Master you are hereby Summoned, Visitors are cordially invited, to attend a Regular Meeting of this Lodge to be held at the Masonic Temple at 3704 Carp Road, Carp, Ontario as follows: Lodge Tyles at 7:30 PM on September 19, 2024.</li> <li>Festive board to follow the meeting.</li> <li>To announce and vote on various motions.</li> <li>To recognize Bro. Duff Sullivan - Kidd Award Winner.</li> <li>To initiate Mr. William (Bill) Greene.</li> <li>To receive Masonic Education.</li> </ul>
Emergent	September 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held</li> </ul>
Regular	October 24, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother: By Command of the Worshipful Master you are hereby Summoned, Visitors are cordially invited, to attend a Regular Meeting of this Lodge to be held at the Masonic Temple at 3704 Carp Road, Carp, Ontario as follows: Lodge Tyles at 7:30 PM on October 24, 2024.</li> <li>To welcome R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts for the occasion of his Official Visit to Carleton Lodge.</li> <li>To present a motion that Bro. Bruce P. Ricker be granted a William Mercer Wilson Medal by Grand Lodge.</li> <li>To pass Bro. Chad Findlay to the 2nd Degree.</li> <li>To receive Masonic Education.</li> </ul>
Emergent	October 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	November 28, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother: By Command of the Worshipful Master you are hereby Summoned, Visitors are cordially invited, to attend a Regular Meeting of this Lodge to be held at the Masonic Temple at 3704 Carp</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>Road, Carp, Ontario as follows: Lodge Tyles at 7:30 PM on November 28, 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lodge Tyles at 6PM for business only then calls off.</li> <li>• Lodge will re-Tyle at 6:30PM.</li> <li>• To welcome visitors and,</li> <li>• To conduct the regular business of the Lodge.</li> <li>• To ballot on the application for initiation received from Mr. David Abraham, recommended by V.W. Bro. Fields and W. Bro. Gray.</li> <li>• To Welcome the Grand Master - M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland and, Esteemed Present and Past Grand Lodge Officers and, the Brethren of Madawaska Lodge No. 196 and, Friends and Family of Bro. Bruce Ricker</li> <li>• To Present the William Mercer Wilson Medal to Bro. Bruce P. Ricker.</li> <li>• Banquet at Carp Agricultural Hall 3970 Carp Rd: Fellowship 8PM—Dinner 8:30PM.</li> </ul>
Emergent	November 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	December 14, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By Command of the Worshipful Master you are hereby Summoned, Visitors are cordially invited to attend a Regular Meeting of this Lodge to be held at the Masonic Temple at 3704 Carp Road, Carp, Ontario on December 12, 2024.</li> <li>• Family Christmas Potluck Dinner Fellowship at 6:00 PM : Dinner - 6:30 PM.</li> <li>• To ballot on the application for initiation received from Mr. David Abraham, recommended by V.W. Bro. Fields and W. Bro. Gray</li> <li>• To wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy and Prosperous New Year!!</li> </ul>
Emergent	December 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	January 23, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By Command of the Worshipful Master you are hereby Summoned, Visitors are cordially invited to</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>attend a Regular Meeting of this Lodge to be held at the Masonic Temple at 3704 Carp Road, Carp, Ontario on January 23, 2025.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To recognise V.W. Bro. Douglas Dockrill on his installation as Potentate of The Tunis Shrine.</li> <li>• To welcome the Tunis Shrine Third Degree Team.</li> <li>• To raise Bro. Findlay to the sublime Degree of a Master Mason.</li> </ul>
Emergent	January 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	February 27, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By Command of the Worshipful Master you are hereby Summoned, Visitors are cordially invited, to attend a Regular Meeting of this Lodge to be held at the Masonic Temple at 3704 Carp Road, Carp, Ontario as follows: Regular Meeting, Thursday, February 27th, 2025. Lodge Tyles at 7:30PM</li> <li>• Festive Board to Follow.</li> <li>• To initiate Mr. David Brian Abraham into the hidden mysteries and privileges of Masonry.</li> </ul>
Emergent	February 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	March 27, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By Command of the Worshipful Master you are hereby Summoned, Visitors are cordially invited, to attend a Regular Meeting of this Lodge to be held at the Masonic Temple at 3704 Carp Road, Carp, Ontario as follows: Regular Meeting, Thursday, March 27th, 2025. Lodge Tyles at 7:30PM</li> <li>• To ballot on the Application for Affiliation as received from; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ W. Bro. Donald A. Learning, Acacia No. 561 and</li> <li>○ Bro. Douglas Jackson, The Ancient St. John No. 3 and,</li> </ul> </li> <li>• To pass Bro. Alex Zuana and Bro. Austin Purdie to the Fellowcraft degree</li> </ul>
Emergent	March 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	April 24, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By Command of the Worshipful Master you are hereby Summoned, Visitors are cordially invited to attend a Regular Meeting of this Lodge to be held at the Masonic Temple at 3704 Carp Road, Carp, Ontario on Thursday April 24th, 2025.</li> <li>• This will be the 35th Annual Arctic Char Dinner at the Carp Agricultural Hall. Lodge Tyles at 6PM</li> <li>• To ballot on the Application for Affiliation from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ W. Bro. James H. Hemin, Alexander Lodge No. 33 - Grand Lodge of New Brunswick.</li> <li>◦ Bro. Gerald J. McEwen, Goodwood Lodge No. 159.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Emergent	April 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Emergent	May 3, 2025		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By Command of the Worshipful Master you are hereby Summoned, Visitors are cordially invited to attend an Emergent Meeting of this Lodge to be held at the Masonic Temple at 3704 Carp Road, Carp, Ontario on Saturday May 3rd, 2025</li> <li>• Lodge Tyles at 9AM - Festive Board to follow</li> <li>• To pass prepared Brethren to the Fellowcraft Degree.</li> </ul>
Regular	May 22, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By Command of the Worshipful Master you are hereby Summoned, Visitors are cordially invited to attend a Regular Meeting of this Lodge to be held at the Masonic Temple at 3704 Carp Road, Carp, Ontario on Regular Meeting Thursday May 22nd, 2025. Lodge Tyles at 7:30PM - Festive Board to follow</li> <li>• To announce and vote on part one (1) of</li> <li>• our Annual en-bloc motion.</li> <li>• To ballot on the applications for affiliation from;</li> </ul>



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W. Bro. James H. Hemin, Alexander Lodge No. 33, Grand Lodge of New Brunswick.</li> <li>• Bro. Gerald J. McEwen, Goodwood Lodge No. 159.</li> <li>• To prove Bro. Chad Findlay as a M.M.</li> <li>• To elect by written ballot, for the ensuing Masonic year the; Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, Chaplain, Treasurer and Secretary and,</li> <li>• To elect by open vote by written ballot, for the ensuing Masonic year a; Tyler, two Auditors, and an Examination Board for the Master elect.</li> </ul>
Regular	June 28, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By Command of the Worshipful Master you are hereby Summoned, Visitors are cordially invited to attend a Regular Meeting of this Lodge to be held at the Masonic Temple at 3704 Carp Road, Carp, Ontario on Regular Meeting Thursday June 26th, 2025. Lodge Tyles at 7:30PM - Festive Board to follow</li> <li>• To announce and vote on various motions.</li> <li>• To announce and vote on part one of our Annual en-bloc motion.</li> <li>• To ballot on the application for affiliation from W. Bro. James H. Hemin.</li> <li>• To Install the Worshipful Master and invest his Officers for the ensuing Masonic year.</li> </ul>
Emergent	June 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>

\* "M" – minutes; "S" – summons. Some Lodges were reluctant to share their minutes outside of the Lodge. As a result, the historical summary was prepared from the Lodge Summons. Therefore, in some instances the information may not be entirely accurate as it is based on planned activities rather than the actual events that transpired. While the Summons records what the Lodge planned to do, numerous events can take place which prevents the planned from becoming the achieved – for example, a candidate may not be ready, principal officers are absent due to their public or private avocations, weather related snowstorms may result in the cancellation of a meeting etc., etc.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Carleton Lodge No. 465 - Messages from the Worshipful Master**

**Regular Meeting Summons, September 19, 2024**

Greetings from the East!

It is with great pleasure that I sit in the East as your Master for the second time.

For those of you who were not able to attend the summer barbeque at Sandra and Rick Coker's, it was a great turn out and fun afternoon had by all. Bro. Coker is away on holiday so in October we will again thank them for their hospitality.

I would like to congratulate Bro. Duff Sullivan on receiving the George Kidd Award last June. Your hard work paid off!

Brethren, we have a very busy year ahead of us. Our first degree is at our first meeting in September. In October we will welcome R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts - D.D.G.M Ottawa District 1 on his Official Visit to Carleton Lodge.

November will be a very special evening for our lodge and Bro. Ricker. M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland - Grand Master, will be visiting our lodge to present Bro. Ricker with the William Mercer Wilson Medal.

This is the first time our lodge has had the honour of one of our own receiving this very prestigious award and we are very proud to call Bruce our Brother.

Sincerely & Fraternally,

Kenneth W. Fields W.M.

**Regular Meeting Summons, October 24, 2024**

Greetings from the East!

I wish to congratulate our newest member of Carleton Lodge, Bro. Bill Greene on his initiation into our gentle Craft.

Brethren, this month we have R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts - D.D.G.M. Ottawa District No. 1 coming to Carleton Lodge for his Official Visit. We will also conduct a Fellow Craft Degree for Bro. Chad Findlay.

Brethren, we are in the process of getting the tickets ready for our festive board honouring Bro. Bruce Ricker. This is expected to be a full house so I would suggest buying your tickets early. This is a catered meal by Leather Works featuring Prime Rib.

We will be making monumental history as our lodge has never had the William Mercer Wilson Medal recipient belong to our lodge. Well done Bro. Ricker!

Sincerely & Fraternally,

Kenneth W. Fields W.M.

**Regular Meeting Summons, November 28, 2024**

Brethren,

I would like to congratulate Bro. Chad Finlay on being passed to the 2nd Degree. You are now at the midpoint of Masonry.

This month is going to be a very exciting meeting as the Grand Master - M.W. Bro. Jamie R. Ireland is visiting Carleton Lodge to present Bro. Bruce Ricker with the William Mercer Wilson Medal.

Please remember to purchase your banquet tickets before the Nov 22nd cut off.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

On November 11th I was honoured to lay the wreath at the Carp Cenotaph on behalf of Carleton Lodge. It was gratifying to see so many of our members out, to pay their respects.

Sincerely & Fraternally,  
Kenneth W. Fields, W.M.

**Regular Meeting Summons, December 12, 2024**

Ho - Ho - Ho and Merry Christmas!!

Brethren:

It's that time of year again where we have our annual Family Christmas potluck dinner. Make sure to call Bro. Junior Warden to tell him what you are bringing and don't forget to bring your favourite adult beverage.

November was quite a month with the Grand Master and two past Grand Masters at Carleton Lodge to present Bro. Bruce Ricker with the William Mercer Wilson Medal for meritorious service to the Craft.

The balcony and lodge room were the fullest I have ever seen in my 25 years as a Mason. The head count was approximately 123 people. It was a great evening and one for the history books. Well done to everyone involved in making it a memorable evening for our Brother Bruce Ricker, his lady Sue and all his family and friends in attendance.

Sincerely & Fraternally,  
Kenneth W. Fields, W.M.

**Regular Meeting Summons, January 23, 2025**

Greetings From The East.

Brethren I would like to wish everybody a Happy New Year!

We are now in our second half of our Masonic year. What a first half and the second, will be just as busy starting with the Tunis Shrine Degree Team doing a third degree at our January meeting.

Congratulations to V.W. Bro. Dockrill on becoming the 50th Potentate of the Tunis Shrine. Well done Illustrious Sir!

Thanks to all the Brethren who came out to support Doug on his very important day.

Sincerely & Fraternally,  
Kenneth W. Fields, W.M.

**Regular Meeting Summons, February 27, 2025**

Greetings From The East.

Brethren, It gives me great pleasure to congratulate Bro. Findlay on his being raised to the sublime Degree of a Master Mason by the Shrine Degree Team as led by our own W. Bro. Gray. It was so nice to see the balcony used again with the Oriental Band taking part in the ceremony.

This month we will be initiating Mr. David Abraham; in March we will conduct a double second for Bro. Purdie and Bro. Zuana.

To those of you who attended the Ottawa Masonic Charity Ball.. THANK YOU for purchasing tickets! A portion of the funds raised goes towards the Ottawa District 1

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Charity, the Royal Ottawa Hospital Geriatric Dementia Research. A great night was had by all!

To help raise money for the District Charity Carleton Lodge donated a very special item for the silent auction of four vintage - 1960's "Ottawa Masonic District" scotch glasses and a copy of "I Remember When", a book of memories from the collection of our late Bro. Hugh Blair along with a bottle of single malt. All were beautifully presented in a handsome oak cabinet, hand crafted by W. Bro. Rick Coker.

Our Scotch Box sold for \$521 and with the Masonic Foundation's 25% top up it rings up a total of \$651.25 towards the District Charity.

Lastly, please mark your calendars for Saturday March 15th for our second annual Pancake Breakfast with money raised going towards the Ottawa District 1 charity.

Sincerely & Fraternally,

Kenneth W. Fields, W.M.

**Regular Meeting Summons, March 27, 2025**

Brethren:

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Bro. David Abraham the newest member of Carleton Lodge. Welcome to our fraternity Bro. Abraham!

On March 15, 2025, our Lodge hosted its 2nd annual Pancake Breakfast; it was once again, a huge success with over 100 plates served. I would like to thank all the Brethren and ladies that helped cook, serve and clean-up. We raised just shy of \$2,000.00 for the District Charity. A great day was had by all.

Finally, this month we will be welcoming the Brethren of Acacia Lodge as they present the District Traveling Gavel.

We will also be passing Bro. Alex Zuana and Bro. Austin Purdie to the Fellowcraft degree. I encourage you all to come out to Lodge and show your support for these two Brethren, both of whom I know have been working hard on their memory work.

Sincerely & Fraternally,

Kenneth W. Fields, W.M.

**Regular Meeting Summons, April 24, 2025**

Brethren:

March was once again another busy month with the Travelling Gavel arriving from Acacia Lodge and a favourable ballot for the affiliations of two brethren. W. Bro's. Don Learning and Doug Jackson; Welcome to Carleton Lodge!

My congratulations to both Bro. Alex Zuana and Bro. Austin Purdie for proving yourselves in the First Degree. Your work on being passed to the Second Degree showed how hard you studied making both yourselves and our Lodge look very good. I'm sure your Dads will agree with me as I look forward to seeing you both continue to become a Master Mason. My thanks to R.W. Bro. Brian Adams for helping our two brethren prepare for the Second Degree.

Brethren, this month is our 35th Arctic Char Dinner. Don't forget to get your tickets for yourself, family and friends. This is always a great community event as well as a huge fundraiser for our Lodge.

Our guest speaker is from our local community and will show how helping hands help others.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

On May 3rd we are planning an Emergent Meeting to pass Bro.'s Bill Green and David Abraham. Please come out and show your support.

Sincerely & Fraternally,  
Kenneth W. Fields, W.M.

**Regular Meeting Summons, May 22, 2025**

Brethren:

April was once again another busy month with our Famous Arctic Char Dinner.

I would like to thank all brethren and their ladies who were involved with the 35th anniversary of our Arctic Char Dinner. It was once again a huge success and a wonderful dinner was had by all.

I received a lot of compliments on the food, the service and our choice of guest speaker. It showed those who aren't Masons an example of what we do for others.

A special thank you to Chef Cayle Farmer and sous chef, Luca of Cabotto's Fine Italian Restaurant as well as; W. Bro. Rick Coker, Bro. Bruce Ricker, Bro. Dan McLean and our JW Bro. Duff Sullivan. Your help is so very much appreciated and could not have been done without you!

I would also like to thank Brigita Beck who bought the flowers and vases and took the time to arrange them for our tables. They were lovely and made a big impact on our dinner guests. Thank you!

My hat goes off to Bro. Bill Greene for the work he did preparing, with the assistance of R.W. Bro. Brian Adams, for his 2nd degree at our May emergent meeting. You did outstanding work! Your 3rd degree will come easy and I look forward to your becoming a Master Mason.

Sincerely & Fraternally,  
Kenneth W. Fields, W.M.

**Regular Meeting Summons, June 28, 2025**

Greetings from the East!

Brethren:

This will be my last address from the East and I would like to thank you for putting your trust in me for the past year.

The year was a very fulfilling time for our Lodge. We had the Grand Master, TWO Past Grand Master's and FOUR previous Award recipients visiting us in November to present the William Mercer Wilson Award to Bro. Bruce Ricker. What a sight it was to see a full house. This was the highlight of my year! It is an honour to have someone in our lodge receive this very prestigious award.

Even our balcony was full in both November and again in January as we welcomed the Shrine Degree Team, the Shrine Oriental Band and recognized our very own V. W. Bro. Doug Dockrill who had just been installed as Shrine Potentate.

We also managed to get through a lot of degree work. Well done brethren!

I would also like to offer congratulations to Bro. Chad Findlay on proving himself as a Master Mason. Again, well done Bro. Findlay!

One last note of congratulations to W. Bro. Jace Baart - Master Elect and his elected and appointed officers for the ensuing year. I hope you have as good a year as I had.

Thank you, Brethren! Sincerely & Fraternally, Kenneth W. Fields, W.M.



District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25

Carleton Lodge No. 465 - Select Photos



Carleton Lodge - Meeting October 24, 2024  
DDGM, R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, Official Visit



Carleton Lodge - Meeting October 24, 2024  
DDGM, R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, Official Visit



District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25



Carleton Lodge - Emergent Meeting November 28, 2024



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Presentation of William Mercer Wilson Award to Bro. Bruce P. Ricker



Carleton Lodge - Emergent Meeting November 28, 2024  
Bro. Bruce P. Ricker with his William Mercer Wilson Medal

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Russell Lodge No. 479, GRC In The Province Of Ontario - Instituted 1906**

Summary of Events – Masonic Year 2024-25

Meets the third Monday of each Month except July & August

**Russell Lodge No. 479 - Summary of Events**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	September 16, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend a regular meeting of Russell Lodge to be held on: September 16, 2024 at 7h30pm</li><li>• Masonic Education</li></ul>
Emergent	September 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No meeting was held.</li></ul>
Regular	October 21, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend a regular meeting of Russell Lodge to be held on: October 21, 2024 at 7h30pm.</li><li>• Welcoming a large delegation of visitors from Claudius R. Walker lodge of the Bahamas.</li><li>• Balloting on Julian Taborda Urrego.</li><li>• Guest speaker for Masonic Education.</li></ul>
Emergent	October 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No meeting was held.</li></ul>
Regular	November 18, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend a regular meeting of Russell Lodge to be held on: November 18, 2024 at 7h30pm.</li><li>• To conduct a First Degree for Mr. Julian Taborda Urrego.</li><li>• To conduct a First Degree for Mr. James McCooeye.</li></ul>
Emergent	November 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No meeting was held.</li></ul>
Regular	December 16, 2024		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend a regular meeting of Russell Lodge to be held on: December 16, 2024 at 7h30pm.</li><li>• A Christmas festive board will follow the short meeting.</li></ul>
Emergent	December 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No meeting was held.</li></ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	January 20, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend a regular meeting of Russell Lodge to be held on: January 20, 2025 at 7h30pm.</li> <li>• To receive Travelling Gavel from Edinburgh Defenders Lodge.</li> <li>• A festive board with Spouses will follow the meeting.</li> </ul>
Emergent	January, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	February 17, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother,</li> <li>• You are hereby summoned to attend a regular meeting of Russell Lodge to be held on: February 17, 2025 at 7h30pm</li> <li>• Masonic Education.</li> </ul>
Emergent	February 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	March 17, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend a regular meeting of Russell Lodge to be held on March 17, 2025 at 7h30pm.</li> <li>• Masonic Education.</li> <li>• Opening and closing in all Three Degrees to prepare for the DDGM's Official Visit.</li> </ul>
Emergent	March 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	April 21, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend a regular meeting of Russell Lodge to be held on April 21, 2025 at 7h30pm.</li> <li>• DDGM's Official visit to Russell Lodge.</li> <li>• Balloting for R.W. Bro Kosta Hatzis and V.W. Bro Kevin Zeigler.</li> <li>• Raising Bro. James McCooeye to the Sublime degree of a Master Mason.</li> </ul>
Emergent	April 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	May 19, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend a regular meeting of Russell Lodge to be held on May 19, 2025 at 7h30pm.</li> <li>• Election for upcoming Masonic year.</li> </ul>



# District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Raise Bro. Chris Allen to Sublime degree of a Master Mason.</li> </ul>
Emergent	May 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	June 16, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Installation of Officers for upcoming Masonic year.</li> </ul>
Emergent	June 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No meeting was held.</li> </ul>

\* "M" – minutes; "S" – summons. Some Lodges were reluctant to share their minutes outside of the Lodge. As a result, the historical summary was prepared from the Lodge Summons. Therefore, in some instances the information may not be entirely accurate as it is based on planned activities rather than the actual events that transpired. While the Summons records what the Lodge planned to do, numerous events can take place which prevents the planned from becoming the achieved – for example, a candidate may not be ready, principal officers are absent due to their public or private avocations, weather related snowstorms may result in the cancellation of a meeting etc., etc.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Russell Lodge No. 479 - Messages from the Worshipful Master**

**Regular Meeting Summons, September 15, 2024**

Brethren,

As we move into the traditionally wet season of autumn I hope that everyone has had a memorable summer. We will be having a CGP meeting on Saturday and it would be great to get everyone's input into the upcoming work. There is work to do both inside and outside of the lodge and as the old saying goes "the more, the merrier".

Stay safe, avoid the rain clouds and we will see each other soon.

John Bowman

Worshipful Master Russell Lodge No. 479

**Regular Meeting Summons, October 21, 2024**

Brethren,

Happy October and welcome to everyone. We normally have our annual pig roast at the end of this month but with scheduling conflicts we have moved the date to November 9, 2024. Please contact either myself, or our Junior Warden, Jim Bowman for ticket reservations. This event has limited capacity and has always been fun and stomach filling for many years.

This month we will be holding a ballot for Julian Urrego who is a very enthusiastic young guy who has been to the majority of our Masonic events in the past year.

We will also be receiving an outstanding delegation of members from the Bahamas as they finish off their 30th annual visitation tour up to Ottawa.

Visitation is a fantastic cornerstone of masonry and I have had the honour of being at a couple of other lodges this month and have always been welcomed with open arms. I encourage everyone to visit the district website Calendar ( [ottawadistrict1masons.ca](http://ottawadistrict1masons.ca) ) and find a meeting that works for your schedule and head out to it.

If you are unsure about heading out to a new lodge and would like a travelling companion please let any of the wardens or other senior members of the lodge know and we will be more than happy to make things happen.

John Bowman

Worshipful Master Russell Lodge No. 479

**Regular Meeting Summons, November 18, 2024**

November has been a busy month already and is going to continue doing as such with a double initiation and our annual Santa Claus parade venue.

Members of the lodge gathered at our local legion branch to take part in the memorial services. It always gets me thinking of what others have given up so that we can have what we have now. The next time you are at the lodge look on the wall to the left of the registry book and you will see a list of our direct membership who were involved with the great wars and remember that they were just like us.

We will be initiating Mr James McCooye and Mr Julien Taborda into our ranks this month and I hope that they get to experience masonry to the fullest as I have so far.

As one war veteran member of our lodge always said to me upon greeting " Happy Monday !" or whichever day of the week it happened to be.

One of the things to remember. W. Bro John Bowman WM, Russell Lodge No. 479

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Regular Meeting Summons, December 16, 2024**

Seasons greetings to everyone,

I would like to thank everyone who helped with our hot chocolate and beavertails for the Santa Claus parade. Public turnout was a bit lower this year but we still had \$400.00 into the donation box for the Naomi house women's shelter. This year there are 12 ladies and children at the shelter and as our usual custom of giving them a little extra for the Christmas season we will be passing the hat around during our Christmas festive board. If you are not able to make it to the meeting an e-transfer can be made to the lodge secretary. (Russelllodge@gmail.com). The ladies there didn't plan on being there in life so it is always great to give them a little lift whenever possible

Seasons greetings and have a Happy New Year

W. Bro John Bowman

Worshipful Master, Russell Lodge No. 479

**Regular Meeting Summons, January 20, 2025**

Welcome Everyone,

"The heat is on". We have a new furnace for the lodge and after a little minor glitch it is running smoothly and should keep us warm for years to come.

Happy new year to everyone. Time flies and it is another new year.

This month we will be going back a little in time with a replay of the December meeting for family and fellowship. We will also be receiving the travelling gavel from Edinburgh Defenders Lodge. The travelling gavel is a great way to interact with fellow lodges and brethren. Please mark your calendars. On February 12 we will then be carrying the gavel to Sydney Albert Luke lodge.

Winter is here, enjoy the snow, but only for a little while. There are only 66 days left until the first official day of spring.

W. Bro John Bowman

Worshipful Master, Russell Lodge No. 479

**Regular Meeting Summons, February 17, 2025**

Hello to all,

First off I would like to thank everyone who came out to the January meeting to enjoy the makeup Christmas party. We had in attendance a great group of Brethren from Edinburgh-Defender's Lodge who brought us the Travelling Gavel. We in turn delivered the Gavel to Sydney Albert Luke Lodge with a perfect number of Masons.

Masonic visitation and fellowship to me are huge foundation stones for the organization and I encourage everyone to get the most out of the Craft as is possible by seeing what is happening in other Lodges as well as our own.

Not sure if many people pay attention to the farmer's almanac but sometimes they are as accurate as satellite weather. Hope everyone can make it out of their snow igloos and do some more of that portion of masonic building previously mentioned

W. Bro John Bowman,

Worshipful Master,

Russell Lodge No. 479

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Regular Meeting Summons, March 17, 2025**

Happy springtime to everyone!

Spring is here and it is bringing changes everywhere. Robins are appearing, Canada Geese are just starting to flock in. I just heard that they were at the St. Lawrence river but then headed back to the US side of the river (maybe they didn't have customs clearance yet and are held up at the border). Anyhow, the tree sap is running, maple syrup is being made.

Things are changing. Our lodge has been changing over the last few years, (going through a minor winter period), and we are at a point where we need to bring the lodge into spring time and get it really blossoming again and not just leaving things to a small group of members. We are all members of this Great Fraternity. We need to get our own house back into shape with officer progression.

Another way that is also good to do is to head to other Lodges and do some Masonic visitation. This is what masonry is all about.

"As in everything in life you only get out of it what you put into it!"

Fraternally yours,

W.M.

W. Bro John Bowman

**Regular Meeting Summons, April 21, 2025**

Brethren,

Welcome to spring (ish). The weather has really slowed things down over the past few days, but there will be warmer days to come.

This month has started off great with another successful curling bonspiel here in Russell. Thank you to everyone who participated and to everyone for all of their efforts for the day.

For our Regular Meeting we will be hosting the current Masters of Ottawa District No. One Lodges as well as the District Deputy Grand Master, Sam Roberts on his Official Visit to Russell Lodge. It will be a busy evening filled with the festive board before the meeting, balloting for member affiliations, and conducting a Third Degree for Bro. James McCooeye.

This will be a great night for the lodge, it is always fantastic to see a new member being raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. It isn't the end of the Masonic journey, just part of the beginning.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible coming out to the meeting and safe travels.

W.M. of Russell Lodge No. 479,

W. Bro. John Bowman

**Regular Meeting Summons, May 15, 2025**

Brethren, first off, I would like to thank you all for the fantastic 3rd degree that was done at our last meeting. It was great to see the ritual work done to that level of perfection. We are going to do this again at our next meeting as well as having our election of officers for the upcoming year.

On the 24th of May we will be hosting our "East Coast Kitchen Party" right here in Russell. I would like to thank Chris Rogers and his band Steady Belt for the

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

organization and entertainment for the evening. We will be hosting over 170 people at this event. I am sure everyone will have a fantastic time and it will be a great way to kick off the summer.

As mentioned before, visitation is a huge cornerstone in Masonry. We are now in the installation season of the year and I invite everyone to take a look at the District Calendar and head out to a fellow lodge, meet old friends, make new ones and see how things are done elsewhere.

Remember the saying "you only get out of an organization by what you put into it"

Fraternally yours,

W. Bro. John Bowman

W.M. Russell Lodge No. 479

**Regular Meeting Summons, June 16, 2025**

Brethren,

Summer is here and for those members who are of the rank of Junior Warden or higher it is also the time to be able to vote for both the Grand Lodge Officers as well as your local District Deputy Grand Master for the upcoming year.

R.W. Bro. Jim Bowman will be hosting a social event this upcoming June 20th. Everyone is invited to this so please let people know if you, and anyone you wish to bring, are planning on attending. Below is a quick spreadsheet link to simplify things or send us a message and we will update for you.

Please remember that there is more to Masonry than just the teachings within the lodge room and we look forward to seeing you there.

W. Bro. John Bowman

W.M. Russell lodge No 479



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Russell Lodge No. 479 - Select Photos**

No photos were provided.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Hazeldean Lodge No. 517, GRC In The Province Of Ontario Instituted  
1914**

Summary of Events – Masonic Year 2024-25  
Meets the third Wednesday of each Month except June, July & August

**Hazeldean Lodge No. 517 - Summary of Events**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	September 18, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, by order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Meeting of Hazeldean Lodge Wednesday September 18 at 7:30 pm at 21 Young Road Kanata, Ontario.</li><li>• To Initiate Mr. Cornelio Aaron Marquez.</li><li>• Balloting for applicants for Initiation:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Dritan Zhuja recommended by R.W. Bro. Ed Denbeigh and Bro. Greg Young.</li><li>◦ Beny Chris recommended Bro. Anthony Domingo and Bro. Emmanuel Domingo Sr.</li></ul></li></ul>
Emergent	September 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No meeting was held.</li></ul>
Regular	October 16, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, by order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Meeting of Hazeldean Lodge Wednesday October 16 at 7:30 pm at 21 Young Road Kanata, Ontario.</li><li>• Initiation of worthy candidate Mr. Dritan Zhuja.</li></ul>
Emergent	October 23, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, by order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend an Emergent Meeting of Hazeldean Lodge Wednesday October 23 at 7:30 pm at 21 Young Road Kanata, Ontario.</li><li>• Initiation of worthy candidate Mr. Ronny Bandillo.</li></ul>
Regular	November 20, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, by order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby</li></ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>summoned to attend the Regular Meeting of Hazeldean Lodge Wednesday November 20 at 7:30 pm at 21 Young Road Kanata, Ontario.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To raise a candidate to the Master Masons Degree.</li> </ul>
Emergent	November 30, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, by order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend an Emergent Meeting of Hazeldean Lodge Wednesday Saturday November 30, at 10:00 pm at 21 Young Road Kanata, Ontario.</li> <li>To raise a candidate to the Master Masons Degree.</li> </ul>
Regular	December 18, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, by order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Meeting of Hazeldean Lodge Wednesday December 18 at 7:30 pm at 21 Young Road Kanata, Ontario.</li> <li>Balloting for applicants.</li> </ul>
Emergent	December 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	January 15, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, by order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Meeting of Hazeldean Lodge, on Wednesday January 15, 2025 at 7:30 pm at 21 Young Road, Kanata.</li> <li>Raising Bro. Bernie Franzgrote.</li> </ul>
Emergent	January 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	February 19, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, by order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Meeting of Hazeldean Lodge 517 on Wednesday February 19, 2025 at 7:00 pm at 21 Young Road Kanata.</li> <li>Proving of Worthy Brethren in the Third Degree.</li> <li>Masonic Education.</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Emergent	February 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	March 19, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, by order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Meeting of Hazeldean Lodge No. 517, Wednesday March 19, 2025 at 7:30 pm at 21 Young Road Kanata Ontario.</li> <li>Initiation.</li> </ul>
Emergent	March 26, 2025		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, by order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend an Emergent Meeting of Hazeldean Lodge No. 517, Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 7:30 pm at 21 Young Road Kanata Ontario.</li> <li>Initiation.</li> </ul>
Regular	April 16, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, by order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Meeting of Hazeldean Lodge No. 517, Wednesday, April, 16, 2025 at 7:30 pm at 21 Young Road Kanata Ontario.</li> <li>Passing of Bro. Marquez.</li> <li>Election of officers for 2025-2026.</li> </ul>
Emergent	April 30, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, by order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend an Emergent Meeting of Hazeldean Lodge No. 517, Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at 7:00 pm 21 at Young Road Kanata Ontario.</li> <li>Passing of Bro. Bandillo.</li> </ul>
Regular	May 21, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother: By order of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Meeting of Hazeldean Lodge, 517 Wed May 21 2025 at 7:30 pm at 21 Young Road Kanata ON</li> <li>Installation and appointment of Officers for the Masonic Year 2025-26. Tyle at 7 pm</li> </ul>
Emergent	May 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>

\* "M" – minutes; "S" – summons. Some Lodges were reluctant to share their minutes outside of the Lodge. As a result, the historical summary was prepared from the Lodge Summons. Therefore, in some instances the information may not be entirely accurate as it is based on planned activities rather than the actual events that transpired. While the Summons records what the Lodge planned to do,

## District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25

numerous events can take place which prevents the planned from becoming the achieved – for example, a candidate may not be ready, principal officers are absent due to their public or private avocations, weather related snowstorms may result in the cancellation of a meeting etc., etc.

### Hazeldean Lodge No. 517 - Messages from the Worshipful Master

#### **Regular Meeting Summons, September 18, 2024**

Brethren of Hazeldean Lodge,

We had a wonderful opportunity at our May installation to welcome the Grand Master, DDGM, Grand Lodge officers, and Brethren from around the province. I was incredibly proud when the Grand Master and DDGM presented Hazeldean Lodge with our Cornerstone certification, which encourages and recognizes best-in-class lodges that plan, implement, and manage a well-rounded yearly lodge program of activities, brotherhood, charitable work, and community involvement. I also highlighted our priorities for the upcoming year, which will include a focus on social activities and events, officer mentorship, and long-term planning.

As we head into the upcoming year, I feel we have gained tremendous momentum and harmony. We are fortunate to have an overflowing list of candidates and new Brethren, coupled with an active and enthusiastic group of experienced members and officers—a truly unique and extraordinary combination.

I again had the privilege of attending the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge and joining the assembly of Masters and Grand Lodge Officers from across Ontario. Our District was very well represented by the Worshipful Masters of the upcoming year, who travelled to Grand Lodge to support our DDGM, R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts. I was proud to represent Hazeldean Lodge, to take advantage of the opportunity for fellowship and fraternity with brethren from Ottawa and across the province, and to learn from the excellent education sessions provided. In his closing remarks, the Grand Master highlighted that the charity he is supporting will be Ronald McDonald House Charities, and that the focus and vision of his term will be R.E.M. (Ritual, Education, and Mentoring).

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

W. Bro. Colin Mackenzie,

WM Hazeldean Lodge GRC No. 517

#### **Regular Meeting Summons, October 16, 2024**

Brethren of Hazeldean Lodge,

We've enjoyed a great start to our year, with the successful completion of ballots for Mr. Dritan Zhuja, Mr. Eric Benson, Bro. Ainslie Dunston, and R.W. Bro. Bart Seaton, followed by an Initiation where we warmly welcomed Bro. Cornelio Aaron Marquez to the Craft, and into Hazeldean Lodge. I am grateful to W. Bro. Parent for his exemplary stewardship during my absence, and to all the Hazeldean Officers and brethren for your excellent work.

We are shaping up to have a full and lively Trestle Board for the year - both in terms of meetings, as well as social events. This includes our December Christmas Dinner & Ladies' Night, and our January "A Night in the Philippines" fundraiser. During the month of October, we will enjoy our traditional fraternal visit with our close friends at



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Goodwood Lodge, and later in the month we will enthusiastically welcome two new brethren into Hazeldean Lodge.

I continue to receive overwhelmingly positive feedback from members and visiting brethren about the warmth, hospitality, and harmony they feel when they walk through our doors. We are truly fortunate at Hazeldean Lodge, and we should all be proud of what we have built together.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,  
W. Bro. Colin Mackenzie,  
WM Hazeldean Lodge GRC 517

**Regular Meeting Summons, November 20, 2024**

Brethren of Hazeldean Lodge,

With Remembrance Day almost upon us, we are called once again to honour those who served our country with courage and sacrifice. I encourage you to join us in the Remembrance Day Parade on November 11th at the Kanata Cenotaph, as we lay a wreath and pay our respects. We'll gather with aprons at 10:15 am in the parking lot of the Russian Orthodox Church at 2 Colchester Square.

This month holds special significance as we raise two of our own to the rank of Master Mason. It's a meaningful step in their journey, and your support will make it even more memorable for them. Additionally, we look forward to warmly welcoming the brethren of Temple Lodge #665 at our regular meeting as they deliver the Travelling Gavel. This exchange strengthens our bonds with lodges throughout the District, celebrating our shared values of fraternity and friendship.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,  
W. Bro. Colin Mackenzie,  
WM Hazeldean Lodge GRC 517

**Regular Meeting Summons, December 18, 2024**

Brethren of Hazeldean Lodge,

The month of November was truly memorable for our lodge. We had a strong turnout for the Remembrance Day Parade, paying tribute to those who sacrificed for us. It was an honour for our lodge to lay a wreath at the Kanata Cenotaph.

At our November meeting, we were delighted to receive the Travelling Gavel from Temple Lodge No. 665. This month also marked an important milestone by raising two deserving brothers, Bro. Brian MacGowan and Bro. Dominic Millette, to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

We have an exciting December in store. On Wednesday, December 11th at 7:30 PM, we will deliver the Travelling Gavel to St. John's Lodge No. 63. Then, on Saturday, December 14th at 6:00 PM, we will gather once again for our Christmas Dinner & Ladies' Night at Buster's Bar & Grill. On Wednesday, December 18th, we'll close out the year with our last meeting of 2024, followed by refreshments and the friendly competition for the V.W. Bro. Graham Turnbull Dart Challenge Trophy.

I wish everyone warmth and happiness during this holiday season!

Sincerely & Fraternaly,  
W. Bro. Colin Mackenzie,  
WM Hazeldean Lodge GRC 517

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Regular Meeting Summons, January 15, 2025**

Brethren of Hazeldean Lodge,

As we begin the New Year, I am grateful for the fellowship, dedication, and generosity that define our Lodge. December was an exceptional month for Hazeldean Lodge. We delivered the Travelling Gavel to St. John's Lodge No. 64, held our Christmas Dinner & Ladies' Night, contributed to our community through donations to the Kanata Food Cupboard's Adopt-a-Family Christmas program, a collective benevolence effort. We conducted a number of successful ballots, and shared a potluck and games evening together. These activities truly embody the spirit of Freemasonry. January promises to continue this momentum, as we will confer the Master Mason degree on Bro. Bernie Franzgrote, welcome Mr. Eric Benson into our Fraternity with his Initiation, and host our Night in the Philippines social event and fundraiser. These milestones mark the beginning of a vibrant and active year for our Lodge, and I encourage you all to participate, support, and share in these moments as we look forward to 2025.

Sincerely & Fraternally,

W. Bro. Colin Mackenzie,

WM Hazeldean Lodge GRC 517

**Regular Meeting Summons, February 19, 2025**

Brethren of Hazeldean Lodge,

In the past month, we have celebrated several proud moments for our Lodge. We Raised Bro. Bernie Franzgrote to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. Initiated Bro. Eric Benson. Held our inaugural fundraising event, "A Night in the Philippines" on January 25th, which was an outstanding success. I was proud of the exceptional planning, delicious food, and engaging entertainment that made the evening so welcoming to our friends and guests. It truly served as a fine example of brotherly love and charity, raising significant funds for our District Charity.

Our February meeting promises to be a memorable occasion as we welcome the District Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, on his Official Visit. This gathering will be a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with visitors from across the District, enjoy Masonic Education, and witness some of our Brethren demonstrating their proficiency in the Third degree. I look forward to sharing this special evening with all of you, and for those up to the challenge, bring your best chili recipes as we will follow the meeting with our Annual Chili Cook-Off!

Sincerely & Fraternally,

W. Bro. Colin Mackenzie,

WM Hazeldean Lodge GRC 517

**Regular Meeting Summons, March 19, 2025**

Brethren of Hazeldean Lodge,

I would like to thank all of the Officers and members of Hazeldean Lodge for the warmth and hospitality you showed our visitors last month as we welcomed our District Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, on his official visit. We had an incredibly successful evening that included a presentation to the DDGM of our donation to the District Charity.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Congratulations are in order to V.W. Bro. Ivan Harris for once again having the winning entry in our Annual Chili Cook-Off!

I look forward to seeing you all this month. During our Regular and Emergent meetings, we will be Initiating three candidates into our gentle Craft. In addition, we will be joining Temple Lodge as they help us pass a worthy Brother to the 2nd degree.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

W. Bro. Colin Mackenzie

WM Hazeldean Lodge GRC 517

**Regular Meeting Summons, April 16, 2025**

Brethren of Hazeldean Lodge,

The past month has been both rewarding and eventful, as we proudly welcomed Bro. Garcia, Bro. Padong, and Bro. Theriault into Hazeldean Lodge and our Fraternity. Additionally, we greatly enjoyed a fraternal visit to Temple Lodge No. 665, where they generously assisted us by conducting a Fellowcraft Degree for our own Bro. Almonte, marking a significant milestone in his Masonic journey.

Looking ahead, this month we will be holding our Annual Election of Officers. Your active participation in this process is essential as we chart the course for the continued growth and success of Hazeldean Lodge. We also have the pleasure of conducting Fellowcraft Degrees for Bro. Marquez and Bro. Bandillo at our Regular and Emergent meetings.

I look forward to seeing you all this month. As the weather grows warmer, I'm reminded of the warmth of our Brotherhood and the strength of our Fraternal Bonds. Let us continue to support one another, enjoy fellowship, and uphold the proud traditions of Hazeldean Lodge.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

W. Bro. Colin Mackenzie,

WM Hazeldean Lodge GRC 517

**Regular Meeting Summons, May 21, 2025**

Brethren of Hazeldean Lodge,

As our Masonic year concludes, I look back with immense gratitude on the privilege of serving as your Worshipful Master. It has truly been an active, rewarding, and deeply fulfilling two years. Witnessing the enthusiasm and harmony within our Lodge has been a continual source of pride and inspiration. Your commitment and the welcoming atmosphere you extend to our visitors exemplify the best of what Freemasonry represents.

This month, it will be my distinct honour to install our Master Elect V.W. Bro. Ivan Harris and invest the incoming officers. I look forward with excitement to the continued success of Hazeldean Lodge, confident that its stewardship is being entrusted to exceptionally capable and dedicated hands.

Thank you once again for making these past two years an experience I will deeply cherish. The strength and vibrancy of our lodge are indeed rare gifts, and I am profoundly thankful to each of you for contributing so generously to our shared journey in Freemasonry.

Sincerely & Fraternaly, W. Bro. Colin Mackenzie, WM Hazeldean Lodge GRC 517

District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25

Hazeldean Lodge No. 517 - Select Photos



Hazeldean Lodge - Meeting, September 18, 2024



Hazeldean Lodge - Meeting, October 16, 2024



District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25



Hazeldean Lodge - Meeting, October 23, 2024



Haazeldean Lodge - Meeting, November 20, 2024



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**



Hazeldean Lodge - Meeting, November 30, 2024



Hazeldean Lodge - Travelling Gavel to St. John's Lodge, December 11, 2024



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**



Hazeldean Lodge - Meeting, January 15, 2025



Hazeldean Lodge - Meeting, April 16, 2025



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**



Hazeldean Lodge - Meeting, April 30, 2025



Hazeldean Lodge - Installation Meeting, May 21, 2025

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Sidney Albert Luke No. 558, GRC In The Province Of Ontario - Instituted  
1919**

Summary of Events – Masonic Year 2024-25  
Meets the second Wednesday of each Month except June, July & August

**Sidney Albert Luke Lodge No. 558 - Summary of Events**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	September 11, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Meeting of this lodge on Wednesday, September 11th, 2024. We will meet at 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa Ontario starting at 7:30 PM sharp.</li><li>• Vote on the Senior Warden and install the Senior Warden.</li><li>• Openings 1st, 2nd and 3rd Degrees.</li><li>• Closings 3rd, 2nd and 1st Degrees.</li></ul>
Emergent	September 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No meeting was held.</li></ul>
Regular	October 9, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Meeting of this lodge on Wednesday, October 9th, 2024. We will meet at 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa Ontario starting at 7:30 PM sharp.</li><li>• Vote on and install the Senior Warden.</li><li>• Openings in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Degrees.</li><li>• Closings in the 3rd, 2nd and 1st Degrees.</li></ul>
Emergent	October 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No meeting was held.</li></ul>
Regular	November 13, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Meeting of this lodge on Wednesday November 13th, 2024. We will meet at 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa Ontario starting at 7:00 PM sharp.</li><li>• DDGM Official Visit.</li><li>• 2nd Degree.</li><li>• 3rd Degree Proving,</li></ul>
Emergent	November 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No meeting was held.</li></ul>
Regular	December 11, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Meeting of this lodge on Wednes- day December 11th,</li></ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>2024. We will meet at 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa Ontario starting at 7:30 PM sharp.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ballot.</li> <li>• Proving.</li> <li>• Masonic Education.</li> </ul>
Emergent	December 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	January 8, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Meeting of this Lodge on Wednesday January 8th, 2024. We will meet at 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa Ontario starting at 7:00 PM sharp.</li> <li>• The lodge will be conducting an Entered Apprentice Degree at the Regular Meeting on January 8, 2025.</li> </ul>
Emergent	January 22, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend the Emergent Meeting of this Lodge on Wednesday January 22nd, 2025. We will meet at 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa Ontario starting at 7:30 PM sharp.</li> <li>• The lodge will be conducting an Entered Apprentice Degree at the Emergent Meeting on January 22, 2025.</li> </ul>
Regular	February 12, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Meeting of this lodge on Wednesday February 12th, 2024. We will meet at 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa Ontario starting at 7:30 PM sharp.</li> <li>• Conferring a Fellow Craft Degree on an eligible Brother.</li> </ul>
Emergent	February 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	March 12, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: You are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Meeting of this lodge on Wednesday March 12th, 2025. We will meet at 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa Ontario starting at 7:30 PM sharp.</li> <li>• Work of the evening is Masonic Education by R.W. Bro. Jeff Christie.</li> </ul>
Emergent	March 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>



# District History, Ottawa District One

## 2024-25

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	April 9, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: You are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Meeting of this lodge on Wednesday April 9th, 2025. We will meet at 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa Ontario starting at 7:30 PM sharp.</li> <li>• Elections.</li> <li>• Masonic Education: The Cable Tow.</li> </ul>
Emergent	April 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	May 14, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: You are hereby summoned to attend the Regular Meeting of this Lodge on Wednesday May 14th, 2025. We will meet at 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa Ontario starting at 7:30 PM sharp.</li> <li>• Installation of Officers.</li> </ul>
Emergent	May 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>

\* "M" – minutes; "S" – summons. Some Lodges were reluctant to share their minutes outside of the Lodge. As a result, the historical summary was prepared from the Lodge Summons. Therefore, in some instances the information may not be entirely accurate as it is based on planned activities rather than the actual events that transpired. While the Summons records what the Lodge planned to do, numerous events can take place which prevents the planned from becoming the achieved – for example, a candidate may not be ready, principal officers are absent due to their public or private avocations, weather related snowstorms may result in the cancellation of a meeting etc., etc.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Sidney Albert Luke Lodge No. 558 - Messages from the Worshipful Master**

**Regular Meeting Summons, September 11, 2024**

Greetings Brethren,

September is here and we are beginning another Masonic Year, one which I hope you will find rewarding and exciting. I hope that 2024-2025 will be a year in which Sidney Albert Luke Lodge undergoes a renewal and revitalization.

Since being installed as the Master of our Lodge last May, I have attended the installations of several Lodges in Districts Ottawa 1, Ottawa 2, and St Lawrence District. I have also visited several Lodges in Eastern District and attended a few Masonic Functions such as the reception for the Deputy Jamie Ireland (now our Grand Master) and a breakfast that he hosted in Toronto. In the course of these interactions I have acquired some ideas of things we could do as a Lodge to help us become more dynamic.

Grand Lodge has some programmes designed to help us. At our September Meeting I would like to have a discussion of what you would like to see from our Lodge. I hope that we can make the Lodge more dynamic and rewarding.

Sincerely and Fraternally

J. F. Plamondon,

Worshipful Master Sidney Albert Luke No. 558

**Regular Meeting Summons, October 9, 2024**

Greetings Brethren,

I am especially excited for this year. I hope that you share my enthusiasm.

As you know, I want to see our lodge become more dynamic and undergo a renewal. In order to advance this goal, I initiated the conversations on the possibility of re-registering our Lodge for the Cornerstone Programme, and the type of Masonic Education that you would like to see. I would really appreciate your suggestions.

This month, we will be depositing a wreath at the tomb of Sidney Albert Luke who was the Grand Master after whom our Lodge was named. Note that we will be doing this on October 19, 2024 at 11 am, which corresponds to the establishment of our Lodge, on October 22, 1919. There will also be some Masonic Education sessions held at Westboro Masonic Temple, let's try to have a good representation.

Finally, I extend the Lodge's best wishes to Brother Ouamar Ait Auazzou on his new job and his relocation to Toronto.

See you all in Lodge.

J. F. Plamondon,

Worshipful Master Sidney Albert Luke No. 558

**Regular Meeting Summons, November 13, 2024**

Greetings Brethren,

I am excited about how our year is going so far. On October 19 we held what I hope is the beginning of an annual tradition, the paying of our respects to Sidney Albert Luke the Grand Master after which our lodge was named. We had the opportunity to visit Carleton Lodge and it was good that we had strong representation.

**District History, Ottawa District One**  
**2024-25**

I had the opportunity to attend several events in the district including the Officer Progression Workshop on October 19 and the Emulation of the EA degree held by Ionic.

On another note I wish to invite you to consider attending Remembrance Day events in your community. It is important for us and future generations to pay our respects to our brethren for past generations who sacrificed themselves for freedom.

See you all in Lodge.

J. F. Plamondon

Worshipful Master Sidney Albert Luke #558

**Regular Meeting Summons, December 11, 2024**

Greetings Brethren,

Last month we had our Official Visit, and the feedback from the District Deputy Grand Master was overall positive. He did note however, that attendance was an area for improvement and recommended that we should make an effort to get the newer Brothers out when visiting. I wish to invite you all to visit as much as it is in the length of your cabletow to do so.

I am extending my congratulations to our Junior Warden on a good programme, for the fellowship after the lodge. The meal was very good and appreciated from our guests who took part in it, as well as we performed all the expected toasts. We received positive feedback for our social events as well. These are important in engaging our newer brethren.

Finally I invite you to share any suggestions that you may have to strengthen our lodge.

J. F. Plamondon,

Worshipful Master Sidney Albert Luke No. 558

**Regular Meeting Summons, January 8, 2025**

Greetings Brethren,

This time of year is very special as it is both a time for introspection and celebration. I was reflecting on the significance of light at this time of year and the connection to Masonry. Masonry is often referred to as inquiry into the Divine and a quest for enlightenment, some may recall the word in a state of darkness.... And the passage from Genesis let there be light, as a special meaning for all of us.

This quest for the light is especially poignant at this time of year because for our Christian Brethren Christ is meant to be a beacon of light to the world, and our Jewish Brethren celebrate at this time of year Hanukkah the festival of lights. It is customary for Jews to light the nine branch Menorah during this period. The candle which is used to light the others is called the Shamash, I invite you regardless of your faith to be the Shamash and bring light to your community.

I see us as masons as co-builders with God in creating a better world, so this holiday season, do an act of charity, visit the sick or whatever else you can do to help your community.

Happy Holidays to all. Merry Christmas to our Christian Brethren and Happy Hanukkah to our Jewish Brethren.

I look forward to seeing you all in Lodge in January

J. F. Plamondon,

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Worshipful Master Sidney Albert Luke No. 558

**Regular Meeting Summons, February 12, 2025**

Greetings Brethren,

We had an excellent month of January, which in many ways was a great way to begin the New Year. In January 2025, we initiated two new members to our Lodge, and we can look forward to seeing our new Brothers continuing their Masonic journey. I had the opportunity with Very Worshipful Brother Guinn and Worshipful Brother Steve Elias to visit Prince of Wales Lodge.

I went to visit our brethren in Rising Sun Lodge in St-Lawrence District to see how a Friend-to-Friend evening works. We got a few tips and ideas, which I look forward to discussing with you in time. In February, I will be visiting Temple Lodge as it is their District Deputy Visit and I would like to make it out to Russell Lodge among other visits. We can look forward to hosting our brethren from St. Andrew's as we will be conducting a Fellowcraft Degree for them.

I am looking forward to seeing you all in Lodge,

J. F. Plamondon,

Worshipful Master Sidney Albert Luke No. 558

**Regular Meeting Summons, March 12, 2025**

Greetings Brethren, February has been a very good month for our lodge. Sidney Albert Luke Lodge is being noticed around the District, and it was great that when we delivered the Travelling Gavel to Lodge of Fidelity, we had a delegation of nine members. This was one of our best showings.

Later that week R.W. Bro. Jeff Christie and I attended the DD's Official Visit to Mississippi Lodge. I also know that some of you visited Temple Lodge on their Emergent night.

Early in the month Bro Anas Al-Husban and I attended Highland Lodge in Maxville for the Eastern District's Travelling Gavel. It was good to visit with one of our younger brothers. I encourage you all to visit as much as possible - not just in our District but beyond.

I look forward to March. I wish to leave you with one final thought - you will get out of Masonry what you put into it.

See you all in Lodge.

J. F. Plamondon,

Worshipful Master Sidney Albert Luke No. 558

**Regular Meeting Summons, April 9, 2025**

Greetings Brethren, Last month we had at our regular meeting an interesting presentation for Right Worshipful Brother Christie on some of the sources that we could access to further our masonic knowledge. I now want to remind you of the earnest injunction that we first receive an Entered Apprentice Mason that we are to make a daily advancement in our masonic knowledge.

We are also taught in our first degree that Freemasonry is a beautiful system of morality which is illustrated by symbols. I would invite you all as part of an effort to

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

expand our masonic knowledge to reflect and re- search various symbols and emblems as well as their associated moral lessons.

See you all in Lodge.

J. F. Plamondon,

Worshipful Master Sidney Albert Luke No. 558

**Regular Meeting Summons, May 8, 2025**

Greetings Brethren,

As the masonic year for Sidney Albert Luke Lodge comes to a close, I am extremely pleased to report that our Lodge is in good health. This year, I have visited over 30 Lodges in five districts, namely Frontenac, St. Lawrence, Eastern, Ottawa One and Ottawa Two. On several of these visits, I was accompanied by members of our Lodge. We also welcomed one new Fellowcraft, and two new Entered Apprentices, conducted a Fellowcraft and proved a Brother in the Third Degree for another Lodge.

We conducted the first Memorial Service in honour of the Grand Master after whom our Lodge is named, Most Worshipful Brother Sidney Albert Luke. I hope that the memorial will be a tradition that our Lodge will continue. We have been active in the various Ottawa District One and Two Activities such as the officer progression workshop, the Valentine's Day Charity Ball, and the chili cook-off, among others.

We conducted charity in our community, donating 21 Turkeys to the Ottawa Mission at Christmas time. As well we supported the District Charity. We made a donation of \$100.00 of food to the Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard. On the social front our outgoing Junior Warden and our incoming one are working with Lodge of Fidelity to host a BBQ for our members.

I hope that we have an even better year, in 2025-26.

J. F. Plamondon,

Worshipful Master Sidney Albert Luke No. 558



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Sidney Albert Luke Lodge No. 558 - Select Photos**

No photos were provided.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**St. Andrew's Lodge No. 560, GRC In The Province Of Ontario - Instituted  
1920**

Summary of Events – Masonic Year 2024-25  
Meets the first Thursday of each Month except July & August

**St. Andrew's Lodge No. 560 - Summary of Events**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	September 5, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are summoned and visitors are invited to attend a Regular Meeting of St. Andrew's Lodge No.560, GRC in Ontario, to be held at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, on Thursday, September 5, 2024. (Lodge Room #1)</li><li>• To ballot on two prospective candidates for initiation pending favourable investigation reports on Messrs:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Jason Demille, recommended by Bro. Federico and W. Bro. Young and</li><li>◦ Vance Julien Brousseau recommended by W. Bros. Lakkis and Young.</li></ul></li><li>• The Master's Report on Grand Lodge.</li><li>• Investing two Officers of the Line.</li><li>• Presentation of certificates should the Brethren be present.</li><li>• Masonic Education.</li></ul>
Emergent	September 19, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are summoned and visitors are invited to attend an Emergent Meeting of St. Andrew's Lodge No.560, GRC in Ontario, to be held at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, on Thursday, September 19, 2024. (Lodge Room #2)</li><li>• To Confer the Entered Apprentice Degree on to Mr. J. Sanchez Montenegro.</li></ul>
Regular	October 3, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are summoned and visitors are invited to attend a Regular Meeting of St. Andrew's Lodge No.560, GRC in Ontario, to be held at the Ottawa Masonic</li></ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, on Thursday, October 3, 2024. (Lodge Room #1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To welcome Distinguished visitors including delegations from Renfrew 122 with the Bifurcated Gavel, Edinburgh-Defenders 590 and the DDGM Ottawa 1 R.W. Bro. Roberts on his first fraternal visit.</li> <li>• To conduct the Bifurcated Gavel Ceremony,</li> <li>• To Invest an officer of the Line,</li> <li>• To Ballot on two prospective candidates pending favourable investigation reports on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ (Initiation) Mr. Alexander Zaporzan, recommended by W. Bros. Federico and Young,</li> </ul> </li> <li>• (Affiliation) W. Bro. Sapard Vincent Kalala of Banjul Lodge of St. John 6878, District Grand Lodge of Sierra Leone and The Gambia, UGLE and recommended by W. Bro Federico and V.W. Bro. Kinastowski.</li> <li>• Conferring the FC degree on two brethren by the Highland Degree team.</li> <li>• To reveal Who is our brother (see Master's message).</li> <li>• NOTE: The Festive Board precedes the meeting, at 6:00 pm. RSVP required by September 30th.</li> </ul>
Emergent	October 17, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are summoned and visitors are invited to attend an Emergent Meeting of St. Andrew's Lodge No.560, GRC in Ontario, to be held at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, on Thursday, October 17, 2024. (Lodge Room #2).</li> <li>• To Confer the Entered Apprentice Degree on to Messrs. J. Demille and V. Brousseau.</li> </ul>
Regular	November 7, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are summoned and visitors are invited to attend a Regular Meeting of St. Andrew's Lodge No.560, GRC in Ontario, to be held at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, on</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>Thursday, November 7, 2024. (Lodge Room #1).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following the meeting the Lodge room will be opened to friends, family and guests and the annual Empty Chair Ceremony will be conducted. Past and present members of the Police and Military Services are encouraged to wear their service medals.</li> </ul>
Emergent	November 21, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are summoned and visitors are invited to attend an Emergent Meeting of St. Andrew's Lodge No.560, GRC in Ontario, to be held at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, on Thursday, November, 21 2024. (Lodge Room #2).</li> <li>To confer the Entered Apprentice Degree on to Mr. Alexander Zaporzan.</li> </ul>
Regular	December 5, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are summoned and visitors are invited to attend a Regular Meeting of St. Andrew's Lodge No.560, GRC in Ontario, to be held at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, on Thursday, December 5, 2024. (Lodge Room #1).</li> <li>To welcome Distinguished Visitors including delegations as well as the DDGM Ottawa 1 R.W. Bro. Roberts on his Official visit.</li> <li>To Prove Bros. James and Lafleur</li> <li>To Invest an Officer of the Line</li> <li>To Ballot on two prospective candidates pending favourable investigation reports on (Initiation) for Messrs. Bryan Brown, recommended by W. Bros. Federico and Young and Mr. Naoureddine Hanny, recommended by W. Bros. Federico and Young.</li> <li>To Ballot on a motion of Restoration Moved by W. Bro. A. Nesrallah and Seconded by V.W. Bro. Kinastowski that Bro. Michael James (formerly Daignault), who was previously suspended, be restored to membership in this</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>Lodge given that he has requested restoration; indicated that life circumstances have changed for the better; dues owing have been paid; and an investigation committee has reported positively on his petition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To conduct the essential business of the Lodge including education on the York Rite.</li> </ul>
Emergent	December 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	January 16, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are summoned, and visitors are invited, to attend the following meetings of St. Andrew's Lodge No.560, GRC in Ontario, to be held at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, on Thursday, January 16th, 2025. (Lodge Room #2). (Please note the change in date.)</li> <li>• To Invest two Officers of the Line.</li> <li>• To Ballot on the application for affiliation received from Bro. Lawrence Zaporzan, a demitted member in good standing of Tejon Lodge #104 (GL of Colorado) and Cherrydale Lodge #42 (GL of Virginia). Recommended by W Bros. Young and Federico.</li> <li>• To present Certificates to Brethren if in attendance.</li> <li>• To receive Masonic Education</li> </ul>
Emergent	January 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	February 6, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are summoned, and visitors are invited, to attend the Regular Meeting of St. Andrew's Lodge No.560, GRC in Ontario, to be held at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, on Thursday, February 6, 2025. (Lodge Room #2)</li> <li>• To conduct the essential business of the Lodge</li> <li>• Following the Regular Meeting, St. Andrew's will hold its annual Robbie Burns Night. This event is open to Masons, non-Masons and</li> </ul>



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			ladies. Space is limited and tickets must be purchased in advance.
Emergent	February 15, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are summoned, and visitors are invited, to attend an Emergent Meeting of St. Andrew's Lodge No.560, GRC in Ontario, to be held at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, on Thursday February 20, 2025. (Lodge Room #2)</li> <li>• To confer the Entered Apprentice Degree on Messrs. Brown and Hany.</li> <li>• Email to Brethren of St. Andrew's Lodge: This evening's Emergent Night meeting along with <b>the planned EA degree has been postponed.</b> Replacement date to be confirmed.</li> <li>• <b>The degree will be rescheduled and updates will follow</b> via the Summons and other communication.</li> <li>• We apologize for the very last minute notification, but are grateful for your understanding, and your support.</li> </ul>
Regular	March 7, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are summoned, and visitors are invited, to attend the Regular Meeting of St. Andrew's Lodge No.560, GRC in Ontario, to be held at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, on Thursday, March 6, 2025. (Lodge Room #1)</li> <li>• To receive the Travelling Gavel from the Lodge</li> <li>• of Fidelity.</li> <li>• Masonic Education. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Presentations on the histories of the Lodges attending - expected Doric, St. Andrew's, Mississippi, and Carleton.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Emergent	March 21, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are summoned, and visitors are invited, to attend an Emergent Meeting of St. Andrew's Lodge No.560, GRC in Ontario, to be held at the Ottawa Masonic</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One**  
**2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, on Thursday March 20, 2025. (Lodge Room #2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● To Confer the Fellowcraft Degree on Bros. Sanchez and Demille.</li> </ul>
Regular	April 3, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are summoned, and visitors are invited, to attend a Regular Meeting of St. Andrew's Lodge No. 560 to be held at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, on Thursday, April 3, 2025. (Lodge Room #1)</li> <li>● Lodge of Discussion "Three years in retrospect, and three years forward".</li> </ul>
Emergent	April 6, 2025	S	<p style="text-align: center;">Emergent Meeting #1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are summoned, and visitors are invited, to attend an Emergent Meeting of St. Andrew's Lodge No. 560 to be held at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, on Saturday, April 5, 2025. (Lodge Room #1)</li> <li>● TRIBUTE TO R.W. BRO. JOHN FORSTER</li> <li>● Emergent Tyled meeting at 2:00pm,</li> <li>● Social at 5:00pm,</li> <li>● Formal Dinner at 6:00pm.</li> <li>● Social and Dinner open to Masons, non-Masons and ladies.</li> </ul>
Emergent	April 10, 2025	S	<p style="text-align: center;">Emergent Meeting #2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are summoned, and visitors are invited, to attend an Emergent Meeting of St. Andrew's Lodge No. 560 to be held at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, on Thursday, April 10, 2025. (Lodge Room #2)</li> <li>● To Confer the Entered Apprentice Degree on Mr. N. Hany.</li> </ul>
Regular	May 1, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are summoned, and visitors are invited, to attend a Regular Meeting of St. Andrew's Lodge No. 560 to be</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>held at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, on Thursday, May 1, 2025. (Lodge Room #1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Election of Officers for 2025-26</li> <li>• To review and vote on the Budget for 2025-26.</li> <li>• To Recognize Living Pillars and active Past Masters of the Lodge.</li> </ul>
Emergent	May 8, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergent Meeting #1</li> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are summoned, and visitors are invited, to attend an Emergent Meeting of St. Andrew's Lodge No. 560 to be held at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, on Thursday, May 8, 2025. (Lodge Room #2)</li> <li>• To Confer the Master Masons Degree on Bro. El Kozah</li> </ul>
Emergent	May 22, 2025	S	<p style="text-align: center;">Emergent Meeting #2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are summoned, and visitors are invited, to attend an Emergent Meeting of St. Andrew's Lodge No. 560 to be held at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, on Thursday, May 22, 2025. (Lodge Room #2)</li> <li>• To Confer the Master Masons degree on Bro. Brousseau</li> </ul>
Regular	June 5, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, members are summoned, and visitors are invited, to attend a Regular Meeting of St. Andrew's Lodge No. 560 to be held at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa, on Thursday, June 5, 2025. (Lodge Room #1)</li> <li>• To conduct the Installation and Investiture of Lodge Officers for 2025-26 under the direction of the Installing Master, W. Bro. Chris Evans with his inclusive team of Past Masters from our Lodge and other Lodges, as well as members of the Lodge.</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To present Certificates &amp; Jewels pending the attendance of the respective Brothers.</li></ul>
Emergent	June 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No meeting was held.</li></ul>

\* "M" – minutes; "S" – summons. Some Lodges were reluctant to share their minutes outside of the Lodge. As a result, the historical summary was prepared from the Lodge Summons. Therefore, in some instances the information may not be entirely accurate as it is based on planned activities rather than the actual events that transpired. While the Summons records what the Lodge planned to do, numerous events can take place which prevents the planned from becoming the achieved – for example, a candidate may not be ready, principal officers are absent due to their public or private avocations, weather related snowstorms may result in the cancellation of a meeting etc., etc.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**St. Andrew's Lodge No. 560 - Messages from the Worshipful Master**

**Regular Meeting Summons, September 5, 2024**

Brethren,

I hope you're all in good health and high spirits. As we return from our well-deserved summer break, let's kick off the new year with renewed energy. It's always a joy to reconnect and share in our brotherhood.

This month is set to be both busy and exciting. Our Bro. J.W. will host a festive board featuring Mexican cuisine. Bro. Bayliss will discuss the importance of benevolence and charity, core principles of Freemasonry. We'll also welcome our candidates and prospective members, making it essential to help them feel at home and to get to know them better. Remember, it's our collective responsibility to guard the West Gate.

At our Lodge meeting, we'll begin with the investiture of officers and receive updates from the latest Grand Lodge Communication. Bro. W. Levere will present an insightful piece on the value of our collective efforts. We'll honour V.W. Bro. G. McGill, a founder of our Lodge and Worshipful Master from 1924-1925, through a presentation by R.W. Bro. R. Campbell. We'll also display McGill's regalia, showcasing a significant artifact of our Lodge's history.

The following week, we'll start a series of practices on ritual and coaching for new Masons. Join us for dinner on the second Thursday, followed by practice sessions. On the third Thursday, we'll hold a First Degree ceremony for a worthy candidate.

Let's stay in touch and support each other, especially those facing challenges. Your presence and kind words to them matter. We look forward to a memorable start to the year!

W.M. Jesus Federico 2024-25

**Regular Meeting Summons, October 3, 2024**

Brethren,

As we enter the second month of the year, if it feels like we've accomplished a lot already, it's because we have! I want to thank everyone who has been actively involved - whether preparing the festive board, speaking in Lodge, delivering lectures, participating in degree work, mentoring, or working behind the scenes. Your efforts are outstanding, and I am proud to work with you this year.

This month, we have an extraordinary evening ahead. The festive board will feature a Scottish-themed dinner, with W. Bro. F. Haggart speaking on benevolence and Tunis Shriner activities.

During our Lodge meeting, we'll welcome Renfrew Lodge No. 122 for the annual Bifurcated Gavel Ceremony and Edinburgh-Defenders Lodge No. 590 for a fraternal visit. The Highland Degree Team will perform two Second Degrees - one for a brother from St. Andrew's and one from Edinburgh-Defenders. We're also honoured to receive the DDGM on his first fraternal visit.

For our "He is Your Brother" segment: This brother, while in Senegal, spent time in jail and had to trade his camera for passage home. Who might he be?

This is a meeting you don't want to miss—it promises to be a night of fellowship, tradition, and unity and I look forward to seeing you all! W.M. Jesus Federico 2024-25



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Regular Meeting Summons, November 7, 2024**

Brethren,

As Fall settles in and the chill of the season begins to make its presence felt, let us take a moment to reflect on the year behind us and what lies ahead.

November is a time of solemn reflection as we honour Remembrance Day and pay tribute to those who have served. Our upcoming meeting will feature the Open Chair Ceremony, dedicated to brethren who are no longer with us, especially those who served. This ceremony is open to family and friends, and I encourage you to invite them so we may remember together.

Given the successes of last year, our Lodge's Community engagement activities continue with Veteran's House. We seek your contributions (donations of funds and time) for these events on:

- November 11 Remembrance Day ceremony on November 11 regalia to be worn; and
- November 23 hosting Brunch for the resident veterans.

We are pleased to welcome our newest Entered Apprentices and look forward to another initiation on November 21st. Note please that to further support our brethren, we will travel to Sydney Albert Luke Lodge on November 13 for a brother to prove his proficiency in the 3rd degree, and to Glengarry Highland Lodge on November 20 for another brother's Passing. Seeking delegations of seven or more for each visit.

Thank you all for your commitment and fraternity.

W.M. Jesus Federico 2024-25

**Regular Meeting Summons, December 5, 2024**

Brethren,

As we approach our final meeting of the first half of the year, I reflect with pride on our accomplishments. November was incredibly active, starting with our annual Empty Chair Ceremony, followed by honoring veterans on Remembrance Day at the Veterans' House. We also visited Sydney Albert Luke Lodge to witness Bro. Delatour's proving-up and conducted valuable practice and coaching sessions.

We participated at Glengarry Highland Lodge meeting as Bro. El-Kozah advanced to the Second Degree, welcomed Bro. Zaporzan into our ranks through a meaningful initiation and participated in the Shriners Club's Culinary event. Additionally, we are holding another community brunch at the Veterans' House by the end of the month.

I'm grateful for your unwavering support, especially from our officers. This collective dedication showcases the true spirit of our Lodge.

Our December meeting promises a unique experience with an education piece on the York Rite by W. Bro. Young, alongside our DDGM's visit. Please register early to secure your seat.

I will be away until mid-January. Our Lodge is in the good hands of our SW who organized the Seasonal Dinner on December 19. For more details please contact Bro. SW directly.

As the year closes, let's reflect on our journey, guided by the Four Cardinal Virtues. Miriam and I wish you a joyful holiday season. See you all in the New Year, refreshed and ready for what lies ahead! W. Bro. Jesus Federico WM 2024-25

**District History, Ottawa District One  
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**Regular Meeting Summons, January 16, 2025**

Brethren,

We have crossed the halfway mark of the Masonic year, and what a remarkable journey it has been! I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the brethren who participated in our busy November and capped it off at our December Regular Meeting with the official visit of our DDGM.

A special mention goes to everyone who contributed to the DDGM's charity during the wonderful dinner we hosted. Your generosity made a meaningful impact. The meeting was well-attended, and W. Bro. Young delivered a magnificent lecture on the York Rite and the several concordant and appendant bodies, which was both enlightening and inspiring.

This year has truly given us much to celebrate and be thankful for. In recent months, we've seen incredible growth and movement within our Lodge. We welcomed four new EAs; Brothers Sanchez, Demille, Brousseau and Zaporzan. Saw Brothers Al-Janabi and El-Kozah passed to the Second Degree. Celebrated the progress of Brothers Delatour and James who proved up and are now serving as Officers of the Lodge. Additionally, we also welcomed the restoration of Bro. M. James, and the affiliation of W. Bro. Kalala. I would be remiss if I didn't express overdue thanks to W. Bro. John Thomas and the brethren of Glengarry Highland Lodge for their exceptional hospitality and support during the passing of one of our brothers. We were warmly received, well-fed, and beautifully attended. We look forward to returning their generosity when the opportunity arises.

As we prepare for the year ahead, I encourage all Brethren to stay engaged and participate in the many activities planned for both our Lodge and the District. Attending and supporting our sister Lodges is a rewarding experience that strengthens the bonds of Brotherhood in immeasurable ways. Keep an eye in the District Calendar, sure you will find an activity that will suit your interest.

Looking forward to seeing you at Lodge for the second half of the year ahead of us!

W. Bro. Jesus Federico WM 2024-25

**Regular Meeting Summons, February 6, 2025**

Brethren,

At our last meeting, W. Bro. Nesrallah presented a thoughtful moralisation on the tools and materials used by the stonemasons, leading a rich discussion on what drives us as Freemasons. His reflections reminded us that as each brother grows, we all grow together, strengthening our fraternity through shared progress and mutual support.

This spirit of unity and growth continues to guide us as we welcome Bro. L. Zaporzan, our newest affiliate member, into St. Andrew's Lodge. In February, we will further strengthen our ranks by initiating two new members. Let us continue this momentum by actively participating in Lodge and District activities. I encourage all Brethren to explore the calendars shared through our official websites and engage in the rich tapestry of events that foster learning, fellowship, and Masonic advancement.

February also brings our annual celebration of Scottish heritage with the Burns Night Supper, honoring the life and legacy of Robert Burns. This special event is an opportunity to gather with loved ones in the spirit of tradition and fellowship. Please

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bring your family and friends to join us for a memorable evening of reflection, celebration, and fraternity.

Lastly, as we enjoy these moments together, let us remember our Brethren who are facing challenges. A kind word or gesture of support can bring great comfort. Reaching out strengthens our bonds of brotherhood and reminds us of the daily practice of Masonry.

May we continue to grow together in unity, tradition, and brotherly love.

W. Bro. Jesus Federico WM 2024-25

**Regular Meeting Summons, March 7, 2025**

Brethren,

Burns Night was a wonderful celebration of tradition for our Lodge, and it was heartening to see so many of our members present.

March offers a great chance for connection with several Lodges in our district. At our Regular Meeting, we will receive a Fraternal Visit from Lodge of Fidelity, bringing the Traveling Gavel to our Lodge. We also extend a warm invitation to Doric Lodge, Mississippi Lodge, and Carleton Lodge - Lodges that are near and dear to our hearts. This visit will allow us to strengthen those ties and continue the tradition of Lodge visitations. Additionally, on March 18, we will travel to Acacia Lodge to deliver the Traveling Gavel. This is a task we are excited to perform, and we will bring a strong group of brethren to ensure a memorable visit.

While we've faced some setbacks due to seasonal illnesses, we're working to get back on track. This month, we are expected to Pass two Worthy Brothers, and we look forward to completing the long-postponed First Degree in April. We also congratulate our newest Fellowcraft, Bro. V. Brousseau and extend our gratitude to the Worshipful Master and Brethren of Sydney Albert Luke Lodge for their continued support.

Finally, the visit of our Grand Master M.W. Bro. Jamie Ireland to honor R.W. Bro. Forster is quickly approaching - please secure your tickets soon.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Lodge.

W. Bro. Jesus Federico WM 2024-25

**Regular Meeting Summons, April 3, 2025**

Brethren,

March has been a remarkable month for strengthening fraternal ties.

Brethren from Doric, Mississippi, and Carleton Lodges joined us for a historic and memorable night of fellowship. My sincere thanks to their Worshipful Masters for making it possible - these visits strengthen our Brotherhood and keep our Lodges thriving.

We also received the Lodge of Fidelity with the Traveling Gavel, which we have now delivered to Acacia Lodge, continuing this tradition of Masonic unity.

Congratulations to our newest Fellowcrafts, Bro. J. Sanchez and Bro. J. DeMille.

April brings key opportunities to engage. At our April 3 Regular Meeting, we will discuss our Lodge's future - two years after our pivotal conversation on sustaining our existence. Your voice matters.

On April 5, we honour R.W. Bro. John Forster as he receives his 60-year pin from the Grand Master. Please join us for this milestone event.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

On April 10, we will finally confer the First Degree for Mr. N. Hany. Let's ensure a strong turnout to welcome him into our Craft.

Let's also keep in our thoughts those facing challenges—Brotherly support makes all the difference.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Lodge.

W. Bro. Jesus Federico WM 2024-25

**Regular Meeting Summons, May 1, 2025**

Brethren,

This time, I must begin with a reflection on the remarkable work we've accomplished together over the past month. In three distinct gatherings, we celebrated R.W. Bro. J. Forster in a heartfelt tribute, engaged in a meaningful discussion on the future of our Lodge, and welcomed Bro. N. Hany into the Craft with a memorable degree, delivered in part by our newest Masons, who continue to impress.

These moments were not isolated. They were the result of months of dedication, teamwork, and shared purpose. As our Masonic year draws to a close, I want to thank each of you who helped make these and many other moments possible. From ritual work to event planning, from mentoring to quiet support behind the scenes, your contributions have made this year an exceptional one. I am truly proud of the spirit of this Lodge.

As we now look ahead, we prepare to elect those who will lead us into the next chapter. Our next meeting is an important one. Please join us and cast your ballot as we shape the leadership of St. Andrew's for the coming year.

That evening, we will also take time to recognize several of our Past Masters who are stepping back from active duties. We'll mark this occasion with a small in-house tribute to honour their decades of faithful service and the foundations they have laid for us all.

Thank you, Brethren, for all you have done. I look forward to seeing you in Lodge.

W. Bro. Jesus Federico W.M. 2024-25

**Regular Meeting Summons, June 5, 2025**

Brethren,

As our Masonic year ends, I find myself reflecting with deep gratitude on the journey we have shared. While our next meeting will formally close this chapter, I had the honour of addressing the Lodge last month in what was, in essence, my final full address as Worshipful Master. My message was simple: Thank you.

Thank you for the trust you placed in me. Thank you for embracing bold ideas with patience and care. And above all, thank you for making this year's achievements not about one person, but about shared purpose and united effort.

At that meeting, I also presented a paper titled "The Significance of the Past Master in Freemasonry." It explored how true leadership continues after one steps down, often through quiet mentorship, thoughtful guidance, and humble service. I was proud to recognize those Past Masters and Officers, both retiring and continuing, whose steady hands and generous hearts have kept our Lodge on firm ground. Some have served for decades; others are among our new generation of leaders. All are essential to our future.

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Three years ago, our Lodge faced serious uncertainty. Today, we are not just surviving, we are rebuilding, revitalizing, and growing. That is thanks to you, Brethren, and especially to those who have led from the front and supported from behind the scenes. As we prepare to pass the gavel, may we do so with confidence, knowing that the future of St. Andrew's Lodge 560 rests on a foundation of shared labour, friendship, and faith in one another.

It has been the highest honour of my Masonic life to serve as your Master.

W. Bro. Jesus Federico W.M. 2024-25



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**St. Andrew's Lodge No. 560 - Select Photos**

No photos were provided.

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**Acacia Lodge No. 561, GRC In The Province of Ontario - Instituted 1920**

Summary of Events – Masonic Year 2024-25

Meets the third Tuesday of each Month except June, July & August

**Acacia Lodge No. 561 - Summary of Events**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	September 17, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master you are hereby summoned to attend: a regular meeting of Acacia Lodge A.F. &amp; A.M. No. 561 to be held in the lodge room, 3494 McBean St., Richmond on Tuesday, September 17th, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.</li> <li>Regular Business.</li> <li>Proving of a Master Mason.</li> <li>Investiture of Officers.</li> </ul>
Emergent	September 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held</li> </ul>
Emergent	October 15, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Emergent and Regular Meetings were switched this month. The Kitchener Chapter of Royal Arch Masons required the Lodge meeting room at Goodwood Masonic Hall to hold their meeting on October 15, 2024. This is an annual change of meeting night since the second Monday is always Thanksgiving.</li> <li>Acacia paid a Fraternal Visit to the Lodge of Fidelity on October 15, 2024 and held the Regular Meeting on October 22, 2024.</li> </ul>
Regular	October 22, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Emergent and Regular Meetings were switched this month. The Kitchener Chapter of Royal Arch Masons required the Lodge meeting room at Goodwood Masonic Hall to hold their meeting on October 15, 2024. This is an annual change of meeting night since the second Monday is always Thanksgiving.</li> <li>Acacia paid a Fraternal Visit to the Lodge of Fidelity on October 15, 2024 and held the Regular Meeting on October 22, 2024.</li> <li>Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master you are hereby</li> </ul>

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2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>summoned to attend: a regular meeting of Acacia Lodge A.F. &amp; A.M. No. 561 to be held in the lodge room, 3494 McBean St., Richmond on Tuesday, October 22nd, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memorial for Bro. John Jenkyns.</li> <li>• Raising a brother to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.</li> </ul>
Regular	November 20, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master you are hereby summoned to attend: a regular meeting of Acacia Lodge A.F. &amp; A.M. No. 561 to be held in the lodge room, 3494 McBean St., Richmond on Tuesday, November 20th, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.</li> <li>• Empty Chair Ceremony.</li> <li>• Grand Lodge Certificate presentation.</li> <li>• Proving of a Master Mason.</li> <li>• Acacia Lodge Masonic &amp; Military History addresses.</li> </ul>
Emergent	November 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	December 17, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master you are hereby summoned to attend: a regular meeting of Acacia Lodge A.F. &amp; A.M. No. 561 to be held in the lodge room, 3494 McBean St., Richmond on Tuesday, December 17th, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.</li> <li>• Regular Business before attending Annual Family Christmas Dinner.</li> </ul>
Emergent	December 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	January 21, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master you are hereby summoned to attend: a regular meeting of Acacia Lodge A.F. &amp; A.M. No. 561 to be held in the lodge room, 3494 McBean St., Richmond on Tuesday, January 21st, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.</li> <li>• Regular Business.</li> </ul>

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2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Receive the DDGM on his official visit and raising a Brother to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason.</li> </ul>
Emergent	January 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	February 18, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend: a Regular Meeting of Acacia Lodge A.F. &amp; A.M. No. 561 to be held in the lodge room, 3494 McBean St., Richmond on Tuesday, February 18th, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.</li> <li>The Roll Call.</li> <li>Prove a Master Mason.</li> </ul>
Emergent	February 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	March 18, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend: a Regular meeting of Acacia Lodge A.F. &amp; A.M. No. 561 to be held in the Lodge room, 3494 McBean St., Richmond on Tuesday, March 18th, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.</li> <li>Receive The Grand Chaplain.</li> <li>Receive the Travelling Gavel.</li> <li>Prove a Master Mason.</li> <li>Masonic Education.</li> </ul>
Emergent	March 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	April 15, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend: a Regular Meeting of Acacia Lodge A.F. &amp; A.M. No. 561 to be held in the Lodge room, 3494 McBean St., Richmond on Tuesday, April 15th 2025.</li> <li>Elections.</li> <li>Masonic Education.</li> </ul>
Emergent	April 22, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, you are hereby summoned to attend: an Emergent Meeting on the 22nd of April 2025 at 7:30 p.m.</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Step Up Night for Elected and Appointed Officers.</li> </ul>
Regular	May 20, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master you are hereby summoned to attend a Regular Meeting of Acacia Lodge A.F. &amp; A.M. No. 561 to be held in the lodge room, 3494 McBean St., Richmond on Tuesday, May 20th, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.</li> <li>• Installation and Investiture of Officers for 2025-2026.</li> </ul>
Emergent	May 27, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master you are hereby summoned to attend an Emergent Meeting of Acacia Lodge A.F. &amp; A.M. No. 561 to be held in the lodge room, 3494 McBean St., Richmond on Tuesday, May 27th, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.</li> <li>• A Trestle Board &amp; Long Range Planning.</li> </ul>

\* "M" – minutes; "S" – summons. Some Lodges were reluctant to share their minutes outside of the Lodge. As a result, the historical summary was prepared from the Lodge Summons. Therefore, in some instances the information may not be entirely accurate as it is based on planned activities rather than the actual events that transpired. While the Summons records what the Lodge planned to do, numerous events can take place which prevents the planned from becoming the achieved – for example, a candidate may not be ready, principal officers are absent due to their public or private avocations, weather related snowstorms may result in the cancellation of a meeting etc., etc.



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**Acacia Lodge No. 561 - Messages from the Worshipful Master**

**Regular Meeting Summons, September 17, 2024**

Brethren of Acacia,

It appears yet another summer has scurried away at the speed of light.

First, a huge congratulations to our very own R.W. Brother Sam Roberts, this year's DDGM for Ottawa District 1.

As we are about to enter a new year of Masonic brotherhood and visitation, I want to say a simple, welcome back and it is my pleasure to continue as your Worshipful Master for another year.

We are about to embark on a busy year. We will be proving a worthy brother in the third and installing several officers at our upcoming meeting in September.

In October, there were scheduling issues with the Royal Arch, so I have asked for dispensation to move our regular meeting to our emergent night and would request as many of you as possible to join me in a delegation for a fraternal visit to The Lodge of Fidelity on our regular night. We never get to interact with one another as our lodges meet on the same night and as I stated in my message in May, my goal this year will be to encourage more visitation throughout the district.

We will also be doing two third degrees this year on two very worthy brethren in October and January.

Welcome back, and I look forward to seeing you all in person at the upcoming CGP and lodge meetings next month.

Derek Brook, W.M.

**Regular Meeting Summons, October 22, 2024**

*The Emergent and Regular Meetings were switched this month. The Kitchener Chapter of Royal Arch Masons required the Lodge meeting room at Goodwood Masonic Hall to hold their meeting on October 15, 2024. This is an annual change of meeting night since the second Monday is always Thanksgiving.*

*Acacia paid a Fraternal Visit to the Lodge of Fidelity on October 15, 2024 and held the Regular Meeting on October 22, 2024.*

Brethren of Acacia,

First let me say, last month was a very good evening with proving brother Schulz and investing several officers in their new posts. This month the ball keeps right on rolling along with a very worthy brother being raised as a Master Mason. Many thanks go out to the Brethren who have stepped up and agreed to help both from Acacia and elsewhere.

As a reminder to everyone, we will be assembling for our usual meeting night (15 October) at 7 pm at Walkley Rd. for a fraternal visit to Lodge of Fidelity. This is their official DD visit and having as many of you as possible join us for the meeting there in support of "our" DD would be very much appreciated.

Just a reminder that our Regular meeting to raise Bro. Reid will be conducted on the night of Oct. 22nd. We have dispensation from Grand Lodge to conduct the Regular business of the Lodge on the night usually reserved for our Emergent meetings.

On a more sombre note, we will be saying

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farewell to Bro. John Jenkyns this month as he passed to the Grand Lodge Above September 24, 2024.

Derek Brook,  
Worshipful Master,  
Acacia Lodge No. 561

**Regular Meeting Summons, November 20, 2024**

Brethren of Acacia,

I would like to, once again, commend everyone at Acacia, as well as the brethren from other lodges for making our Raising of Bro. Reid last month had a very crisp evening, and I trust a memorable one for our brother.

This month's meeting will be no less busy as we remember the fallen with an empty chair ceremony, as well as a couple of masonic education presenters.

We will also be proving our recently minted master mason as he proves his proficiency in the third degree.

As the winter season quickly approaches, please remember that the safety of everyone in attendance is of the utmost importance, so please ensure your vehicles are winterized and ready for whatever weather the next 4 months will bring with it.

We will also be doing another third degree in January at our official DDGM Visit and I look forward to seeing the exceptional work done last month, extended to another brother being raised to the sublime degree of a master mason.

See you all at our next CGP, November 12th, as well as our regular meeting on the 19th.

Derek Brook,  
Worshipful Master,  
Acacia Lodge No. 561

**Regular Meeting Summons, December 17, 2024**

Brethren,

We are at that time of year again where we say goodbye to another year and openly welcome what will be a very good year ahead if all goes as we plan.

This month we will be having a very short meeting followed by our annual potluck, that honestly, without our better halves, would really be a bit lacking.

So, this month will be a short meeting, but then in January we hit the ground running with a Raising in January, followed by the travelling gavel, elections and installations.

While we get busy at this time of year with everything that happens around the Holiday times for everyone, let us remember that those nearest and dearest to us may like to hear from you if you don't stay in regular contact. Loneliness at this time of year is a major health concern and a phone call or visit can go a long way.

I look forward to seeing you all in the next couple of weeks for our CGP and regular meetings. Remember in your hearts, those that we have lost this year both inside and outside of the lodge.

Derek Brook,  
Worshipful Master,  
Acacia Lodge No. 561 G.R.C. in O.

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**Regular Meeting Summons, January 21, 2025**

Brethren,

As the holiday season has passed, the busy time of year for all masons is now upon us. With most lodges gearing up for what is always a busy spring with elections, installations, and degree work, it is a challenge to find the time.

This month we are welcoming our DDGM, R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, to Acacia on his Official Visit, along with conferring the sublime degree of a Master Mason on a worthy brother.

Just a reminder that being our DD night, we tyle at 7pm and the festive board will precede it at 6pm in the Banquet Hall of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church 3529 McBean St. (Just south of the lodge building on the left hand side of the street).

I look forward to seeing many visitors at this month's meeting, but just ask for a simple reminder to notify the Junior Warden at kidd.dg@gmail.com of your intent to attend. The meal will be a cost of \$20 per person except for the guest of honor and his secretary.

S&F,

Derek Brook

Worshipful Master

Acacia Lodge No. 561 G.R.C. in O.

**Regular Meeting Summons, February 18, 2025**

Brethren,

First off, I would just like to say how happy I am for the Brethren of Acacia and the other Lodges that have assisted with the Master Mason Degrees we have done over the past few months. Very smooth and well-remembered by the Brethren being raised.

If you were not able to make it out to our DD night last month, you missed a very full house. Brother Secretary reports that 70 Masons were present. We had the honor of hosting three current DDGMs from Ottawa Districts 1 and 2 as well as Frontenac District. Their presence was enjoyed by all the Brethren in attendance. We even had a visitor from Türkiye join us for the evening.

This month we will slow things down a bit with our annual Roll Call as well as Proving a brother in the Degree of a Master Mason.

Next month, we will be receiving, as well as delivering, the Travelling Gavel as we ready ourselves for the bustle that is the spring in Ottawa District 1 with many DDGM nights as well as elections and installations.

Over the next week or so, I will be reaching out to everyone that I have not seen in open lodge in some time as part of the Roll Call duties. I look forward to speaking with and/or seeing you all in Lodge.

S&F,

Derek Brook

Worshipful Master

Acacia Lodge No. 561 G.R.C. in O.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
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**Regular Meeting Summons, March 18, 2025**

Brethren,

The year is quickly winding down, but we are no less busy. Likely, more so now. This month we will be receiving the Travelling Gavel, proving a Worthy Brother and hearing some Masonic Education from R.W. Bro. Hatsis and the Grand Chaplain R.W. Bro. David Spencer.

We will also be delivering the Travelling Gavel on March 27 to Carleton Lodge in Carp. I look forward to having as many members of the lodge as we can for this very important ceremony. I will have reminders sent out during the course of March.

Next month we will be holding elections for the upcoming Masonic Year followed by our Step-Up night. May will culminate the year with the installation and investiture of Officers in May..

As I stated at the commencement of this Masonic Year, travelling is very important to the long-term viability of the Craft and I would appreciate as many of you as are able to accompany me over the next few months to please do so, if your cable tows allow.

S&F,

Derek Brook

Worshipful Master

Acacia Lodge No. 561 G.R.C. in O.

**Regular Meeting Summons, April 18, 2025**

Brethren of Acacia,

Another year has gone by at the speed of aging, (very quick for the younger guys), and we are down to our final evenings of the current Masonic Year. As a result, this month is a little busier than normal.

I am requesting that all Brethren that have a part to play in next month's Installation, (same as last year), attend CGP this month in person as W. Bro. Jordan McConnell has requested that we hold a quick practice after our CGP.

On our Emergent Night, there will be our annual "Step Up" night for the newly minted Officers to practice their new roles before installation in May. Along with Elections this month R.W. Bro. Kosta Hatsis will be presenting a piece of education for the Brethren.

It has been a pleasure for the second year to be the Master of Acacia and you continue to make the East a pleasant experience for me.

Seeing all the visitation happening throughout Districts 1 and 2 this year brings me feelings of true positivity for the Craft in Ottawa. Let us remember that it is through our actions and answers that anyone looking to join the craft will make their decisions. If we act as our obligations tell us to, we are just and upright in the eyes of 'seekers'. If we act as we are obligated, our actions speak for us. The reverse is also true.

I would like to issue a very heartfelt Thank You to the 14 brethren of Acacia that joined me on the delivery of the Travelling Gavel to Carleton Lodge on March 27. The number of Brothers accompanying me was commented on many times throughout the evening.

S&F,

Derek Brook

Worshipful Master

Acacia Lodge No. 561 G.R.C. in O.

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**Regular Meeting Summons, May 20, 2025**

Brethren,

Another year has come and gone. It once again has been my immense pleasure to sit in the East as the Worshipful Master of Acacia Lodge 561. Once again, the Brethren have seen fit to place me in King Solomon's chair in the East for the upcoming Masonic Year and I am proud to once again represent you all.

Our upcoming regular meeting will be the installation of the officers for 2025-2026. We will be having our CGP on Saturday May 10th at 3:00 p.m. at the Lodge and it will be followed by practice for the Installation night.

For the upcoming Masonic Year, the focus will be on doing more of the things that, frankly, as a Lodge, we should be doing. This includes a Lady's Night as well as looking at the Masonic ChIP program that will be spearheaded by one of our younger brethren. I will also be looking at pursuing more of the programs on the Cornerstone program to ensure that even if we are not a Cornerstone Lodge, at least we are doing all the things to make us viable in the long term.

There will be a special CGP called on our Emergent night to discuss the long-term plans for Acacia and what we are going to do to increase our numbers in the coming years. We will also discuss the succession plan for the officers going forward.

The Lodge BBQ is slated for early July at V.W. Bro. Jackson's home, details to follow.

S&F,

Derek Brook

Worshipful Master

Acacia Lodge No. 561 G.R.C. in O.



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**Acacia Lodge No. 561 - Select Photos**



Acacia Lodge Meeting - September 17, 2024

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Acacia Lodge Meeting - Official Visit of the DDGM - January 21, 2025



Acacia Lodge Meeting - Official Visit of the DDGM - January 21, 2025



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Acacia Lodge Meeting - Installation of Officers - May 20, 2025

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**Temple Lodge No. 665, GRC In The Province Of Ontario - Instituted 1950**

Summary of Events – Masonic Year 2024-25

Meets the first Tuesday of each Month except June, July & August

**Temple Lodge No. 665 - Summary of Events**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	September 3, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend the next Regular Meeting of Temple Lodge no. 665, to be held on Tuesday, September 3, 2024, at 7:30 pm in the Lodge Room at 430 Churchill Avenue, Ottawa.</li><li>• The Worshipful Master's Trestleboard.</li><li>• Instruction, and status of our Lodge; preview the year ahead.</li><li>• The Worshipful Master's Report on Grand Lodge.</li></ul>
Emergent	September, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No meeting was held.</li></ul>
Regular	October 1, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend the next Regular Meeting of Temple Lodge no. 665, to be held on Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at 7:30 pm in the Lodge Room at 430 Churchill Avenue, Ottawa.</li><li>• A properly prepared candidate will be initiated to the First Degree. Your attendance and support are essential as we welcome a new brother into the craft.</li></ul>
Emergent	October 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No meeting was held.</li></ul>
Regular	November 5, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend the next Regular Meeting of Temple Lodge no. 665, to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, at 7:30 pm in the Lodge Room at 430 Churchill Avenue, Ottawa.</li><li>• Temple Lodge will welcome members of Mississippi Lodge No. 147 to receive the Travelling Gavel. (Temple Lodge will travel to Hazeldean Lodge to deliver the Gavel Wednesday November 20, 2024.)</li></ul>

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Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Work of the evening will be our Annual Remembrance Day Service conducted by our Chaplin W. Bro. Herb Sainthill.</li> </ul>
Emergent	November 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	December 3, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend the next Regular Meeting of Temple Lodge no. 665, to be held on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at 7:30 pm in the Lodge Room at 430 Churchill Avenue, Ottawa.</li> <li>The work of the evening will be Masonic Education.</li> </ul>
Emergent	December 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	January 7, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, you are hereby summoned to attend the next Regular Meeting of Temple Lodge no. 665, to be held on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, at 7:30 pm in the Lodge Room at 430 Churchill Avenue, Ottawa.</li> <li>The work of the evening will be Masonic Education.</li> </ul>
Emergent	January, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	February 4, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother, the Officers and members of Temple Lodge No. 665 are summoned to attend the next Regular Meeting of the Lodge on Tuesday, February 4th, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. in the Lodge Room at 430 Churchill Avenue, Ottawa.</li> <li>Receive R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts DDGM Ottawa District One on his Official Visit.</li> <li>Receive the Officers and Members of Goodwood Lodge No. 159 on their Annual Fraternal Visit.</li> <li>Masonic Education by R.W, Bro. Kosta Hatzis.</li> </ul>
Emergent	February 24, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An Emergent Meeting is scheduled for Monday February 24, 2025 at 7:30pm to Confer a Master Mason Degree on a properly prepared candidate.</li> </ul>



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Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	March 4, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, the Officers and Brethren of Temple Lodge No. 665 are hereby summoned to attend the next Regular Meeting on Tuesday, March 4th, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. (by Dispensation) in the Lodge room at 430 Churchill Avenue, Ottawa.</li> <li>The lodge will be duly opened at 6:30pm, whereupon we shall conduct the necessary business before embarking on our Annual Fraternal Visit to Goodwood Lodge no. 159, where we shall have the distinct privilege of witnessing their reception of R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, District Deputy Grand Master of Ottawa District No. 1.</li> <li>Please Note : There will be no festive board prior to the meeting. Instead, the festive board will be held following our proceedings at Goodwood Lodge No. 159. Please be prepared to make a donation.</li> </ul>
Emergent	March 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
Regular	April 1, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, the Officers and Brethren of Temple Lodge No. 665 are hereby summoned to attend the next Regular Meeting on Tuesday, April 1st, to be held in the Lodge room at 430 Churchill Avenue.</li> <li>The lodge will be duly opened at 7:30pm, whereupon we shall conduct the necessary lodge business before embarking on the work of the evening, which includes:</li> <li>The Annual Elections of Temple Lodge Officers.</li> <li>Conduct a Fellowcraft Degree on a properly prepared Candidate.</li> </ul>
Emergent	April 30, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, the Officers and Brethren of Temple Lodge No. 665 are hereby summoned to attend the next Emergent Meeting on Wednesday, April 30th, to be held in the Lodge room at 430 Churchill Avenue.</li> </ul>

# District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Step-up night for new Officers.</li> <li>• New Officers will be in their Chairs for the evening, opening and closing in all three degrees.</li> <li>• To prove properly prepared Candidates.</li> </ul>
Regular	May 6, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Sir and Brother: By command of the Worshipful Master, the Officers and Brethren of Temple Lodge No. 665 are hereby summoned to attend the next Regular Meeting on Tuesday, May 6th to be held in the Lodge Room at 430 Churchill Avenue.</li> <li>• The lodge will be duly opened at 6:30pm, to conduct the Installation of Lodge Officers for the following Masonic Year.</li> </ul>
Emergent	May 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>

\* "M" – minutes; "S" – summons. Some Lodges were reluctant to share their minutes outside of the Lodge. As a result, the historical summary was prepared from the Lodge Summons. Therefore, in some instances the information may not be entirely accurate as it is based on planned activities rather than the actual events that transpired. While the Summons records what the Lodge planned to do, numerous events can take place which prevents the planned from becoming the achieved – for example, a candidate may not be ready, principal officers are absent due to their public or private avocations, weather related snowstorms may result in the cancellation of a meeting etc., etc.

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2024-25**

**Temple Lodge No. 665 - Messages from the Worshipful Master**

**Regular Meeting Summons, September 3, 2024**

Dear Brothers,

I hope you've enjoyed a restful summer. As I step into my first year as Worshipful Master, I'm excited for what lies ahead and will need your support to make this year a success.

I'm known for being ambitious and getting things done, albeit in unconventional ways. This year, we'll focus on building a new culture at Temple Lodge 665—one that stewards enthusiasm, rewards effort, appreciates loyalty, embraces technology, and recognizes the hard work of every brother.

There will be changes. Without them, our Lodge will remain under fiscal threat. Instead of complaining, we'll fix it together. We'll shed unwelcome habits, uphold our Masonic oath, and live in harmony.

If you're committed to Masonry, our Lodge, and your brothers, prepare for an exciting year—I'd like to see you at the festive table every month.

Let's embrace change, do good work, and make this a year of fellowship a success.

Josh Biziak,

Worshipful Master, Temple Lodge

**Regular Meeting Summons, October 1, 2024**

Dear Brethren,

I'd like to echo a sentiment that was shared in our September Lodge meeting: we must embrace the notion of empowerment and self-assurance. Together, as a collective, Temple Lodge can accomplish anything when we stand united. The challenges we face are not insurmountable, but they require the effort and commitment of every one of us. I encourage each of you to renew your dedication to our Blue Lodge and its values. Choose pragmatism over idealism, and extend a hand to this Lodge, not only when it is easy but especially when it is most needed. Our strength lies in our unity, and we depend on each other to move forward. We need everyone to pull their weight, for it is through our bond as brothers that we will succeed and overcome any obstacles that arise.

With this core Masonic ethos guiding us, Temple Lodge will not only endure but will thrive and grow stronger than ever. The strength of this Lodge lies in the unwavering dedication of its members, and together we will continue to build a Lodge that reflects the best of Freemasonry.

Josh Biziak,

Worshipful Master, Temple Lodge

**Regular Meeting Summons, November 7, 2024**

Dear Brethren,

As Remembrance Day approaches, we are called to reflect on the tremendous sacrifices made by the men and women who have served in uniform, defending the values we hold dear—freedom, justice, and peace. It is a solemn time to honour their bravery and selflessness, qualities that resonate deeply within the teachings of our Craft.

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In particular, we remember and pay homage to the fallen brethren of our fraternity who gave their lives in service to their country. Their commitment to duty and sacrifice remind us of the timeless principles of Freemasonry—brotherly love, relief, and truth. These brethren lived not only as Masons but as defenders of the liberties and ideals that bind us all.

As we bow our heads in remembrance, let us also renew our commitment to the principles of service, unity, and fraternity. May we strive to embody the virtues of those who came before us, ensuring that their sacrifices are never forgotten.

Lest we forget.

Fraternally,

Josh Biziak,

Worshipful Master, Temple Lodge

**Regular Meeting Summons, December 3, 2024**

Brethren,

As the Christmas season draws near, I extend heartfelt wishes to you and your families for a joyous, peaceful, and meaningful holiday. This time of year provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the many blessings we have received, to cherish the bonds of brotherhood that unite us, and to rededicate ourselves to the principles of Masonry: charity, love, and goodwill.

The festive season is also a time for giving and for extending our compassion to those in need. I encourage each of you to embrace the spirit of the season by supporting charitable efforts within our community, strengthening the bonds we share, and bringing light to those who may be facing challenges.

I warmly invite you to join us at the Lodge during this special time, where we will gather in fellowship to honor our traditions, celebrate our accomplishments, and look forward to the new year with renewed purpose and dedication.

May the light of Masonry guide you and your loved ones through this season of giving, and may it bring you hope, joy, and prosperity in the year to come.

Fraternally,

Josh Biziak,

Worshipful Master, Temple Lodge

**Regular Meeting Summons, January 7, 2025**

Brethren,

As we embark on this new year, we are presented with a profound opportunity to renew our commitment to the timeless principles of Freemasonry: Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. It is also a time to reflect on the strength of our Lodge, the bonds that unite us, and the shared legacy we are privileged to uphold. Together, we stand at the threshold of a new dawn, with fresh opportunities to grow as individuals and as a fraternity.

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the night approaching” (Hebrews 10:24-25)

The fate of our Lodge rests firmly in our hands. It is shaped by the choices we make, the dedication we bring, and the vision we share for our collective future. Each of us

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holds the tools to build a lodge that continues to inspire, support, and elevate. By embracing this responsibility with open hearts and steadfast commitment, we can ensure that our lodge not only endures but thrives as a shining example of Freemasonry's enduring values.

Let this year be one of renewal, where we recommit ourselves to our principles, TO OUR LODGE and to each other.

Fraternally,

Josh Biziak,

Worshipful Master, Temple Lodge

**Regular Meeting Summons, February 4, 2025**

Brethren,

As we embark upon the second month of this new year, February holds significant importance for our Lodge as we prepare for the upcoming visit from the District Deputy Grand Master, a pivotal event in our Masonic calendar.

This visit not only serves as a testament to the strength and vitality of Temple Lodge, but also provides an opportunity for us to showcase our dedication to the Craft. I urge each of you to reflect on the significance of your involvement and attendance during this crucial time. Our unity and collective presence will speak volumes about our commitment and the respect we hold for our esteemed visitors.

This is an excellent opportunity to reinforce the bonds that tie us together as Brothers. By being present, we demonstrate our solidarity, our devotion to the principles of Freemasonry, and our readiness to contribute to the growth and enrichment of our Lodge.

Let us come together with enthusiasm and purpose, ensuring that Temple Lodge No. 665 continues to thrive as a beacon of Masonic excellence.

I especially encourage all of our Past Masters, Line Officers and Committee Chairs to be present for our DDGM visit. Your participation would be greatly appreciated and an inspiration to our members and distinguished visitors. Please make the necessary arrangements now to ensure your availability.

Fraternally,

Josh Biziak,

Worshipful Master, Temple Lodge

**Regular Meeting Summons, March 4, 2025**

Brethren,

It is with a heavy heart that I share the passing of our esteemed Brother, Larry Kendrick, who has laid down his working tools and passed to the Grand Lodge Above. Brother Kendrick was a man of integrity, kindness, and unwavering dedication to the Craft. His presence among us was a source of wisdom and warmth, and his contributions to our Lodge will not be forgotten.

A Masonic Service will be held in his honour on March 1, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. at Kelly Funeral Home, Woodroffe Avenue, Barrhaven, Ontario.

As we mourn his passing, let us take solace in the words of our Masonic teachings:

"The cradle and the coffin stand side by side—one holds the newly arrived spirit clothed in flesh, the other bears it away, divested of its earthly covering. But the



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immortal soul, unconfined by the boundaries of time and space, ascends to that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.”

May the Great Architect of the Universe grant him eternal rest, and may we find comfort in the cherished memories we shared with him.

Fraternally,

Josh Biziak,

Worshipful Master, Temple Lodge

**Regular Meeting Summons, April 1, 2025**

Brethren,

As the time of our annual elections approaches, we are reminded that change is both a constant and a necessity in our Masonic journey. Just as the seasons turn and the hands of time move forward, so too does the leadership of our Lodge evolve, carrying with it new opportunities and responsibilities. Though transitions may bring uncertainty, we take solace in the unshaken foundations of our Craft—Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth—which have guided Masons through the trials of history and continue to illuminate our path today.

Beyond the walls of our Lodge, the world stands at a crossroads. Economic challenges, global conflicts, and societal divisions have left many searching for stability and meaning in uncertain times. Yet as Freemasons, we are called to be beacons of light amid the darkness, exemplifying unity where there is division, compassion where there is suffering, and wisdom where there is doubt. Our Lodge, like the Craft itself, stands as a refuge of reason, fraternity, and hope in an ever-changing world.

Let us reaffirm that commitment now, ensuring that our Lodge remains a place of stability, wisdom, and brotherhood in an age of uncertainty.

Fraternally,

Josh Biziak,

Worshipful Master, Temple Lodge

**Regular Meeting Summons, May 6, 2025**

Brethren,

As I conclude my time as Worshipful Master of Temple Lodge, It has been the honour of my Masonic journey to serve you and to help strengthen the proud legacy we have all inherited.

Throughout this past year. While we have accomplished much together, it is clear that ensuring the future of Temple Lodge will require a renewed focus on fundraising and stewardship.

By working together to secure our financial foundation, we will safeguard our Lodge for the next generation of Masons and continue to be a light in our community.

Thank you for allowing me to serve. I look forward to standing with you as we build toward an even stronger future as a Past Master of this Lodge

Fraternally,

Josh Biziak,

Worshipful Master, Temple Lodge

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**Temple Lodge No. 665 - Select Photos**

No photos were provided.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Edinburgh Defenders Lodge No. 590, GRC In The Province of Ontario -  
Instituted 2023**

Summary of Events – Masonic Year 2024-25  
Meets the first Wednesday of each Month except June, July & August

**Edinburgh Defenders Lodge No. 590 - Summary of Events**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
Regular	September 4, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Brethren, you are summoned to a Regular Meeting of Edinburgh Defenders Lodge, No. 590, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Lodge Room 1, on September 4, 2024 at 7:30pm.</li><li>• Having received favourable reports from the committees of investigation, to ballot on applications for membership by initiation of Mr. Matthew Crockford, recommended by R.W. Bro. Glen Simpson and W. Bro. Daniel Piché, and Mr. Andrew Sutcliffe, Recommended by W. Bros. Rob Bryce and Mfana Cele.</li><li>• to conduct a 3rd degree on brother Evrard Konaté.</li><li>• To invest the inner guard.</li></ul>
Emergent	September 18, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Brethren, you are summoned to an Emergent Meeting of Edinburgh Defenders Lodge, No. 590, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Lodge Room 2, on September 18, 2024 at 7:30pm.</li><li>• To conduct a First Degree on an eligible applicant.</li><li>• To prove brother Conde in the 3rd degree</li><li>• Install the Junior Steward</li></ul>
Regular	October 2, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Brethren, you are summoned to a Regular Meeting of Edinburgh Defenders Lodge, No. 590, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Lodge Room 1, on October 2, 2024 at 7:30pm.</li><li>• Pending favourable reports from the committees of investigation, as well as clearance from Grand Lodge, to ballot on applications for membership by affiliation of;</li></ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ W. Bro. Doru Kaytar, Acacia Lodge no. 71 GRQ. Recommended by W. Bro. Rod Harasemchuk &amp; Bro. Bruce Ludlow.</li> <li>○ W. Bro. Frank Sigouin, Acacia Lodge No. 561. Recommended by W. Bro. Rob Bryce &amp; R.W. Bro. Glen Simpson.</li> <li>○ Bro. Eduardo Hennemann de Oliveira, Feitoria Real Lodge no. 122, Grand Lodge of the State of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. Recommended by Bro. Carlos Vinatea &amp; R.W. Bro. Sam Kalinowsky.</li> <li>● To conduct a First Degree on an eligible applicant.</li> </ul>
Emergent	October 16, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Brethren, you are summoned to an Emergent Meeting of Edinburgh Defenders Lodge, No. 590, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Lodge Room 2, on October 16, 2024 at 7:30pm.</li> <li>● To conduct a Third Degree on Bro. Phillip Robino.</li> </ul>
Regular	November 6, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Brethren, you are summoned to a Regular Meeting of Edinburgh Defenders Lodge, No. 590, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Lodge Room 1, on November 6, 2024 at 7:30pm.</li> <li>● To conduct the business of the lodge, including a Remembrance Service,</li> <li>● Whereas a request for demit, dues owing, has been received from W. Bro. Richard Traversey, in accordance with section 194 of the constitution, notice of motion is hereby given that the Secretary will move or cause to be moved that a resolution be adopted to accept the application for demission.</li> <li>● Pending clearance from Grand lodge, to ballot on applications for membership by affiliation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ W. Bro. Doru Kaytar, Acacia Lodge No. 71 GRQ, recommended by W. Bro. Rod Harasemchuk &amp; Bro. Bruce Ludlow</li> <li>○ Bro. Cary Darunday Tolomeo, C. Galarrita Memorial Lodge, Grand</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>Lodge of the Philippines, born recommended by Bro. Guiseppe Conde &amp; R. W. Bro. Glen Simpson.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pending favourable reports from the Committees of Investigation, to ballot on applications for membership by initiation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mr. Cedric Jean Olivier Ky, born recommended by Bros. Kuatéré Evrard Konaté &amp; Désiré Kaboré</li> <li>○ Mr. Evan Garrow, recommended by W. Bro. Rob Bryce &amp; R.W. Bro. Glen Simpson.</li> <li>○ Mr. Joshua Wittkie, recommended by W. Bro. Rob Bryce &amp; Bro. Henry Patterson.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Emergent	November 20, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brethren, you are summoned to an Emergent Meeting of Edinburgh Defenders Lodge, No. 590, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Lodge Room 2, on November 20, 2024 at 7:30pm.</li> <li>• To conduct first degrees on worthy candidates.</li> </ul>
Regular	December 4, 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brethren, you are summoned to a Regular Meeting of Edinburgh Defenders Lodge, No. 590, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Lodge Room 1, on December 4, 2024 at 7:30pm.</li> <li>• Pending clearance from Grand Lodge, to Ballot on applications for membership by affiliation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ W. Bro. Doru Kaytar, Acacia Lodge No. 71 GRQ,, recommended by W. Bro. Rod Harasemchuk &amp; Bro. Bruce Ludlow.</li> <li>○ Bro. Cary Darunday, Tolomeo of C. Galarrita Memorial Lodge No. 242, Grand Lodge of the Philippines, recommended by Bro. Giuseppe Conde &amp; R. W. Bro. Glen Simpson</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Pending a favourable report from the Committee of Investigation, to Ballot on the application for membership by affiliation of Bro. Eric Waering, Princeton Lodge no. 587,</li> </ul>



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>Grand Lodge of Illinois, recommended by W. Bro. Rob Bryce &amp; R. W. Bro. Glen Simpson.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To conduct masonic education.</li> </ul>
Emergent	December 2024	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	January 15, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brethren, you are summoned to a Regular Meeting of Edinburgh Defenders Lodge, No. 590, at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, Lodge Room 1, on January 15, 2025 at 7:30pm.</li> <li>• To receive a distinguished delegation of brethren from St. John's Lodge No. 63, bearing the Travelling Gavel of Ottawa District 1.</li> <li>• Pending clearance from Grand Lodge, to ballot on applications for membership by affiliation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ W. Bro. Doru Kaytar, Acacia Lodge No. 71 GRQ. Recommended by W. Bro. Rod Harasemchuk &amp; Bro. Bruce Ludlow.</li> <li>○ Bro. Cary Darunday, Tolomeo C. Galarrita Memorial Lodge No. 242, Grand Lodge of the Philippines. Recommended by Bro. Guiseppe Conde &amp; R.W. Bro. Glen Simpson.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• To Ballot on the Application for Membership by Affiliation of Bro. Eric Waering, Princeton Lodge No. 587, Grand Lodge of Illinois. Recommended by W. Bro. Rob Bryce &amp; R.W. Bro. Glen Simpson.</li> <li>• Travelling Gavel to Russell Lodge on Monday, January 20, 2025. Brethren are strongly encouraged to be part of our delegation bringing the Travelling Gavel to Russell Lodge. Please advise the Secretary if you are planning to attend.</li> </ul>
Emergent	January 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting was held.</li> </ul>
Regular	February 5, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brethren, you are summoned to the following meeting at the Ottawa Masonic centre, 2140 Walkley Road. A Regular Meeting of Edinburgh Defenders lodge No. 590, on</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>February 5th, 2025 at 7:30pm in Lodge Room 1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pursuant to the Notice of Motion presented by R.W. Bro. Jim Cale, to entertain a motion to amend the by-laws. Such proposed amendments having been previously circulated to the members and attached hereto.</li> <li>● To conduct a Memorial for the passing of W. Bro. Michel Sastre, a Founding Member of Edinburgh lodge No. 736.</li> <li>● Pending a favourable report from the committee of inquiry, to ballot on the application for membership by initiation of Mr. David Chiumera, recommended by W. Bros. Brian Francis &amp; Mfana Cele.</li> <li>● Pending clearance from Grand Lodge, to ballot on applications for membership by affiliation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ W. Bro. Doru Kaytar, Acacia Lodge No. 71,GRQ. Recommended by W. Bro. Rod Harasemchuk &amp; Bro. Bruce Ludlow.</li> <li>○ Bro. Cary Darunday, Tolomeo C. Galarrita Memorial Lodge No. 242, Grand Lodge of the Philippines. Recommended by Bro. Guiseppe Conde &amp; R.W. Bro. Glen Simpson,</li> </ul> </li> <li>● To confer Second Degrees on two worthy candidates.</li> </ul>
Emergent	February 19, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Brethren, you are summoned to the following meeting at the Ottawa Masonic centre, 2140 Walkley Road. An Emergent Meeting of Edinburgh Defenders lodge No. 590, on February 19th, 2025 at 7:30pm in Lodge Room 2.</li> <li>● To Confer a Third Degree on a worthy Candidate.</li> </ul>
Regular	March 5, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Brethren, you are summoned to the following meeting at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley road, as follows: A Regular Meeting of Edinburgh Defenders Lodge No. 590, on</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<p>March 5th, 2025, at 7:00 pm, in Lodge Room 1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To receive the DDGM of Ottawa District One, R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts on his official visit to Edinburgh Defenders Lodge No. 590</li> <li>• To ballot on the application for membership by initiation of mr. Scott Andrew Boyd, Recommended by W. Bro. Rob Bryce &amp; R.W. Bro. Glen Simpson.</li> <li>• Pending a favourable report from the Committee of Inquiry, to ballot on the Application for Membership by Affiliation of bro. Peter Pau, a member of Ionic Lodge No. 526, Recommended by Bro. Henry Patterson &amp; W. Bro. Rob Bryce.</li> <li>• Pending clearance from Grand Lodge, to ballot on Applications for Membership by Affiliation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ W. Bro. Doru Kaytar, Acacia Lodge No. 71 GRQ, Recommended by W. Bro. Rod Harasemchuk &amp; Bro. Bruce Ludlow</li> <li>◦ Bro. Cary Darunday, Tolomeo C. Galarrita Memorial Lodge No. 242, Grand Lodge of the Philippines, Recommended by Bro. Guiseppe Conde &amp; R. W. Bro. Glen Simpson,</li> </ul> </li> <li>• To conduct a Third Degree on a worthy candidate.</li> </ul>
Emergent	March 19, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brethren, you are summoned to the following meeting at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley road, as follows: An Emergent Meeting of Edinburgh Defenders Lodge No. 590, on March 19th, 2025, at 7:30 pm, in Lodge Room 2.</li> <li>• To conduct a First Degree on a worthy candidate.</li> </ul>
Regular	April 2, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brethren, you are summoned to the following meeting at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, as follows: A Regular Meeting of Edinburgh Defenders Lodge No. 590, on April 2nd, 2025, at 7:30 pm, in Lodge Room 1.</li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To conduct the election of the Officers for the ensuing Masonic Year.</li> <li>• Pending clearance from Grand Lodge, to ballot on Applications for Membership by Affiliation from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ W. Bro. Doru Kaytar, Acacia Lodge No. 71 GRQ, recommended by W. Bro. Rod Harasemchuk &amp; Bro. Bruce Ludlow.</li> <li>○ Bro. Cary Darunday, Tolomeo C. Galarrita Memorial Lodge No. 242, Grand Lodge of the Philippines, recommended by Bro. Guiseppe Conde &amp; R.W. Bro. Glen Simpson</li> </ul> </li> <li>• To conduct a Third Degree on a worthy candidate.</li> </ul>
Emergent	April 16, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brethren, you are summoned to the following meeting at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley Road, as follows: An Emergent Meeting of Edinburgh Defenders Lodge No. 590, on April 16th, 2025, at 7:30 pm, in Lodge Room 2.</li> <li>• To conduct a Second Degree on a worthy candidate.</li> <li>• To prove worthy candidates in the Third Degree.</li> </ul>
Regular	May 7, 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brethren, you are summoned to the following meetings at the Ottawa Masonic Centre, 2140 Walkley road, as follows:</li> <li>• A Regular Meeting of Edinburgh Defenders Lodge No. 590, May 7th, 2025, at 6:30 pm, Lodge Room 1.</li> <li>• Pending clearance from Grand Lodge, to ballot on Applications for Membership by Affiliation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ W. Bro. Doru Kaytar, Acacia Lodge No. 71 GRQ, recommended by W. Bro. Rod Harasemchuk &amp; Bro. Bruce Ludlow.</li> <li>○ Bro. Cary Darunday Tolomeo C. Galarrita Memorial Lodge No. 242, Grand Lodge of the Philippines, recommended by Bro. Guiseppe Conde &amp; R.W. Bro. Glen Simpson,</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Meeting	Date of Meeting	*	Summary of Planned Events
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● pending the favourable report from their respective Committees of Inquiry, to ballot on the Applications for Membership, by Initiation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mr. John Rey Padios, recommended by R.W. Bro. Glen Simpson &amp; Bro. Guiseppe Conde.</li> <li>○ Mr. Benjamin O'hara, recommended by Bro. Bruce Ludlow and W. Bro. Rod Harasemchuk.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● On conclusion of lodge business, to call off until 7:30 pm.</li> <li>● To resume labour at 7:30 pm.</li> <li>● To conduct the Ceremony of Installation and Investiture of Officers for the ensuing Masonic Year.</li> </ul>
Emergent	May 2025	S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No meeting was held.</li> </ul>

\* "M" – minutes; "S" – summons. Some Lodges were reluctant to share their minutes outside of the Lodge. As a result, the historical summary was prepared from the Lodge Summons. Therefore, in some instances the information may not be entirely accurate as it is based on planned activities rather than the actual events that transpired. While the Summons records what the Lodge planned to do, numerous events can take place which prevents the planned from becoming the achieved – for example, a candidate may not be ready, principal officers are absent due to their public or private avocations, weather related snowstorms may result in the cancellation of a meeting etc., etc.



**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Edinburgh Defenders Lodge No. 590 - Messages from the Worshipful Master**

**Regular Meeting Summons, September 4, 2024**

Brethren,

We finished out the 2023-24 Masonic Year at a breakneck pace, captained expertly by our (now) IPM W. Bro. Rod Harasemchuk, and we're currently enjoying a well-deserved rest.

The focus for 2024-25 is integration, meaning lodge identity, traditions and learning about the storied histories of the lodges we were formed from. As well as visiting every Lodge in both Districts at least once.

This year will start with a bang, slow down in the middle to catch our breath, and finish strong. I firmly believe that the Lodge that works hard needs to play hard, so there will be a series of amazing events, something for everyone, at a rate of about one per month.

No progress is possible without your participation. If you have some spare time, contact me as there are jobs to do, small, medium and large. Together let's raise a superstructure perfect in its parts and honourable to the builder.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W. Bro. Rob Bryce

**Regular Meeting Summons, October 2, 2024**

Brethren,

With the myriads of small extras behind us, we can look forward to a more standard duration for lodge meetings. We're always going to be balloting, and there will always be ritual required.

We're a big lodge, at over 100 members with a great percentage of you actively involved and participating within the length of your cable tow. With great size, comes great paperwork, lots of ballots, Committees of Investigation and new faces. With the fun we've been having both on and off lodge nights, the west gate has quite a lineup outside.

I'm proud to be your Worshipful Master at this exciting time. Looking forward to all we'll accomplish together.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W. Bro. Rob Bryce

**Regular Meeting Summons, November 6, 2024**

Brethren,

On November 6th we will hold our yearly Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Temple, and November 15th, (a Friday), marks the First Anniversary of the founding of our new Lodge. An informal social will be held to toast our success.

October by the numbers... 1 new Entered Apprentice + 1 new Fellowcraft + 1 raised Master Mason + 50 litres of beer + 20 lbs of bacon + 30 Brothers strong, out for fellowship + \$200 raised for charity + 4 pints of blood donated + 4 committees of investigation = 1 exceptional and vibrant lodge.

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

I'm proud to be your Worshipful Master at this exciting time. be proud of what we have accomplished together, and excited about the future you've earned.

Sincerely and Fraternally,  
W. Bro. Rob Bryce

**Regular Meeting Summons, December 4, 2024**

Brethren,

I firmly believe in the expression work hard, play hard. From the beginning of September to now we have worked extremely hard, and earned some time to relax and enjoy each other's company. Our December business meeting will be a welcome change of pace, and in place of a December emergent, Edinburgh Defenders Lodge, spouses, friends and guests will be welcoming in the Christmas season with a night of fellowship and class, location and timing to follow in an email.

EDL 590 is also supporting Toy Mountain and Fill the Foyer. At either the December business meeting, or the Christmas party, bring an unwrapped toy and some food items to help those that need it.

As always, I'm proud to be your Worshipful Master.

Sincerely and Fraternally,  
W. Bro. Rob Bryce

**Regular Meeting Summons, January 15, 2025**

Brethren,

As we continue to enjoy our break from hard labour, take time to reflect on how far we've come in the past year. The efforts of every member help build that foundation, either through superlative ritual, supporting fellowship, engaging in philanthropy or mentoring each other. We're all different, we all have our own unique talents to offer, and I respect and appreciate your efforts.

For 2025, my personal goal is to help foster connections within the lodge such that we grow even closer, and encourage us all to learn from each other. Collectively, we're closer to that perfect ashlar than we are individually.

As always, I'm proud to be your worshipful master.

Sincerely and Fraternally,  
W. Bro. Rob Bryce

**Regular Meeting Summons, February 5, 2025**

Brethren,

There are some events that cause you to reflect on how far we've come and how quickly. It was my distinct honour and privilege to lead a delegation of 15 members for the Travelling Gavel to Russell Lodge on January 20th. Obligatory for me, optional for you, the event left me truly humbled by your depth of support.

This month we kick off a continuous stream of degree work until installation, and the reemergence of formal festive boards once per month by popular demand. The first celebrating our newest Master Mason at the Emergent Meeting on February 19th.

As always, I'm proud to be your Worshipful Master.

Sincerely and Fraternally,  
W. Bro. Rob Bryce

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Regular Meeting Summons, March 5, 2025**

Brethren,

It's that time of the year where we put our best foot forward. This month we are honoured to receive the District Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, on his official visit, at our meeting on March 5th. Post-Lodge we'll be putting on a feast so come on out and bring an appetite. Tickets are \$25.00 via email to robebryce@gmail.com or your one-time contribution to the Junior Warden's Fund.

As we start the final leg of the Masonic Year, let's make sure we keep our books dusted off and not get complacent. A Brother's 3rd degree should be clean and smooth no matter the time of year.

As always, I'm proud to be your Worshipful Master.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W. Bro. Rob Bryce

**Regular Meeting Summons, April 2, 2025**

Brethren,

When asked recently what I would attribute our lodge's success to, I replied, "fellowship". It wasn't the answer they expected, so when pressed for an explanation, I told them that "fellowship is the bedrock of Freemasonry. It comes down to the simple fact that people never want to let down their friends."

The amount of effort this Lodge has put forth this year is something we can all be proud of. It wasn't always easy, but we always found a way, came together, worked towards that common goal, and didn't let each other down.

As always, I'm proud to be your Worshipful Master.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W. Bro. Rob Bryce

**Regular Meeting Summons, May 7, 2025**

**Secretary's Message**

Brethren, please make every effort to get out to Installation as a show of support for the incoming line-up of Officers. as the expression goes: the more, the merrier! I hope to see you there.

**Master's Message**

Brethren, the journey from the Rough Ashlar to the Perfect is a journey we're all on ourselves, but also together as a Lodge. Looking behind us, our footprints mark progress that, although uphill at times, represent progress that will serve the lodge in good stead as we make our way for the next one hundred years. Thank you for your faith in me while leading this leg of the journey.

I have trust in my successor, and look forward to the next leg which will be filled with work, fellowship and pride in both our gentle craft and this Lodge in particular.

As always, I'm proud to be your Worshipful Master.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

W. Bro. Rob Bryce

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Edinburgh Defenders Lodge No. 590 - Select Photos**

No photos were provided.

## Addendum - DDGM Official Visit Speeches 2024-25

District Deputy Grand Master, Ottawa District One

# Official Visits

R.W. BRO. SAM ROBERTS

St. John's No. 63 WED 9 OCT 24   CARLETON PLACE	Civil Service No. 198 TUE 11 FEB 2025   WALKLEY RD
Lodge of Fidelity No. 231 TUE 15 OCT 2024   WALKLEY RD	Hazeldean No. 517 WED 19 FEB 2025   KANATA
Orie No. 58 THU 17 OCT 2024   WALKLEY RD	Mississippi No. 147 THU 20 FEB 2025   ALMONTE
Carleton No. 465 THU 24 OCT 2024   CARP	Goodwood No. 159 TUE 4 MAR 2025   RICHMOND
Sidney Albee Luke No. 558 WED 13 NOV 2024   WALKLEY RD	Edinburgh Defenders No. 590 WED 5 MAR 2025   WALKLEY RD
St. Andrew's No. 560 THU 5 DEC 2024   WALKLEY RD	Prince of Wales No. 371 FRI 28 MAR 2025   WALKLEY RD
Acacia No. 561 TUE 21 JAN 2025   RICHMOND	Russell No. 479 MON 21 APR 2025   RUSSELL
Temple No. 665 TUE 4 FEB 2025   CHURCHILL AVE	for more information visit <a href="http://ottawadistrict1masons.ca">ottawadistrict1masons.ca</a>

 **Ontario Masons**





**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**St. John's Lodge No. 63 - Official Visit October 9, 2024**

**R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, District Deputy Grand Master**

Ddgmroberts2024@gmail.com

**W. Bro. Donald Learning, District Secretary**

distsecy2024@gmail.com

Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

**Ottawa District 1**

**Lessons from My Father: A Journey of Integrity, Humility, and Resilience Through  
Masonic Values**

Presented to St. John's Lodge on October 9, 2024

Brethren, as I stand before you today, I reflect on my father, a man who, throughout my life, has been my guide and my hero. In recent years, he has faced the challenges of dementia, and watching his memory fade has been deeply difficult. Yet, this reflection has brought me closer to the values he imparted to me—values that align so closely with the principles of Freemasonry. Today, I would like to share some of those lessons with you and how they resonate with the tenets of our Craft.

**Integrity**

One of the most significant lessons my father taught me was about integrity. His belief in living by his word—“your word is your bond”—was not just something he said but something he embodied daily. He taught me that integrity means doing the right thing even when no one is watching, a lesson I have carried with me in my life and within Freemasonry.

Freemasonry calls us to live by this principle. We, too, are charged with upholding our integrity, holding ourselves accountable, and being true to our word. My father showed me that leadership is not about grand gestures but about consistently living by the values we profess. His life is a testament to this Masonic principle of integrity, which serves as a reminder that our actions speak louder than words.

**Humility**

Another invaluable lesson from my father is humility. He never sought recognition or accolades; instead, he led quietly, always aiming to lift others rather than himself. He didn't

## District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25

believe in standing in the spotlight but in supporting others to reach their potential. This humility is a trait that resonates deeply with me as a Mason.

Our fraternity emphasizes brotherly love, relief, and truth—values that align with a selfless approach to leadership. Freemasonry teaches that true leadership is about service to others, about recognizing the worth of each person, and about elevating others without expecting anything in return. My father's humble approach is a lesson

I strive to live as a Mason, where my goal is to serve and uplift those around me, embracing the quiet strength he exemplified throughout his life.

### Resilience

As I've watched my father face many challenges, resilience has taken on a profound meaning. My father, a man of unwavering strength, survived two bouts of prostate cancer. Now, he battles dementia with the same quiet determination. Although his memories fade, the strength in his eyes tells the story of resilience that has guided him through life's adversities. This resilience reflects the Masonic principle of fortitude, which teaches us to endure hardships with patience and courage.

Freemasonry encourages us to rise above our challenges—not only for our own sake but for those who rely on us. In witnessing my father's resilience, I am reminded that true leadership is not defined by a lack of struggles but by the determination to continue rising. His example is a powerful reminder of the Masonic value of fortitude, encouraging us to meet our own challenges with strength and patience. Though my father was never a Mason, his unwavering integrity, humility, and resilience would have made him an excellent one. Through his life, he taught me lessons that mirror the very ideals we hold dear as Masons.

### Connection to Freemasonry

In Freemasonry, we seek to better ourselves and those around us by living a life rooted in virtue, integrity, and honour. The values my father taught me are mirrored within our Craft, reminding me that we are all part of something larger, a legacy that spans generations. His integrity, humility, and resilience are qualities I see reflected in the teachings of Freemasonry. They are not merely ideals but living principles, embodied through the actions we take and the service we provide to others.

Our fraternity provides a framework for embodying these values, and through it, I strive to honour the lessons my father taught me. These lessons remind me of the responsibilities I have as a Mason—to live with integrity, to lead with humility, and to face life's challenges with resilience.

### Conclusion

Though my father may no longer remember many of the moments that shaped him, I carry his lessons with me every day. His influence on my life has made me the man, and the Mason, that I am today. Through the teachings of Freemasonry, I find a way to honour his

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

legacy by living these values in my own life, sharing them with my brethren, and leaving a positive impact on my community.

As we move forward in our own journeys, let us remember that we are the living embodiment of the values we uphold. We may not always realize the impact we have on others, but by living with integrity, humility, and resilience, we honour those who came before us, like my father, and those who will come after.

Thank you, brethren.

R. W. Bro. Sam Roberts  
District Deputy Grand Master  
Ottawa District 1

October 9, 2024

## **Lodge of Fidelity No. 231 - Official Visit October 15, 2024**

**R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, District Deputy Grand Master**

Ddgmroberts2024@gmail.com

**W. Bro. Donald Learning, District Secretary**

distsecy2024@gmail.com

Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

### **The Power of Choice in Masonic Leadership**

#### **Ottawa District 1**

Presented to the Lodge of Fidelity on October 15, 2024

Today, I want to share a simple yet powerful story that illustrates the profound impact of our choices. This story is not just about a single act but about the choices each person involved made and what those choices revealed about their character.

Recently, I witnessed a situation that exemplifies many of the values we hold dear in Freemasonry. I was waiting to enter a building when I saw a man open the door, step through, and let it slam shut behind him. At first, I thought little of it. But behind him was a woman carrying several bags, who was not prepared for the door to close so abruptly. She stumbled, lost her balance, and fell to the ground. Her bags were scattered everywhere, and she looked visibly shaken. Without hesitation, I rushed to help her, while directing a few bystanders to retrieve her belongings.

As I was helping her up, I noticed a young man standing nearby. Instead of offering help, he was laughing. He found amusement in her misfortune, making no attempt to assist or show concern. Meanwhile, I spoke with the woman, ensured she wasn't injured, and made sure she felt safe and secure. I then held the door open for the next several people who passed through, allowing her time to regain her composure. To my surprise, I saw the young man's laughter fade. He seemed to realize the rudeness of his actions, and eventually, he stepped forward, taking over the task of holding the door.

In this single incident, there were multiple choices at play. The man who let the door slam behind him made a choice he chose not to show consideration for those following him. The young man who laughed at the woman's fall made another choice, one of mockery rather than empathy. And finally, he made yet another choice, when he stopped laughing, stepped forward, and took responsibility for holding the door.

## District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25

Brethren, life is a journey defined by choices. Every step we take, and every decision we make, shapes who we are and what we stand for. As Masons, we understand that our choices are not just about ourselves; they are a reflection of the values we hold dear and a testament to the principles we uphold.

### Building Character Through Choices

In Freemasonry, we speak of building better men, better communities, and a better world. But that building process doesn't begin with grand gestures; it starts with the smallest stones: our daily choices. We may never know the full impact of our decisions, but we can trust that each one contributes to the foundation we are laying for ourselves and for those who follow us.

When we choose to be kind, we are building a legacy of compassion. When we choose to offer relief, we are building a legacy of service. When we choose to speak the truth, we are building a legacy of integrity. These are not just abstract ideas, they are the choices we make every day in the way we treat others, the words we speak, and the actions we take.

As Masons, we are taught to reflect on our actions and ask ourselves, "Are my choices in line with the principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth?" These principles guide us, remind us of our responsibilities, and inspire us to be better. They help us to make choices that not only enrich our lives but also uplift the lives of others.

### The Role of Choices in Masonic Leadership

True leadership, as we know, is not about titles or recognition; it's about the quiet strength that comes from making decisions based on principle, rather than convenience. It's about setting an example, about being the one who holds the door when others walk by, and about extending a hand when others look away.

In leadership, our choices carry even greater significance because they impact not just ourselves but those who look to us for guidance. Masonic leadership is about choosing to serve rather than to be served, choosing to listen rather than to speak, and choosing to act with humility when the opportunity for self-promotion arises.

The choices we make as leaders set the tone for those around us. When we choose to lead with compassion, we inspire others to do the same. When we choose to hold ourselves to high ethical standards, we elevate those around us. And when we choose to be selfless in our service, we create a culture of generosity that extends far beyond ourselves.

### The Impact of Our Choices on Others

Brethren, the young man in the story, learned something that day. In seeing the consequences of his actions, he had a moment of reflection. He saw the contrast between



## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

his laughter and the compassion shown by others. That realization led him to make a different choice to step forward, to hold the door, to share in the responsibility of serving others.

This transformation, however small it may seem, is what Masonic values are all about. We lead by example, showing others a different way of being. We create ripples of change through our actions, inspiring others to reflect on their own choices and to consider the impact they have on those around them.

As Masons, we are in a unique position to influence the world through our choices. Each of us has the ability to inspire, uplift, and encourage others to choose kindness, respect, and humility. In every interaction, we have the opportunity to plant seeds of goodness that may one day grow into something far greater.

### **The Legacy of Our Choices**

Ultimately, the choices we make today will shape the legacy we leave behind. Each choice is a stone in the foundation of the future we are building. When we choose to act with integrity, we build a legacy of trust. When we choose to lead with compassion, we build a legacy of love. And when we choose to serve others, we build a legacy of unity.

Let us remember that our choices are not just about us, they are about the world we are creating for those who will come after us. By making choices that reflect the highest principles of Freemasonry, we contribute to a future that honours our fraternity and fulfills the purpose of our Craft.

Brethren, each of us is a leader, whether in our Lodges, our families, or our communities. We are called to make choices that reflect the values we hold dear, and to lead by example, inspiring others to do the same. Let us choose wisely, lead boldly, and remember the cornerstone of our fraternity: to be men who, by our choices and actions, uplift those around us and create a better world.

May we always strive to be the ones who hold the door, who offer a hand, and who lead with kindness and integrity. Brethren may the Great Architect of the Universe guide us as we continue to make choices that reflect the light of Freemasonry.

Thank you.

R. W. Bro. Sam Roberts  
District Deputy Grand Master  
Ottawa District 1

October 15, 2024

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Doric Lodge No. 58 - Official Visit October 17, 2024**

**R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, District Deputy Grand Master**

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Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

**The Power of Unity: The Ember and the Fire**

**Ottawa District 1**

Presented to Doric Lodge on October 17, 2024

Brethren, as I look around, I'm reminded of the unique bond we share as Masons. A bond that brings us together from different Lodges, communities, and even countries. Tonight, I want to talk about something that lies at the heart of who we are: the strength we find in unity and the light we bring into the world, both individually and as a Fraternity.

Let me begin with a simple story that highlights the strength we draw from staying connected and the vital role each of us plays in building something greater together. A Brother, who has walked many years on the path of Freemasonry, was once invited to a social event at the home of a Mason in his district. During the course of the evening, one of the brethren remarked, "You know, you don't have to attend Lodge to be a good Mason." This seasoned brother listened, but rather than respond with words, he walked over to the fireplace, took the tongs, and carefully lifted a glowing ember from the fire. He placed it alone on the hearth, away from the other embers and flames.

He said to the brethren, we all know what happens next. Deprived of the heat from the other embers, it began to cool, its glow faded, and it grew cold and dark. However, if you were to take that same ember and place it back within the fire, it would regain its warmth, its brightness, and its power to contribute to the collective heat. Brethren, this simple act speaks volumes. When we, as Masons, separate ourselves from the fraternity, our light diminishes. But when we remain united, bound together by the principles of our Craft, we shine brightly, warming and illuminating the world around us.

The Ember and the Fire: Our Collective Impact

## District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25

Imagine each of us as individual embers, glowing with our own unique light. On our own, we may flicker and shine, but when we come together, we become a roaring fire, a beacon of hope and warmth for those around us. The power of our unity reaches beyond the confines of our Lodge. It is a force that transcends the Lodge, extending into our communities, and indeed, to the world itself.

As Masons, we are not called to be solitary flames, isolated and self-contained. We are called to bring our light into the world, to strengthen our communities, and to serve as pillars of integrity and compassion. When we join our individual lights, we form a fire that has the power to dispel darkness, to bring warmth to the cold, and to illuminate the paths of those who seek guidance. Our unity as a fraternity creates a fire that burns so brightly it can be felt and seen by those around us, our families, our neighbours, and even strangers who are drawn to the warmth of our collective light.

### Unity Beyond the Lodge Walls: A Force for Community and the World

Brethren, the unity we build in our Lodges does not stop at our doors. It is a unity that we carry with us into our daily lives, a unity that shapes the way we interact with others and influences the world around us. Our unity is not just for ourselves; it is a gift we give to our communities. By coming together as Masons, we embody a force that has the power to uplift society, to inspire change, and to promote the ideals of brotherly love, relief, and truth.

When we support one another, when we reach out a hand to those in need, and when we work together for the greater good, we show the world what it means to be a Mason. We are a fraternity that believes in building not just better men, but better communities. This unity is a call to action, a reminder that as Freemasons, we have a duty to make a positive impact wherever we go. By working together, we extend the warmth of our fire beyond the walls of the Lodge, and our light becomes a beacon for all.

Our unity transcends the Lodge in another way, as well. It is not limited by geography, culture, or background. When we unite with Masons from around the world, such as our esteemed visitors from the Bahamas, we see firsthand the global nature of our brotherhood. We may come from different places, but we share a common purpose, a common fire that binds us across continents and oceans. Together, we are a fraternity that stands for something greater than ourselves, a fraternity that serves as a force for good in the world.

### The Responsibility of the Ember: A Call to Action

Every one of us has a role to play in maintaining this fire. Each of us, as individual Masons, has a responsibility to stay connected, to stay engaged, and to contribute to the flame. When we withdraw, when we separate ourselves from the Lodge and from our Brethren, we risk becoming like that lone ember on the hearth. We risk losing the warmth, the light, and the inspiration that comes from our shared purpose.

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We must remember that our individual actions contribute to the strength of our unity. When we come together in our Lodges, when we participate in fellowship and engage in service, we stoke the fires of brotherhood, ensuring that our light will continue to burn brightly. It is through this unity that we find our strength, our purpose, and our fulfillment as Masons. Let us each be mindful of our role as individual embers in the great fire of Freemasonry and let us recommit ourselves to staying connected to the flame that sustains us all.

### **A Legacy of Unity and Service**

Brethren, the unity we cultivate within our fraternity leaves a lasting legacy. When we come together as one, we achieve greatness beyond our individual capacities. Think of the cathedrals of old, built stone by stone, each piece supporting the others. So it is with us. When we unite, we build something enduring, something that will stand the test of time. Our unity is a gift we pass on to future generations, a testament to our dedication to Masonic principles.

As we tend to the fire of our fraternity, we create a legacy of light, warmth, and service. This is our gift to the world. By embracing the strength of our unity, we ensure that the light of Freemasonry will continue to shine brightly, guiding others on their own paths to enlightenment. When we unite, we amplify our impact, and our fraternity becomes a source of hope, inspiration, and positive change in the world.

### **Embracing the Fire of Unity**

My Brethren, let us embrace the wisdom of the ages and recognize the transformative power of our unity. Let us stand together, steadfast and unwavering, a force of light and hope in a world that so often needs our warmth. For as long as we remain united, the flame of Freemasonry will continue to burn brightly, lighting the way toward a better future for all.

As we move forward, may we carry this light within us, may we share it with others, and may we remain dedicated to the principles that define us. Let us be the fire that warms our communities, that lights up the world, and that inspires others to join us on this noble path. In unity, we are strong. In unity, we are unstoppable. And in unity, we are Freemasons.

Thank you

R. W. Bro. Sam Roberts  
District Deputy Grand Master  
Ottawa District 1

October 17, 2024

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Carleton Lodge No. 465 - Official Visit October 24, 2024**

And Presentation of William Mercer Wilson Medal to Bro. Bruce Ricker

**R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, District Deputy Grand Master**

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**W. Bro. Donald Learning, District Secretary**

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Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

**Ottawa District 1**

**Honouring Brother Bruce Payson Ricker: A Beacon of Masonic Virtue and Service**

Presented to Carleton Lodge on October 24, 2024

It is a profound privilege to be here to celebrate a momentous occasion in the life of your Lodge and, indeed, our fraternity. Tonight, I want to recognize a brother who exemplifies the very essence of what it means to be a Mason. We honour Brother Bruce Payson Ricker, a man who has not only lived by the values we hold dear but has also inspired us all by earning one of the highest honours in Masonry: the William Mercer Wilson Medal for Meritorious Service.

The William Mercer Wilson Medal is not awarded lightly. It is reserved for those rare individuals who have made an extraordinary impact and consistently brought our Masonic principles to life through their actions. As we honour Brother Ricker, I invite each of you to reflect on the values that define this award, for they are the guiding lights of our journeys as Masons.

This nomination was no casual effort. It was a petition that took several years of careful preparation and examination by the brethren of Carleton Lodge. It involved due diligence and reflection on the life and character of Brother Ricker. The members of Carleton Lodge sought to uncover those qualities that set him apart. Through their research, they found that Brother Ricker exemplifies true Masonic spirit in every aspect of his life, and it is fitting that tonight we honour him and reflect on the Masonic virtues he so nobly upholds.

**Exemplifying Masonic Virtues: Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth**

At the core of Freemasonry are the virtues of brotherly love, relief, and truth. These are not simply words or lofty ideals but principles that must be lived and practiced each day.



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Brotherly Love calls us to see the humanity in one another, to respect and care for each other, and to create bonds that transcend individual differences. Brother Ricker has exemplified this virtue repeatedly. He has been a friend to the lonely, a mentor to the inexperienced, and a confidant to those in need. He has shown that brotherly love is not merely an idea, but a way of being of treating others with kindness, understanding, and respect.

Relief speaks to our duty to offer help to those who are struggling. Brother Ricker has given freely of his time and resources, often working quietly and without fanfare. His efforts have lifted spirits, alleviated burdens, and made a tangible difference in the community. His example reminds us that relief is not about recognition but about the joy of giving and the satisfaction that comes from knowing one has made a positive impact on another's life.

Truth is the bedrock of our fraternity, binding us to a code of honesty, integrity, and moral courage. Brother Ricker has lived a life of truth, guided by a strong moral compass. His actions have earned him the respect and trust of everyone who knows him. He has shown us that truth is not merely a virtue to be admired but a standard by which we must all strive to live. By embracing these Masonic virtues, Brother Ricker has set an example that inspires us all to reflect on our journeys and to ask ourselves how we, too, can better embody these principles.

### **Commitment to Personal Growth and Masonic Learning**

Freemasonry, my brethren, is a journey of self-discovery, self-improvement, and lifelong learning. The William Mercer Wilson Medal honours those who have committed themselves to this journey, recognizing that there is always more to learn, more to understand, and more to become.

Brother Ricker's dedication to Masonic learning is truly remarkable. He has spent time studying our rituals, and our teachings, and seeking a deeper understanding of the symbols that define us as Masons. His commitment to personal growth has not only enriched his own life but has also inspired those around him. He has attended meetings regularly, participated in Lodge discussions, and has always been willing to share his knowledge with others.

In Freemasonry, we believe that each of us can become a better man tomorrow than the man we are today. Brother Ricker has lived this belief, continually striving to improve himself and to encourage others to do the same. He reminds us that the pursuit of wisdom is a lifelong endeavour, and that true growth requires humility, curiosity, and a willingness to learn from every experience.

### **Leadership Through Service and Integrity**

True leadership in Freemasonry is not about titles or authority. It is about serving others with integrity and leading by example. The William Mercer Wilson Medal celebrates those who have demonstrated leadership not through words but through actions that inspire.

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Brother Ricker has been a model of this type of leadership. He has served this Lodge with unwavering dedication, taking on responsibilities without hesitation and always willing to lend a hand where needed. His actions have shown us that leadership is about doing what is right, even when it is difficult, and about serving selflessly and with humility.

Brother Ricker has also upheld the highest standards of integrity. He has consistently chosen the path of honour, acting in a way that reflects positively on our fraternity. In a world where integrity is often tested, he has shown that it is possible to live a life of principle, to stand firm in one's beliefs, and to lead others by example. His leadership has been a source of stability and guidance for us all, and he has earned the trust of his brethren not through grand gestures but through consistent actions that reflect his strong moral character.

### **Dedication to Community and Charity**

The William Mercer Wilson Medal also recognizes those who have made a meaningful impact on their communities. As Masons, we are called not only to build our Lodges but to build our communities and to be a force for good in the world.

Brother Ricker has dedicated himself to charitable work both within and beyond the Lodge. He has supported local initiatives, volunteered with charitable organizations, and helped those in need. His efforts have strengthened our community and brought hope to those who were struggling. He has shown us that charity is not just an act; it is a way of life, a commitment to making the world a better place, one small act of kindness at a time.

Through his actions, Brother Ricker has reminded us that our Masonic duties extend beyond the walls of the Lodge. We are called to serve our communities, to seek opportunities to give, and to use our talents for the benefit of others. He has inspired us to look for ways to serve, to find opportunities to give, and to use our gifts for the benefit of others.

### **Embracing the Fellowship of Freemasonry**

The William Mercer Wilson Medal celebrates those who have embraced the fellowship of Freemasonry. Our fraternity is about more than just individual achievements; it is about building strong bonds with our brethren and creating a community where all are welcome.

Brother Ricker has been a pillar of this Lodge, a friend to all, and a mentor to many. He has welcomed new members with open arms, shared his knowledge generously, and brought warmth and camaraderie to our gatherings. He has reminded us that the true strength of Freemasonry lies in our fellowship, in the bonds we share, and in the support we give one another.

Through his example, Brother Ricker has shown us that the fellowship of Freemasonry is not just about attending meetings; it is about building relationships, fostering a sense of belonging, and creating a community where all are welcome. He has enriched this Lodge with his friendship, and he has left an indelible mark on our hearts.

## District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25

### **The Lessons We Can Learn from Brother Ricker's Actions**

As we reflect on Brother Ricker's achievements, we must also consider the lessons his life teaches us. The values he has lived by brotherly love, relief, truth, service, and integrity, are not just abstract ideas but practical guides for how we should live our lives as Masons. From his commitment to personal growth, we learn the importance of continuous learning and self-improvement. From his dedication to charity, we learn that small, consistent acts of kindness can have a lasting impact. And from his leadership, we are reminded that true influence comes not from authority but from actions that inspire others.

Brother Ricker has shown us that the path to becoming a better Mason, and indeed a better man, is found in living out these virtues in our daily lives. His example encourages us all to reflect on our own actions and to ask ourselves: How can we better embody the values we profess? How can we, like Brother Ricker, leave a positive mark on our own Lodges, our community, and the world around us?

### **Conclusion: A Call to Follow His Example**

Brethren, the William Mercer Wilson Medal is a symbol of excellence, a reminder of the standards to which we all aspire. Let us strive to follow the example of Brother Ricker, to live by the principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth, to seek personal growth, to lead with integrity, to serve our communities, and to cherish the fellowship we share. Let us also commit ourselves to live by these values, to uphold the traditions of our fraternity, and to make a positive difference in the lives of those around us. May we continue to walk the path of Freemasonry with pride, purpose, and unwavering dedication.

Thank you, brethren.

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts  
DDGM Ottawa 1

October 24, 2024

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Sydney Albert Luke Lodge No. 558 - Official Visit November 13, 2024**

**R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, District Deputy Grand Master**

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**W. Bro. Donald Learning, District Secretary**

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Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

## **Ottawa District 1**

### **Steering the Course: Lessons in Leadership and Unity for a Thriving Masonic Lodge**

Presented to Sidney Albert Luke Lodge November 13, 2024

Brethren,

This evening I'd like to talk about something very close to my heart: the success and stability of a Masonic Lodge. I want to draw an analogy that I believe speaks to all of us but resonates especially with my own experiences serving in the Navy as an engineer. Running a Masonic Lodge has much in common with running a Navy ship. Both require discipline, leadership, and a team of dedicated individuals who understand that each role, no matter how big or small, is essential to maintaining a steady course and achieving the mission.

On a Navy ship, everyone has a job. The Captain oversees all operations, the Officer of the Watch supervises daily activities, engineers ensure the machinery and propulsion systems run smoothly, and every crew member looks after their assigned roles and responsibilities. As an engineer, I know that for a ship to succeed, every person, department, and section must work harmoniously. If even one person fails to fulfil their role, it can lead to confusion and even jeopardize the success and safety of everyone aboard.

In our Lodge, each Brother holds an equally important role. Whether you are Master of the Lodge, a Junior Warden, or an Entered Apprentice, just beginning your masonic journey, you have a duty to be diligent, respectful, and engaged. When we treat our positions in the Lodge with the same respect and seriousness that we held dear in the Navy, we create an environment that is structured, supportive, and effective. Brethren, a Lodge that operates with such respect and organization is a Lodge that thrives.

### **The Importance of Roles and Responsibilities**

One of the primary lessons we learn in Freemasonry is the importance of duty. Each one of us has a role to play and a responsibility to uphold. In a Navy vessel, the chain of command is essential. Orders from the top flow down, but feedback and updates must also flow up.

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Communication is constant, respectful, and purposeful. Every crew member knows their position and respects the duties of others, just as we must in the Lodge.

In our Lodge, each Brother's role is like an essential cog in a machine. By taking our roles seriously and supporting one another, we maintain the strength of our fraternity. When we treat our responsibilities with the same dedication that Navy personnel treat their posts, we foster a thriving, respectful, and unified environment. Every duty, no matter how small, contributes to the whole, keeping our Lodge steady and successful.

### **Steady as She Goes: Keeping the Lodge on Course**

Running a ship requires setting a course, navigating through storms, adjusting for unexpected obstacles, and, most importantly, never losing sight of the destination. In Masonry, our destination is clear: to make good men better and to strengthen our bond as a fraternity of principled, devoted Brethren. But achieving this goal requires us to stay on course.

Just as an engineer on a Navy ship must ensure each component functions smoothly, each Brother must support the Lodge by fulfilling his role diligently. If we lose our sense of purpose or fail to support one another, the Lodge's unity weakens, and our journey becomes more difficult. The ritual, the officers' duties, the mentoring of newer Masons, all of these serve as our compass by which we navigate. And like the call on a Navy ship, we must be "Ready, Aye, Ready"; which is fully prepared to take on any challenge, support each other, and keep our Lodge steady and true.

### **Be Part of the Solution, Not Part of the Problem**

Brethren let's be honest. On any ship, there are those who go above and beyond to make sure every task is completed, and there are those who stand back, letting others carry the weight. On a Navy ship, that's unacceptable, and it should be just as unacceptable in our Lodges. Each of us has a choice: to be part of the solution or part of the problem.

If we're to build a Lodge that prospers, each Brother must contribute positively. Complaints, negativity, or resistance to change can pull us off course. Just as a sailor knows that grumbling won't change the weather or calm the seas, we must understand that complaining about how things "have always been done" will not help us grow as a Lodge. Instead, let's bring constructive ideas and solutions to the table. Let's remember that we all have a hand in steering the ship, and if we're rowing in opposite directions, we'll never make progress.

### **Leadership and Mentorship: Ensuring Stability and Growth**

In the Navy, the officers are not only leaders but also mentors. They train, they guide, and they set an example. They understand that for the ship to function smoothly, they must invest time and effort in each sailor. Similarly, our Lodge relies on the wisdom and guidance of experienced Masons to mentor newer members. As experienced Brethren, it's our duty to lead by example, showing dedication, patience, and integrity.



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When a Junior Warden or an Entered Apprentice sees a senior Brother leading with dedication and pride, they are inspired to do the same. Mentorship ensures that the values and rituals of Freemasonry are preserved, and it builds a chain of leadership that will carry our Lodges forward into future generations. Each of us has the opportunity to be that guiding light, to be the leader who inspires others.

### **Facing Challenges Together**

On a Navy ship, adversity is inevitable. There will be storms, breakdowns, and moments when the crew is exhausted, and morale is low. But in those moments, unity and teamwork are what pull everyone through the darkness. The Lodge, too, faces its own set of challenges. There may be periods when attendance wanes, when finances are tight, or when internal disagreements arise. In those times, our strength as Masons is tested.

We must remember that, just like a crew facing a storm, we are stronger together. Division, blame, or reluctance to support one another weakens us. But if we stand shoulder to shoulder, committed to the Lodge and each other, we can weather any storm. Together, we have the resilience, the resources, and the brotherhood to overcome any obstacle.

### **Encouragement for Engagement**

Just as a ship requires a full, active crew, our Lodge requires engaged, committed members to truly succeed. It's not enough to simply show up; each Brother should be looking for ways to contribute, to strengthen the Lodge, and to support one another. We each bring unique talents and strengths to the table. By actively participating, by offering your ideas, your skills, and your time, you help build a Lodge that is vibrant, welcoming, and impactful.

If you find yourself on the sidelines, ask yourself how you might step up. Think about what you can bring to the Lodge and how you can make a difference. Perhaps you can mentor a new member, volunteer for a role, or simply commit to attending more regularly. Whatever it is, your contribution matters.

### **Conclusion: Navigating Toward Success**

Brethren, a Lodge, like a Navy ship, is only as strong as the unity and commitment of its members. Each of us has a role to play, and each role is essential. When we treat our duties in the Lodge with respect, when we support one another and work together, we steer the Lodge toward success.

Let us each take pride in our responsibilities, knowing that our actions today will lay the foundation for future generations of Masons. Let's move forward with purpose, with unity, and with a commitment to excellence.

Brethren, as we stand united in our mission, let us remember that the strength of our Lodge lies in our unwavering dedication and collective spirit. Each of us has a vital role, and together, we can overcome any challenge and steer our Lodge toward a

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2024-25**

prosperous future. Let us lead with integrity, mentor with purpose, and face every storm with courage and unity. So, as we move forward with a commitment to excellence, let's be ever prepared, ever strong, and ever united. Brethren, let us be "Ready, aye, ready!"

Thank you.

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts  
DDGM Ottawa 1

November 13, 2024

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**St. Andrew's Lodge No. 560 - Official Visit December 5, 2024**

**R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, District Deputy Grand Master**

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Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

## **Ottawa District 1**

### **Steering the Course: Lessons in Leadership and Unity for a Thriving Masonic Lodge**

Presented to St. Andrew's Lodge December 5, 2024

*(Please Note: This is the same talk that was given at Sidney Albert Luke Lodge on November 13, 2024. The talk was so well received that R.W. Bro. Roberts was asked to give it again.)*

Brethren,

This evening I'd like to talk about something very close to my heart: the success and stability of a Masonic Lodge. I want to draw an analogy that I believe speaks to all of us but resonates especially with my own experiences serving in the Navy as an engineer. Running a Masonic Lodge has much in common with running a Navy ship. Both require discipline, leadership, and a team of dedicated individuals who understand that each role, no matter how big or small, is essential to maintaining a steady course and achieving the mission.

On a Navy ship, everyone has a job. The Captain oversees all operations, the Officer of the Watch supervises daily activities, engineers ensure the machinery and propulsion systems run smoothly, and every crew member looks after their assigned roles and responsibilities. As an engineer, I know that for a ship to succeed, every person, department, and section must work harmoniously. If even one person fails to fulfil their role, it can lead to confusion and even jeopardize the success and safety of everyone aboard.

In our Lodge, each Brother holds an equally important role. Whether you are Master of the Lodge, a Junior Warden, or an Entered Apprentice, just beginning your masonic journey, you have a duty to be diligent, respectful, and engaged. When we treat our positions in the Lodge with the same respect and seriousness that we held dear in the Navy, we create an environment that is structured, supportive, and effective. Brethren, a Lodge that operates with such respect and organization is a Lodge that thrives.

### **The Importance of Roles and Responsibilities**

One of the primary lessons we learn in Freemasonry is the importance of duty. Each one of us has a role to play and a responsibility to uphold. In a Navy vessel, the chain of command is essential. Orders from the top flow down, but feedback and updates must also flow up. Communication is constant, respectful, and purposeful. Every crew member knows their position and respects the duties of others, just as we must in the Lodge.

In our Lodge, each Brother's role is like an essential cog in a machine. By taking our roles seriously and supporting one another, we maintain the strength of our fraternity. When we treat our responsibilities with the same dedication that Navy personnel treat their posts, we foster a thriving, respectful, and unified environment. Every duty, no matter how small, contributes to the whole, keeping our Lodge steady and successful.

### **Steady as She Goes: Keeping the Lodge on Course**

Running a ship requires setting a course, navigating through storms, adjusting for unexpected obstacles, and, most importantly, never losing sight of the destination. In Masonry, our destination is clear: to make good men better and to strengthen our bond as a fraternity of principled, devoted Brethren. But achieving this goal requires us to stay on course.

Just as an engineer on a Navy ship must ensure each component functions smoothly, each Brother must support the Lodge by fulfilling his role diligently. If we lose our sense of purpose or fail to support one another, the Lodge's unity weakens, and our journey becomes more difficult. The ritual, the officers' duties, the mentoring of newer Masons, all of these serve as our compass by which we navigate. And like the call on a Navy ship, we must be "Ready, Aye, Ready"; which is fully prepared to take on any challenge, support each other, and keep our Lodge steady and true.

### **Be Part of the Solution, Not Part of the Problem**

Brethren let's be honest. On any ship, there are those who go above and beyond to make sure every task is completed, and there are those who stand back, letting others carry the weight. On a Navy ship, that's unacceptable, and it should be just as unacceptable in our Lodges. Each of us has a choice: to be part of the solution or part of the problem.

If we're to build a Lodge that prospers, each Brother must contribute positively. Complaints, negativity, or resistance to change can pull us off course. Just as a sailor knows that grumbling won't change the weather or calm the seas, we must understand that complaining about how things "have always been done" will not help us grow as a Lodge. Instead, let's bring constructive ideas and solutions to the table. Let's remember that we all have a hand in steering the ship, and if we're rowing in opposite directions, we'll never make progress.

### **Leadership and Mentorship: Ensuring Stability and Growth**

In the Navy, the officers are not only leaders but also mentors. They train, they guide, and they set an example. They understand that for the ship to function smoothly, they must

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invest time and effort in each sailor. Similarly, our Lodge relies on the wisdom and guidance of experienced Masons to mentor newer members. As experienced Brethren, it's our duty to lead by example, showing dedication, patience, and integrity.

When a Junior Warden or an Entered Apprentice sees a senior Brother leading with dedication and pride, they are inspired to do the same. Mentorship ensures that the values and rituals of Freemasonry are preserved, and it builds a chain of leadership that will carry our Lodges forward into future generations. Each of us has the opportunity to be that guiding light, to be the leader who inspires others.

### **Facing Challenges Together**

On a Navy ship, adversity is inevitable. There will be storms, breakdowns, and moments when the crew is exhausted, and morale is low. But in those moments, unity and teamwork are what pull everyone through the darkness. The Lodge, too, faces its own set of challenges. There may be periods when attendance wanes, when finances are tight, or when internal disagreements arise. In those times, our strength as Masons is tested.

We must remember that, just like a crew facing a storm, we are stronger together. Division, blame, or reluctance to support one another weakens us. But if we stand shoulder to shoulder, committed to the Lodge and each other, we can weather any storm. Together, we have the resilience, the resources, and the brotherhood to overcome any obstacle.

### **Encouragement for Engagement**

Just as a ship requires a full, active crew, our Lodge requires engaged, committed members to truly succeed. It's not enough to simply show up; each Brother should be looking for ways to contribute, to strengthen the Lodge, and to support one another. We each bring unique talents and strengths to the table. By actively participating, by offering your ideas, your skills, and your time, you help build a Lodge that is vibrant, welcoming, and impactful.

If you find yourself on the sidelines, ask yourself how you might step up. Think about what you can bring to the Lodge and how you can make a difference. Perhaps you can mentor a new member, volunteer for a role, or simply commit to attending more regularly. Whatever it is, your contribution matters.

### **Conclusion: Navigating Toward Success**

Brethren, a Lodge, like a Navy ship, is only as strong as the unity and commitment of its members. Each of us has a role to play, and each role is essential. When we treat our duties in the Lodge with respect, when we support one another and work together, we steer the Lodge toward success.

Let us each take pride in our responsibilities, knowing that our actions today will lay the foundation for future generations of Masons. Let's move forward with purpose, with unity, and with a commitment to excellence.

Brethren, as we stand united in our mission, let us remember that the strength of our



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Lodge lies in our unwavering dedication and collective spirit. Each of us has a vital role, and together, we can overcome any challenge and steer our Lodge toward a prosperous future. Let us lead with integrity, mentor with purpose, and face every storm with courage and unity. So, as we move forward with a commitment to excellence, let's be ever prepared, ever strong, and ever united. Brethren, let us be "Ready, aye, ready!"

Thank you.

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts  
DDGM Ottawa 1

December 5, 2024

## Acacia Lodge No. 561 - Official Visit January 21, 2025

**R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts, District Deputy Grand Master**

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Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

### Ottawa District 1

#### A Stumbling Block or a Stepping Stone: A Masonic Perspective

Presented to Acacia Lodge on January 21, 2025

Brethren,

As we gather in the Lodge this evening, bound by our shared values and dedication to Freemasonry, I recently came across a profound poem by R. L. Sharpe, and I found it to be particularly insightful. Let us take a moment to reflect on it. Though its language is simple, its message carries immense weight, resonating deeply with the Masonic principles we strive to embody.

#### A Stumbling Block or a Stepping Stone

By R. L. Sharpe

*Isn't it strange how princes and kings,  
and clowns that caper in sawdust rings,  
and common people, like you and me,  
are builders for eternity?  
Each is given a list of rules;  
a shapeless mass; a bag of tools.  
And each must fashion, ere life is flown,  
A stumbling block, or a Stepping-Stone.*

In these opening lines, we are reminded of the universality of human endeavour. Regardless of status, title, or circumstance, every individual is tasked with a singular, lifelong duty: to build. Freemasonry teaches us that our literal and symbolic tools are not confined to the operative stonemason's craft. They are the principles of morality, integrity, and self-improvement. Whether we are leaders or laypersons, our actions leave an indelible mark not just on our lives but on the fabric of eternity. Each of us, like the common labourer

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or the prince, holds the power to shape the world around us, contributing either to its enrichment or its detriment.

In our Craft, we learn that the ashlar from rough to perfect represents the journey of self-improvement. This poem invites us to consider the enduring impact of that journey. Are we building stumbling blocks that hinder others, or are we creating stepping stones to uplift those who come after us? It is a question of legacy, one that every Mason must confront. Legacy is not built in grand moments alone but in the everyday choices and actions that accumulate to define our lives. Each tool in our hands be it the square, the level, or the plumb rule is a reminder that every detail matters.

"Each is given a list of rules;  
a shapeless mass; a bag of tools."

Brethren, these lines speak directly to our Masonic initiation. Upon entering the Craft, we are given a set of rules and the moral and ethical teachings of Freemasonry to guide us. The "shapeless mass" symbolizes our unrefined character at the beginning of our journey. It is through the use of our "bag of tools", the working tools of the Lodge, such as the square, the compasses, and the level that we begin to shape ourselves into better men. These tools are not relics of the past; they are timeless instruments that guide our conduct and remind us of the principles we must uphold. They symbolize the transformative power of discipline, diligence, and purpose.

But let us not forget that these tools are not merely for personal refinement. They are instruments of service. The compasses teach us to draw boundaries that respect others. The square reminds us to deal fairly and justly. The level underscores the equality of all mankind. As we use these tools, we must ask ourselves: Are we building a life that lifts others, or are we creating obstacles through selfishness and neglect? Are we using our tools to bridge divides, to heal wounds, and to bring people closer to truth and understanding?

"And each must fashion, ere life is flown,  
A stumbling block, or a Stepping-Stone."

Brethren, these final lines capture the essence of our purpose as Masons. Life is fleeting, and the time given to us is finite. What we choose to build a stumbling block or a stepping stone defines not only our character but also our contribution to the world. It is an essential truth that every action we take reverberates beyond our own lives, influencing others in ways we may never fully comprehend. Thus, we are called to be ever mindful of our impact.

In our Lodges, we are taught to consider the "end of time." This is not merely a reminder of mortality but a call to focus on the eternal implications of our actions. Are we building stumbling blocks through ignorance, prejudice, or inaction? Or are we constructing stepping stones by mentoring the next generation, supporting our communities, and standing as beacons of virtue? Through these choices, we fulfill Freemasonry's higher aims to improve not just ourselves but the world around us.

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Let us take a moment to reflect on our own lives. Think of the moments when you may have been a stumbling block perhaps unintentionally. Did you miss an opportunity to extend a hand to someone in need? Did you allow pride or anger to cloud your judgment? Now, contrast those moments with the times you were a stepping stone. Perhaps you mentored a new Brother, offered wise counsel, or simply showed kindness when it was most needed. These moments of service and humility often leave the deepest impressions and resonate far beyond what we can see.

Freemasonry calls us to be stepping stones. Our rituals, our symbols, and our teachings all point toward this singular goal.

Brethren, let us also remember that we do not build alone. Freemasonry is a fraternity, a brotherhood. Together, we are stronger, more capable, and more impactful. When we work in harmony, guided by the Great Architect of the Universe, we transform not only ourselves but the world around us. Every Lodge, every brother, and every act of kindness contributes to a grand design far greater than any individual. The strength of our fraternity lies in our unity and our shared commitment to the betterment of humanity.

As we leave here tonight, let us carry the message of this poem in our hearts. Let us be mindful of the tools we have been given and the rules that guide us. Let us strive to build lives of purpose and integrity, ensuring that our actions become stepping stones for those who follow. Let us embrace our roles as builders of eternity, knowing that the choices we make today will echo through the generations to come.

May the Great Architect of the Universe grant us the wisdom to choose wisely, the strength to build diligently, and the beauty to create lives that inspire. Let us commit to using our time, talents, and tools to leave the world better than we found it.

Thank you.

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts DDGM Ottawa 1  
January 21, 2025

**Temple Lodge No. 665 - Official Visit February 4, 2025**

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Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

**Ottawa District 1**

**The Art of Influence Freemasonry's Path to Positive Leadership**

Presented to Temple Lodge on February 4, 2025

Brethren,

As we come together in the spirit of brotherhood and shared learning, I am reminded of my military leadership training, where I learned a definition of leadership that has stayed with me to this day: "Leadership is the art of influencing human behaviour to accomplish a task in a manner so desired by the leader." This idea highlights that leadership is not about control, but about inspiring and guiding others toward a shared goal. Through strong leadership, we strengthen our lodges, our communities, and the world around us.

Influence is a powerful force, shaping behaviour and motivating action in alignment with shared values. It is not about directing others but about instilling a sense of purpose and unity. Freemasonry, built on the principles of truth, integrity, and mutual respect, reminds us that leadership is not just a title, but a responsibility, one that requires wisdom, humility, and dedication.

At its core, influence is what allows a leader to inspire and empower others to work together toward a common vision. True influence does not come from authority alone but from demonstrating moral character and leading by example. The most respected leaders are those who act with consistency and sincerity, who remain steadfast in their principles, and who uplift those around them.

As Masons, we take on the role of stewards of this valuable skill. We have the privilege of leading by example and encouraging others to live with virtue and purpose. Our lodges provide an environment where we strengthen our skills, develop lasting connections, and extend the values of our fraternity beyond our walls.



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Freemasonry stands apart in its commitment to positive leadership. True leadership is not about giving orders, but about lifting others up, serving with kindness, and demonstrating unwavering integrity. A great leader does not seek to control, but to guide with wisdom, patience, and understanding. Our fraternity teaches us that leadership is not about personal ambition, but about contributing to the greater good, creating an atmosphere where every brother can thrive and reach his highest potential. In our Masonic journey, we follow principles that provide a framework for effective and enlightened leadership. These guiding values help us navigate the ever-changing world while ensuring that our actions are rooted in the tenets of Freemasonry.

First, Freemasonry teaches that leadership is built on moral character. True influence does not stem from status or authority but from a strong foundation of honesty, integrity, and ethical conduct. When we act with consistency and sincerity, we earn the trust and respect of those around us, reinforcing the bonds of brotherhood.

Another key principle is empathy. The ability to connect with others, to understand their concerns and perspectives, is essential in fostering genuine relationships. When we listen with an open heart and strive to understand, we strengthen our sense of unity and belonging, creating an environment where all voices are valued and respected.

Freemasonry also highlights the importance of service. True leadership is about lifting others up, not seeking personal recognition. It is about offering support, encouragement, and guidance to help our brethren grow. When we lead with the intent to serve, we cultivate an atmosphere of trust and cooperation that benefits everyone.

A great leader is also one who has a vision for the future. Leadership is not simply maintaining the status quo but about inspiring progress and positive change. Through thoughtful planning and an eye on the bigger picture, we motivate and empower those around us to strive for growth, learning, and excellence.

Another essential trait of a Masonic leader is humility. A leader who acknowledges his limitations remains open to feedback and is willing to learn from others fosters an environment of continuous improvement. Humility is not a weakness, but a strength - one that enables us to work collaboratively and create lasting positive change.

The principles of influence extend far beyond the lodge. They shape the way we interact with our families, our colleagues, and our communities. As Masons, we are called to be pillars of strength, to stand for justice, and to represent the values that define us. Leadership is not about gaining power but about making a meaningful impact and leaving behind a legacy of kindness, service, and integrity.

Brethren, let us remember that influence is not about personal gain, but about a responsibility to serve others with wisdom, compassion, and humility. When exercised with integrity and purpose, our leadership can transform lives, strengthen communities, and leave a lasting impact on the world.

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Let us embrace the core values of Freemasonry, brotherly love, relief, and truth as we strive to become positive and inspiring leaders. Each of us has the power to make a difference, to embody the virtues of our Craft, and to ensure that our legacy as Freemasons remains strong for future generations.

Brethren, the world looks to men of character, wisdom, and strength to lead the way. Let us be those men. Let us take the light we have cultivated within our lodges and share it with a world that yearns for truth and guidance. May our words inspire, our actions uplift, and our presence bring unity. With unwavering dedication, let us be the steady hands that build a better tomorrow, leaving a lasting imprint of brotherhood, virtue, and leadership on all we touch.

Thank you.

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts DDGM Ottawa 1  
February 4th, 2025

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

Civil Service Lodge No. 148 - Official Visit February 11, 2025

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Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

## **Ottawa District 1**

### **The Man in the Glass and the Journey of a Mason**

Presented to Civil Service Lodge on February 11, 2025

Brethren,

Our Lodge is a place of tradition, wisdom, and brotherhood, a refuge from the distractions of the outside world, where we can reflect on the deeper truths of life. I want to share some thoughts on a subject that speaks to the heart of what we strive to be as Masons: self-examination and personal integrity.

As Masons, we are constantly reminded of our duty to improve ourselves, to build our own spiritual and moral temples, and to uphold the virtues that define our Craft. Our symbols and rituals teach us that life is a journey of self-discovery and refinement. But how do we truly measure our progress? Is it by the titles we earn, the positions we hold, or the recognition we receive from others?

I would argue that the true measure of a Mason is something much deeper, something far more personal. It is found in the quiet moments when we are alone with our thoughts, when we stand before the mirror and face the one person from whom we can never hide, ourselves.

Tonight, I want to share with you a poem that has resonated with many over the years. It was first published in 1934 by Peter Dale Wimbrow Sr., and its message is as relevant today as it was nearly a century ago. It is called *The Man in the Glass*.

#### **The Man in the Glass**

*When you get what you want in your struggle for self  
And the world makes you king for a day  
Just go to the mirror and look at yourself  
And see what that man has to say.*

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There is something profound about these opening lines. We all seek success in life, whether in our careers, our personal ambitions, or even within Freemasonry itself. We work hard, we take on responsibilities, and we strive to leave our mark on the world. But at the end of the day, when all the applause fades and the distractions of daily life are stripped away, there is only one person whose judgment truly matters: the man in the glass.

*For it is not your father, or mother, or wife  
Whose judgment upon you must pass  
The fellow whose verdict counts most in your life  
Is the one staring back from the glass.*

One of the great lessons of Freemasonry is that external validation means little if we are not at peace within ourselves. The world may praise us, our peers may admire us, and society may call us successful, but if we have compromised our integrity along the way, what have we truly gained?

Masonry teaches us that success is not measured by wealth, power, or prestige, but by the content of our character. A Mason should never act simply to gain the approval of others, but rather because it is right. Our obligation is not to impress, but to uphold the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth in all our undertakings.

*He is the fellow to please, never mind all the rest  
For he is with you, clear to the end  
And you have passed your most difficult and dangerous test  
If the man in the glass is your friend.*

Think about that for a moment. The most difficult and dangerous test is not the challenges the world throws at us, but the challenge of staying true to ourselves. Every day, we are faced with choices, some small and some significant. Do we act with integrity even when no one is watching? Do we stay true to our values when it would be easier to take shortcuts? Do we extend kindness and understanding when it would be easier to judge?

As Masons, we are called to take the harder but higher road. We are called to be men of our word. We are called to act justly, not only when it is convenient, but when it is difficult. We are called to be men of honor, even when doing so brings no recognition or reward.

*You may fool the whole world down the pathway of years  
And get pats on the back as you pass  
But your final reward will be heartache and tears  
If you have cheated the man in the glass.*

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Brethren, we live in an age where appearances often matter more than substance. In a world of social media, public accolades, and constant comparisons, it is easy to become more concerned with how we are perceived than with who we truly are. But Freemasonry has always stood apart from this. Our Craft does not measure a man by his wealth, his reputation, or his social status. It measures him by his character, his virtue, and his dedication to self-improvement.

We are taught that the tools of Masonry are meant to shape our own character. The plumb reminds us to walk uprightly, the square instructs us to act fairly, and the compasses guide us to control our desires and keep our actions within due bounds. But these tools only work if we use them, not just in Lodge, but in our everyday lives.

### **The Temple Within**

Every Mason is engaged in building a temple, not one made of stone, but one built within. Our own internal temple is constructed one decision at a time, through our actions, our words, and our interactions with others. The question we must ask ourselves is:

*Am I building with integrity? Am I staying true to the principles I have sworn to uphold?*

There is no Master Mason's apron, no rank, and no title that can disguise a man's true nature. The greatest men in history have not been those with the highest status, but those who stood firm in their convictions and led by example.

This is why self-examination is important. Our ritual tells us to look within, to subdue our passions, and to refine our rough ashlar into perfect stones. But self-examination is not always easy. It requires honesty, courage, and humility.

It is easy to judge others. It is far harder to judge ourselves. As Masons, we should welcome self-reflection because it is through this process that we grow. It is through this process that we ensure that, when we stand before the mirror, the man staring back is truly our friend.

### **Final Reflections**

Brethren, I leave you with this thought. When our time on this Earth comes to an end, and we lay down our working tools, what will our legacy be? Will we be remembered for our titles, or for the way we treated others? Will we be known for our accomplishments, or for our kindness, humility, and unwavering commitment to truth?

Masonry teaches us that the real rewards of life are not material, but moral. The most important honor a man can have is the peace of knowing he has lived rightly. Brethren, I challenge each of us to take a moment before we sleep to stand before our own reflection and ask:

Is the man in the glass my friend?

If the answer is yes, then we can rest with the quiet confidence that we have walked uprightly, lived justly, and honoured our Masonic obligations.



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If the answer is uncertain, then let that reflection not be a source of despair, but a call to action. Each new day grants us the working tools to chisel away our imperfections, to stand a little straighter, and to live a little truer to the principles we hold dear. For in the end, no title, wealth, or praise will define us. Only the legacy of our character, the sincerity of our actions, and the integrity of the man we see in the glass will remain.

Thank you.

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts DDGM Ottawa 1

February 11, 2025

## Hazeldean Lodge No. 517 - Official Visit February 19, 2025

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Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

### **Ottawa District 1**

#### **Masonic Leadership: A Call to Lead Within and Beyond the Lodge**

Presented to Hazeldean Lodge on February 19, 2025

Brethren,

As we gather within the sacred precincts of our lodge, let us pause for a moment to reflect. We should not focus only on the ceremonies and traditions that bind us together, but also on the deeper meaning of our work. Freemasonry has always been a beacon of enlightenment, a sanctuary of learning, and a foundation for personal transformation. Above all, it has been a school of leadership.

Here is a profound truth. Leadership is not conferred by rank or title. It is not dictated by seniority, nor is it measured in years of service. Leadership in Freemasonry begins the moment a man takes his first step into the lodge as an Entered Apprentice.

From that very moment, he embarks on a journey that calls upon him to embody the tenets of our Craft. This calling is not just within these walls but extends to the wider world. Leadership is not an aspiration reserved for the Master of the Lodge or the officers on the dais. It is an expectation of every Mason.

#### **The Nature of Masonic Leadership**

What defines leadership within our fraternity? Is it the ability to command, to enforce rules, or to wield authority? No, my brethren. True leadership is an act of service.

Our principles of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth are not passive ideals. They are calls to action that demand we lead not by directive, but by example. The world outside often associates leadership with power, position, or influence. In Masonry, leadership is found in the quiet dignity of a man who listens before he speaks, who acts with integrity even when no one is watching, and who uplifts others without seeking recognition for himself.

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Every Entered Apprentice is already a leader in the making. He has chosen the path of self-improvement. He has stepped forward seeking knowledge. He has embraced the challenge of shaping himself into something greater. We, as his brethren, have the duty to support, mentor, and inspire him.

### **Building the Leaders of Tomorrow**

Brethren, consider the young Mason who sits among us tonight. He watches, he listens, and he learns. From whom will he learn the meaning of Masonic leadership? Will it be from a lecture alone? Will it be from a ritual that is beautifully delivered but devoid of action? No, my brethren. He will learn by watching us.

When we extend a helping hand to a brother in need, we teach leadership. When we defend the reputation of another rather than engage in gossip, we teach leadership. When we approach the altar with reverence and humility, we teach leadership.

Let us always be mindful of the example we set. If we want to see our lodge thrive and if we want to see the next generation of Masons rise to their full potential, then we must lead not with words, but with deeds.

### **The Lodge as a Training Ground for the World**

We must not confine our leadership to the sanctuary of the lodge. The true test of our Masonic principles lies beyond these doors.

If leadership in Freemasonry is about service, then where is that service most urgently needed? It is needed in our homes, where we must strive to be better husbands, fathers, sons, and brothers. It is needed in our workplaces, where we must uphold honesty, diligence, and fairness. It is needed in our communities, where society yearns for men of principle to step forward, to build, to heal, and to inspire.

The world today is filled with uncertainty, division, and cynicism. We, as Masons, possess a unique calling. We are men who have taken solemn obligations, who have committed ourselves to the practice of virtue, and who have pledged to leave the world better than we found it. If there was ever a time for Masonic leadership beyond the lodge, that time is now.

My brethren, we must carry the light of Masonry into the world. Let us not be content to merely attend meetings, pay our dues, and wear our aprons. Let us find ways to apply our Masonic teachings in real and tangible ways. We can mentor young men who need guidance, support charitable causes that make a difference, and stand firm in defense of truth and justice when others falter.

### **To Be Rather Than to Seem**

There is an old Latin phrase that states, *Esse quam videri* - to be rather than to seem. That, brethren, is the heart of Masonic leadership. It means to be the men that others aspire to become, to be the example that others follow, and to be the steady hand in uncertain times.

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Let us be leaders in this lodge, but let us also be leaders in our homes, our workplaces, and our communities. Let us stand for something greater than ourselves.

**A Call to Action**

As we close this evening, I leave you with a challenge. When you step out of this lodge room tonight, ask yourself what you will do differently. How will you lead in whatever way you can?

Will you reach out to a brother you have not seen in some time?

Will you find a way to mentor an Entered Apprentice, helping him discover his path?

Will you take an active role in your community, offering your time and talents for a noble cause?

Brethren, our principles are not meant to remain behind tiled doors. They are meant to guide us, shape us, and transform the world. Freemasonry does not end when the lodge is closed. It must live in our actions and our example.

Let us go forth not just as Masons in name, but as Masons in action. Let us stand for integrity, offer kindness, and bring light where there is darkness. The world needs men of principle. It needs Masons.

Carry the lessons of our Craft into your homes, your workplaces, and your communities. Lead not for recognition, but because it is right. If we live our Masonic values beyond these walls, we will strengthen our fraternity and help build a better world.

Thank you, my Brethren. Now, let us go forward and make a difference.

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts DDGM Ottawa 1  
February 19th, 2025

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**Mississippi Lodge No. 147 - Official Visit February 20, 2025**

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Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

## **Ottawa District 1**

### **The Thin Blue Line and the Fraternity of Freemasonry**

Presented to Mississippi Lodge on February 20, 2025

Brethren,

Tonight, I stand before you, reflecting on two profound callings in my life, my career as a police officer and my journey into Freemasonry. At first glance, they may seem like separate paths, but when we look deeper, we see that both are built on the same fundamental principles.

In policing, we often speak of the thin blue line, a symbol of the men and women who stand between order and chaos, between good and evil. It represents a commitment to duty, to one another, and to the people we serve. Freemasonry, too, has a line that binds us, a sacred bond of brotherhood, built upon the principles of **Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth**.

While one uniform is worn in service to the law and the other in service to virtue, both require loyalty, sacrifice, and trust. Both demand that we look out for one another, that we hold ourselves to a higher standard, and that we never turn our backs on those who stand beside us.

#### **Brotherhood and Trust in the Line of Duty**

In my years as a police officer, I stood shoulder to shoulder with my brothers and sisters in uniform. The reality of the job was clear: when we put on that badge, we placed our trust, our very lives in each other's hands. It was not an abstract idea or a noble phrase. It was a necessity.

When responding to calls, when entering unknown danger, when making split-second decisions, I knew that the officers beside me would be there no matter the cost. That trust

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was forged through shared experiences, through hardship, and through the unwavering commitment to each other's safety.

And yet, as powerful as that trust was, it was a trust bound by duty. It was my job to trust my colleagues with my life, and it was theirs to trust me with theirs.

But tonight, I stand before you to say that there is a trust even greater than this.

### **The Trust of a Mason**

Brethren, we often speak of the lessons of Freemasonry, lessons of moral character, integrity, and virtue. But beyond the ritual, beyond the words spoken within these walls, there is something even more profound. It is the trust that exists within this fraternity, not just in times of crisis but in all aspects of life.

In my policing career, I trusted my colleagues with my life because that was my job. But as a Mason, I trust a brother with something far more precious. I trust my child to a brother Mason.

Think about that for a moment.

There is no higher measure of faith in a man than entrusting him with the care and protection of your child. And yet, in this sacred brotherhood, that level of trust is not just expected, it is inherent. It is built into the very fabric of who we are as Masons.

This trust does not come from standing in the line of duty together. It does not come from facing danger side by side. It comes from something even stronger. It comes from knowing that every Mason in this room has taken the same obligations, has committed himself to the same virtues, and has pledged to live by the same sacred principles that have guided our fraternity for centuries.

### **Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth**

The thin blue line is a symbol of unity among officers, but in Freemasonry, we have a line that is even older, even stronger. It is the line that connects us through Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.

**Brotherly Love** is what binds us as a fraternity. It is what ensures that we care for one another not out of duty, but out of genuine affection and respect. It is what allows me to say, without hesitation, that I would trust any Mason in this room with the well-being of my child.

**Relief** is what defines our actions beyond these walls. Just as police officers run toward danger to protect others, we as Masons are called upon to offer support and aid wherever it is needed. Whether it is a brother in distress or a community in need, we do not turn away. We do not hesitate. We step forward, guided by the principles of our Craft.



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And finally, **Truth** is the foundation of everything we stand for. In law enforcement, truth is what we seek, even when it is difficult, even when it is uncomfortable. In Freemasonry, truth is the guiding principle of our lives. It is the unwavering commitment to honesty, to justice, and to righteousness. It is what ensures that every Mason is a man of his word, a man whose trust is unquestionable.

### **A Final Reflection**

Brethren, as I reflect on my journey in both policing and Freemasonry, I am struck by one undeniable truth. The thin blue line may separate chaos from order, but the line that binds us as Masons is even greater. It is not a line of separation. It is a line of unity, of shared purpose, and of enduring trust.

There are men I trusted with my life, and I will forever honor them. But in this sacred brotherhood, I trust my brothers not just with my life, but with my legacy, my family, and my deepest values.

That is the power of Freemasonry. That is the trust that exists within these walls. That is why we do what we do.

Brethren, as we leave this lodge tonight, let us carry that trust forward, not as a mere obligation, but as a sacred duty. Let us live our principles with unwavering conviction, not only in the company of Masons but in every aspect of our lives. Let us be the steady hands in uncertain times, the voices of reason in moments of discord, and the light that others seek in times of darkness.

Our families, our communities, and even those who do not yet understand what it means to be a Mason are looking for men of honour, men of integrity, and men of action. Let them find that in us. Let them see in us the embodiment of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. Let them know that when they place their trust in a Mason, they place it in a man who will never waver, never falter, and never turn away from his duty.

Brethren, we are bound by something greater than tradition, greater than ceremony. We are bound by an unshakable trust, one that demands we live with honour, lead with conviction and stand unwavering in the face of challenge. Let us prove ourselves worthy, not just in words, but in action, today, tomorrow, and for all time.

Thank you.

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts

DDGM Ottawa 1 February 20th, 2025

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Goodwood Lodge No. 159 - Official Visit March 4, 2025**

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Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

**Ottawa District 1**

**What Will Your Legacy Be?**

Presented to Goodwood Lodge on March 4, 2025

Brethren,

Tonight, I invite you to take a step back from the daily responsibilities, the to-do lists, and the fleeting concerns of the moment. I ask you to pause and reflect on something far more lasting, something that transcends our individual lives.

One day, each of us will answer the call to the Grand Lodge Above. One day, our presence in this world will be only a memory, carried forward by those whose lives we have touched. And when that time comes, brethren, what will you be remembered for?

It is an uncomfortable question for some, yet it is an essential one. We spend our lives in service to our families, our careers, our lodges, and our communities, but do we ever truly stop to ask, what legacy am I building? What will I leave behind?

For a Mason, the answer should be clear. We must be remembered not for what we have accumulated, but for what we have given. Not for the titles we have held, but for the lives we have shaped. Not for the power we have wielded, but for the light we have shared.

**A Legacy of Leadership**

Brethren, Freemasonry has always been a school of leadership. It does not simply place men in positions of responsibility. It forges them into men worthy of responsibility. True leadership is not found in commands or authority but in the quiet, steadfast example of a man who stands firm in his principles.

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When we leave this world, will we be remembered as men who led with integrity, humility, and wisdom? Will we be remembered as those who faced challenges with courage and treated others with fairness?

A true Masonic leader does not seek the light for himself but rather ensures that light is passed on to others. Leadership is not defined by holding the Master's gavel, but by inspiring others to step forward and take their place in the great work.

Look around this lodge room. The men sitting beside you will one day reflect on your time here. What will they say? Will they speak of a man who led by example? A man who listened, who guided, who uplifted? Or will they struggle to recall a contribution that has faded with time?

Brethren, let us lead in such a way that when our names are spoken in remembrance, they are spoken with reverence and gratitude.

### **A Legacy of Mentorship**

Leadership is not only about action. It is also about teaching. No Mason walks his path alone. We are all here because another brother once extended his hand to us, guiding us along the winding road of knowledge and enlightenment.

When you pass to the Grand Lodge Above, will you have been a mentor? Will younger brethren look back and say, "He took the time to teach me, to encourage me, to help me become a better man?"

A legacy of mentorship is a legacy of multiplied influence. The wisdom we share with one Mason does not end with him. He, in turn, will share it with another, and another, and so on. It is the great chain of Masonic knowledge, stretching across generations.

Think back to the brothers who shaped your journey in Freemasonry. Those who helped you find confidence in the ritual, who explained the deeper meanings of our teachings, who encouraged you when you doubted yourself. Now ask yourself, are you that brother to someone else?

The measure of a Mason is not only in what he achieves for himself but in how he prepares others to achieve even more. Brethren, if you want to be remembered, if you want your presence to last beyond your years, then invest in others. Give your time, your wisdom, and your encouragement.

When the final summons comes, let it be said of you, "He did not just walk the path. He lit the way for others."

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### **A Legacy of Community Impact**

Beyond the doors of this lodge, there is a world that needs men like us. It is a world filled with division, uncertainty, and hardship. It is a world searching for examples of integrity, for individuals who serve not for recognition, but because service is right.

A Mason is not only a leader and a mentor within the lodge. He is also a servant of the greater community. He is the one who steps forward when others hesitate. He is the one who offers relief when others turn away. He is the one who embodies truth when others falter.

Brethren, when you are no longer here, what will your community say about you? Will they remember you as a man who made a difference? As a man who showed kindness without expectation of return? As a man who, through quiet deeds and unwavering principles, left his town, his neighbourhood, or his country a little better than he found it?

We do not need grand gestures to leave a lasting impact. We do not need great wealth or endless resources. A simple act of kindness, a word of encouragement, an offer of help when no one else is watching. These are the bricks that build a legacy of service.

Let us not be Masons who meet within these walls but fail to live our principles outside of them. Let our actions in the world reflect the teachings of our Craft so that when our time comes, we are remembered not only as members of our lodges but as men who truly made a difference.

### **The Final Question**

Brethren, the reality is this. One day, the seat you occupy in this lodge will be filled by another. One day, your name will be spoken in tribute, perhaps at a Masonic Memorial Service, just as we have honoured those who have gone before us.

### **What will be said about you?**

Will they say you were a leader who inspired, a mentor who guided, and a brother who uplifted? Will they say you were a man of honour, a man of service, and a man whose presence made a difference?

Or will they struggle to find the words, remembering only a man who was present, but never truly engaged?

### **Brethren, one day, the world will speak our names for the last time.**

When that day comes, what will they say?

Will they remember a man who led with honour, who lifted others with his wisdom, and who stood as a pillar in his lodge and his community? Will they tell stories of your kindness, your service, and your unwavering commitment to the principles of Freemasonry?

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Or will they struggle to recall the difference you made?

Right now, in this very moment, you are writing your legacy. Every action, every word, and every choice shapes how you will be remembered. Will you seize that responsibility? Will you be the leader, the mentor, the brother who truly leaves his mark?

Brethren, when you pass to the Grand Lodge Above, let it not be said that you simply lived. Let it be said that you **mattered**.

That you **taught**.

That you **served**.

That you **made a difference**.

Above all, let it be said that you lived respected and died regretted.

Because in the end, brethren, the true measure of a Mason is not in the wealth he accumulates, the titles he holds, or the years he spends within these walls. It is in the lives he has touched, the wisdom he has shared, and the light he has left behind. **Live so that when your time comes, your absence is felt, your memory is honoured, and your legacy endures.**

My brethren, may we all strive to leave the world better than we found it.

Thank you.

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts

DDGM Ottawa 1 March 4th, 2025

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Edinburgh Defenders Lodge No. 590 - Official Visit March 5, 2025**

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Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

## **Ottawa District 1**

### **The Importance of Trust in Leadership**

Presented to Edinburgh Defenders Lodge on March 5th, 2025

Brethren,

As we gather in the Lodge, bound by the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth, I wish to speak on a matter that is at the heart of leadership, trust. Without trust, no leader can inspire, no organization can thrive, and no community can stand the test of time. It is trust that binds the leader to those who follow, and it is the currency with which all great leaders transact.

Leadership is not a position; it is an influence. And that influence, if not rooted in trust, will soon fade. Many individuals in leadership roles today struggle with whom they can trust, creating uncertainty and instability in decision-making. If in the highest levels of leadership there is doubt about trust, then surely the need to reaffirm this virtue is paramount.

Without trust, even the most competent leader will struggle to inspire loyalty, action, and progress. However, trust is not a one-sided agreement; it must be reciprocated by those being led. If the leader has demonstrated the foundation of trust through credibility, respect, and fairness, then the followers must also place their trust in the leader's vision and direction.

### **The Foundation of Trust**

The Great Workplaces model emphasizes that the foundation of a great organization is built on three pillars: credibility, respect, and fairness. These principles are not only vital in the corporate world but also in our Masonic Lodges, in our families, and in every leadership role we undertake.

**1. Credibility** - A leader must be truthful, competent, and consistent. It is not enough to have a vision; one must be able to communicate it honestly and demonstrate the ability to bring



it to fruition. Likewise, followers must recognize and trust in this credibility, allowing themselves to be guided by it.

2. **Respect** - A true leader values those he leads. He listens, supports growth, and ensures every Brother feels valued. Respect fosters loyalty, and loyalty fortifies trust. However, for a leader to lead effectively, those being led must respect and trust in the leader's guidance and decisions.

3. **Fairness** - Favoritism, bias, and discrimination erode trust faster than any external crisis. A just leader ensures that all are treated with equity, that rewards are earned, and that everyone has a voice. But fairness also requires that followers trust that their leader is acting in their best interest and that decisions are made for the collective good.

When a leader lacks these qualities, trust is compromised, and when trust is compromised, unity crumbles. However, when these principles are evident in leadership, those being led must embrace and trust in their leader's direction. Let us remember that our fraternity stands strong because we uphold these Masonic virtues in all our dealings.

### **Trust in Action: Leadership Stories**

Consider two leaders, one who demanded immediate change and another who first sought to understand before acting.

In one instance, a new Leader took over an organization and quickly imposed his ideas, promising support that never materialized. He lost the trust of those he led, and though they followed his commands, they did so with reluctance and skepticism. Without trust, his vision was never fully realized.

In another case, a leader took over a struggling organization and, rather than rushing into changes, first took the time to understand the challenges and processes in place. He made small but meaningful improvements, gained the trust of his team, and then introduced larger changes. With trust established, the organization flourished. But it was not just the leader's trustworthiness that made the difference, it was the willingness of those being led to place their trust in their leader. Trust works both ways and when it is reciprocated, great things can be achieved.

Trust is not built in a moment; it is earned through consistency, transparency, and integrity. Once earned, it must be reinforced by both the leader and the followers, working in unison toward a common goal.

### **The Masonic Leader and Trust**

As Masons, we are all leaders in some capacity. Whether within our Lodge, our profession, or our community, we influence others. We must ask ourselves:

- Do we keep our word?
- Do we lead with humility?
- Do we act with integrity when no one is watching?
- Do we place trust in those who have demonstrated they are trustworthy?

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In Masonry, we learn that the compasses teach us to draw a boundary around our desires and actions, ensuring that we act with honour. The square reminds us to be fair and just. These tools are not just symbols; they are lessons in how to build trust in our leadership. But leadership is a partnership, and just as we expect trust in our principles, we must be willing to trust in those who lead us when they have proven themselves worthy of it.

A lot of research on trust has been conducted and highlights two key factors in building trust, the safety score and the certainty score.

1. **The Safety Score** measures how much risk someone is willing to take based on their confidence in the leader. A leader who is honest, transparent, and supportive increases this safety score, allowing followers to feel secure in taking bold steps forward.

2. **The Certainty Score** evaluates how predictable and reliable a leader is. A leader who is consistent in his actions and fair in his decisions increases this certainty, reinforcing trust.

These are not abstract concepts; they are the principles by which we govern ourselves as Masons. A leader who has demonstrated a strong safety and certainty score is deserving of the trust of those he leads. Without this mutual trust, progress is hindered.

### **The Hand We Hold**

Trust is not about a single act; it is about a relationship. It is like a father and child crossing a bridge. When the father asks his daughter to hold his hand, she replies, "No, Dad. You hold my hand." She understands that if she holds his hand, she may let go in fear. But if he holds hers, he will never let go, no matter what happens.

As leaders, we must be that father. We must be the ones who hold the hands of those who trust us, who guide them through the uncertainties of life, and who never let go. But at the same time, those who follow must trust that the hand reaching out to them is strong and unwavering. Trust is not a one-sided contract; it is a mutual commitment.

### **Conclusion: The Challenge Before Us**

Brethren, trust is not a mere word, it is an obligation. It is a covenant between leader and follower, Brother and Brother. It is what makes us strong, what makes us united, and what allows us to uphold the principles of our Craft in a world that often lacks integrity.

If you wish to lead, then commit yourself to trust. Be honest in your words, just in your actions, and steadfast in your principles. Likewise, if you follow, be willing to place trust in those who have earned it. The strength of our fraternity and indeed the strength of our world depends on those who are willing to lead with trust and those who are willing to follow with trust.

Let us go forth from this meeting not just as Masons, but as beacons of trust in a world that too often falters in its commitments. Leadership is not about holding a title, it is about

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holding the confidence of those who follow. The bonds of trust we forge today will determine the strength of our future. Trust is not given lightly, nor is it kept without effort, but when it stands unbroken, it becomes the foundation upon which all great endeavours are built. In the end, it is not power, wealth, or knowledge that defines true leadership, it is trust, earned and upheld, that shapes legacies and inspires generations to come.

Thank you.

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts

DDGM Ottawa 1 March 5th, 2025

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Prince of Wales Lodge No. 371 - Official Visit March 28, 2025**

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Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

**Ottawa District 1**

**"Stop at Nothing" – A Masonic Reflection on Determination and Complacency**

Presented to Prince of Wales Lodge on March 28, 2025

Brethren,

It is an honour to stand before you in a lodge filled with our brethren, bound together by the enduring principles of Freemasonry, Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. Tonight, I wish to speak on a phrase that, at first glance, may seem contradictory: "Stop at Nothing."

A phrase with two meanings. On one hand, it describes a person of unwavering determination, a brother who will let no obstacle deter him from fulfilling his obligations, whether in the Lodge, in his home, or within the broader community. He will stop at nothing to support, to plan, and to uplift those around him.

On the other hand, it can just as easily describe one who falters before even beginning; a man who stops at nothing, meaning he stops before he has even taken the first step. A Brother who sees challenges not as opportunities, but as reasons to do nothing.

This is the great divide between action and inaction, between leadership and apathy, between those who push forward and those who stand idle.

**The Masonic Call to Action**

As Masons, we are charged with improving ourselves and, in turn, the world around us. Our teachings are clear: we are builders, not by trade, but by principle. We build character. We build relationships. We build communities.

Consider the rough ashlar and the perfect ashlar, symbols that remind us that our work is never complete. We labor to smooth our own imperfections, and we do so with

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perseverance. A Mason who truly embodies "Stop at Nothing" will see challenges not as barriers, but as tests of his resolve.

When a brother falls into hardship, does he say, "This is too great a burden," or does he stop at nothing to extend his hand in aid?

When a Lodge struggles to thrive, does he lament its decline, or does he stop at nothing to breathe new life into it?

When injustice or suffering exists in the world, does he look away, or does he stop at nothing to be a force for good?

Our teachings compel us to act, to lead, to serve. We must be men of vision, stepping forward with confidence. If a Lodge is in decline, then let us stop at nothing to rejuvenate it. If a brother is struggling, then let us stop at nothing to lift him up. If society is faltering, then let us stop at nothing to uphold truth, morality, and justice.

### **The Danger of Complacency**

Brethren, we must also acknowledge the other side of this phrase. There are those who stop before they begin. Who hesitate, who make excuses, who convince themselves that their effort is unnecessary, unwelcome, or insufficient. This, my brethren, is the slow erosion of what makes us Masons.

We have seen Lodges that fade, not from lack of history or purpose, but from lack of action. We have seen men with great potential never rise beyond the first step because they believed the work was too difficult.

We have seen communities suffer because good men stood by and did nothing. Freemasonry is built upon action. Our ancient brethren were builders in the truest sense, men who shaped stone and raised great edifices. Yet, if the stonemason never lifted his chisel, never placed his mortar, never laid his bricks, what would stand in his wake? Nothing.

And so it is with us. We must remind ourselves that stopping at nothing is a choice. We can either press forward with courage and commitment, or we can choose to stand still, to watch, to let opportunities slip through our fingers.

It is easy to say, "Someone else will do it." But who, if not us?  
It is easy to say, "Another day." But when, if not now?

Every great accomplishment in history, every temple built, every nation founded, every advancement that has bettered humanity, was achieved because someone stopped at nothing to make it happen.

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And the opposite is also true. Every Lodge that failed, every society that decayed, every noble cause that faded into irrelevance, these were lost not through force or conflict, but through inaction, through waiting too long, through stopping before the first step was ever taken.

### **Leadership Beyond the Lodge**

True Masonic leadership is not found solely within these walls; it extends beyond, into our homes, our professions, and our communities. A Mason who stops at nothing in his family ensures that he is a steadfast father, husband, and mentor. He does not merely exist in the household; he is a pillar of support and wisdom. He does not ignore his duties; he embraces them. He does not let work or distractions pull him away from those who depend on him; rather, he stops at nothing to be present, to guide, to love.

A Mason who stops at nothing in his profession strives not only for success but for integrity. He does not cut corners or take the easy path; he walks the path of honor, even when it is difficult. He upholds the highest ethical standards, ensuring that his word is his bond, and his work is his legacy.

A Mason who stops at nothing in his community is not merely a spectator. He does not ask, "What can be done?," he does it. He does not wait for others to lead; he leads by example. He does not pass by suffering without offering comfort; he does not ignore injustice without speaking truth; he does not sit idly when his hands can work, his mind can plan, and his heart can give.

Brethren, the world outside the Lodge needs Masons who stop at nothing for justice, for kindness, for the betterment of mankind.

### **A Final Reflection: Which Man Are You?**

And so, I leave you with this question:

When faced with a challenge, do you stop at nothing to overcome it... or do you stop at nothing, and do nothing at all?

Do you lead, or do you wait?

Do you build, or do you watch?

Do you stand for what is right, or do you sit in silence?

Each of us, when we entered Freemasonry, took an obligation, not just to ourselves, but to our brethren, our families, and to the world around us. That obligation was not a momentary pledge, nor was it confined to the walls of this Lodge. It is a lifelong commitment to be better men, to act with integrity, to lead with courage, and to serve with unwavering dedication.

Brethren, when we leave this meeting tonight, let us carry that obligation with us. Let us stop at nothing to exemplify the virtues we uphold. Let us stop at nothing to be the light in



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times of darkness, the strength in times of doubt, and the steady hand when others falter. Let us stop at nothing to build, not only a stronger Lodge but a stronger world.

For one day, when our working tools are laid down and our earthly labors are complete, what will define us will not be the words we spoke, but the actions we took. The measure of a Mason is not found in his intentions, but in his deeds.

So, I ask you, my brethren, what will you stop at nothing to achieve?

Thank you.

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts

DDGM Ottawa 1 March 28th, 2025

**District History, Ottawa District One  
2024-25**

**Russell Lodge No. 479 - Official Visit April 21, 2025**

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Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

## **Ottawa District 1**

### **The Masonic First Responder: Always There, Because That Is What We Do**

Presented to Russell Lodge on April 21, 2025

My Brethren,

Tonight, I rise not only as a Freemason but as a witness to the quiet heroism that defines our Craft. We often hear lofty words in our ceremonies and read poetic lines from our rituals, but occasionally, we are given the privilege of seeing those words come alive through action. What I want to share with you is more than a story. It is a reflection of who we are and who we strive to be.

A call came out. Not an emergency tone blaring from a radio, but a quiet message passed along Masonic channels. A brother was dying. He was not from our lodge. He was not from our district. In fact, he was not even from our jurisdiction. And yet, he made one final request: that a Mason be present to support him on his journey to the Grand Lodge Above. This Brother, whose name was unknown to us, had laid down his working tools for the final time. His journey was nearing its end. Though his immediate family stood by his side, no one from his own Lodge could be reached to answer his last request.

And so, as the shadows lengthened and his strength faded, all he had left was a quiet hope that the Brotherhood he had once sat among, the Craft he had pledged himself to decades ago, would not forget him. Would not abandon him. Would be there when it mattered most. And someone was.

A Brother from our District heard the call. At that very moment, he too was walking his own path of sorrow, his own family member lay dying. Yet when that call came, not shouted but whispered, he answered.

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He stepped away from his own heartbreak and stepped into a hospital room where a Brother lay slipping into eternity.

That Brother had fallen into a coma. He would not wake again. But he would not be alone. Because our Brother sat beside him. Held his hand. And in that still room, he gave what every Mason hopes for at the end:

The comfort of knowing he was not forgotten.

The peace of knowing he was with a Brother.

The silent reassurance that the Craft keeps its word, even unto death. Why? Because that is what we do.

This story echoes another moment etched into my heart. When I assumed the office of District Deputy Grand Master, I was met with a similar moment of truth. A Brother had passed away, again, unknown to us, a stranger by all worldly definitions. He belonged to a different lodge, a different place, a different past. But he was a Mason. That was all that mattered.

And so, the Brethren of Ottawa District One moved with urgency and dignity. They dropped what they were doing. They changed plans, cancelled meetings, rearranged work and family commitments, and they came. They came to give that Brother a proper Masonic Memorial Service. They came to uphold the promise we make, the sacred trust we share. Because that is what we do.

Brethren, these stories are not dramatic. There are no flashing lights, no applause, no news headlines. But they are heroic. And they mirror the noble calling of another set of men and women we all know well: our first responders.

Think for a moment about what defines a first responder. Is it the uniform? The title? No. It is the unwavering commitment to answer the call when others turn away. It is the decision to run toward the need, not from it. It is the instinct to place duty before comfort and service before self.

Does that not sound familiar, my Brethren?

We, too, are first responders of a different kind. Not to physical emergencies, perhaps, but to moral ones. Not to fire or flood, but to loneliness, to despair, to that aching question: "Will anyone be there for me when I need them most?" And we answer. Silently. Steadily. Faithfully.

In a world increasingly fragmented, where relationships are transactional and community is conditional, Freemasonry dares to offer something different. Something ancient. Something beautiful. A brotherhood rooted not in convenience but in commitment. A

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fraternity built on the foundation that when one man suffers, all feel it; when one man calls, we all answer.

There is a reason why our teachings emphasize relief as one of our core tenets. Relief is not simply charity; it is presence. It is a hand held in silence. It is a Brother arriving at your door not because he was asked, but because he knew he was needed. Relief is what happens when men of character live out the obligations they swore to uphold.

The stories I have shared tonight are not anomalies. They are examples. They are proof that Masonry is alive and well, not only in the halls and lodge rooms or printed minutes but in the hearts of men who live their obligations.

Each of us, when we took that solemn obligation, pledged to be there for our Brethren. Not just in the Lodge room, not just in good times, but always. And tonight, I ask you to reflect: Are we living that promise?

Because the world is watching to see if our words mean anything. It is watching to see if good men still exist. It is watching to see if there remains a band of Brothers who will cross district lines, jurisdictional boundaries, and personal hardship to be what we claim to be: Masons.

Look around you. This Lodge, this fraternity, is made up of men who hold the power to influence their communities, not through might, but through moral leadership. We have no sirens, no badges, no titles that will make people stop in their tracks. What we do have is far more powerful: the trust of each other and the commitment to walk beside our Brethren in light and darkness alike.

My Brethren, let me be clear: the world needs Freemasonry. It needs men who will keep their word. It needs men who will rise from their own sorrow to comfort another. It needs men who do the right thing, even when no one is watching, even when no one will say thank you.

The world needs us. Not for our regalia, or our rituals, or our buildings, but for our brotherhood. Our real brotherhood. The kind that sits with a dying man because he is family. The kind that answers the call, not for glory, but because it is right.

So tonight, I challenge each of you: Be that kind of Mason. Let us not be satisfied with words alone. Let us act. Let us serve. Let us respond.

In the years ahead, may we look back on our time together and say, not that we were members of a lodge, but that we were Brothers in the truest sense. That we were first responders to the silent emergencies of the soul. That we were there when it mattered.

Let this be our legacy: that when a call goes out in the dead of night, when a Brother is alone and afraid, when the final hour draws near, we show up.

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And in those moments, when no one else is watching, when no one else would even know, we earn a title not given lightly, but proven by action:

The Masonic First Responder. Always there, always ready. Because THAT is what we do. Not with lights and sirens, but with presence, with commitment, and with love. We respond, not for recognition, but because a Brother is in need. And that is enough.

So, I leave you with this, my Brethren:

When the call comes, quiet and unannounced, will you answer?

Because we must. Because that is who we are. More importantly, that is who the world so desperately needs us to be.

Let us be ready.

Let us be willing.

Let us be Masons.

Thank you.

R.W. Bro. Sam Roberts DDGM Ottawa 1,  
April 21st, 2025

## Addendum - Ottawa District One By-Laws 2024-25

### Ottawa District 1 By-laws

#### Preface

Beneath our lofty ideals there has to be an organization system that supports, guides and trains members, enacts rules to control their interaction with one another and raises funds to pay accounts.

Our highest governing body is the Grand Lodge Ancient Free and Accepted Masons (A.F. & A.M.) of Canada, in the Province of Ontario and within the governance of that jurisdiction, specific regulations are enacted by each constituent lodge to control the actions of members and set out the duties of officers and responsibilities of certain committees. These regulations and subsequent proposed amendments thereto must be in harmony with the Constitution of our Grand Lodge, and duly approved by that Grand body, before they become authorized for enforcement.

Ottawa District 1 was formed as a result of the mutually agreed division of the Ottawa District, which was done to decrease the number of constituent lodges from thirty to a more manageable number of fifteen for each of the newly formed districts. Thus, from one Ottawa District, there emerged two separate and distinct districts known as Masonic Districts Ottawa 1 and Ottawa 2; each containing fifteen constituent lodges. The name, number, meeting location and year of Institution of each constituent lodge of Ottawa District 1 is as follows:

- Doric 58 Ottawa 1855
- St. John's 63 Carleton Place 1843
- Mississippi 147 Almonte 1861
- Civil Service 148 Ottawa 1861
- Goodwood 159 Richmond 1863
- Lodge of Fidelity 231 Ottawa 1870
- Prince of Wales 371 Ottawa 1879
- Carleton 465 Carp 1904
- Russell 479 Russell 1906
- Hazeldean 517 Kanata 1914
- Sidney Albert Luke 558 Ottawa 1919
- St. Andrew's 560 Ottawa 1920
- Acacia 561 Westboro 1920
- Temple 665 Westboro 1952
- Edinburgh Defenders 590 Walkley 1922



# **District History, Ottawa District One**

## **2024-25**

### **Preamble**

For the purpose of securing order and regularity, and with the view of promoting harmony and decorum, the brethren of the constituent lodges of Ottawa District 1 on the register of the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario, enact and agree to these By-laws.

#### Ottawa District 1 By-laws

#### ARTICLE I - IDENTIFICATION

##### Section 1 - Name

This district shall be known by the name of Ottawa District 1 on the register of the Grand Lodge A.F.&A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario and embraces the constituent lodges with meeting locations as indicated in the aforementioned listing.

#### ARTICLE II - DUTY TO GRAND LODGE

This district acknowledges the supremacy of the Grand Lodge of A.F.&A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

#### ARTICLE III - MEETINGS

##### Section 1 - Regular Meetings

Regular district meetings chaired by the District Deputy Grand Master or the Immediate Past DDGM, in his absence, shall normally be held as follows:

a) Within the district; as noted in the District Trestle Board in a place specified by the DDGM

##### Section 2 - Emergent Meetings

Emergent meetings may be held at the call of Grand Lodge or DDGM for just and lawful reason(s) and upon proper and reasonable notification.

##### Section 3 - Attendance

Attendance at district meetings is open to all brethren, in good standing, of district constituent lodges and others by invitation or permission of the DDGM. All attendees must sign the register.

##### Section 4 - Voting

Voting shall proceed as follows:

a) Voting on motions shall be by a show of hands, or at the discretion of the DDGM in the case of an

objection to a show of hands..

b) Those entitled to vote are Masters, Past Masters and Wardens.

c)

d) Scrutineers shall be appointed by the DDGM at his discretion, and they shall report their findings to him.

#### ARTICLE IV - ELECTIONS & APPOINTMENTS Section 1 - District Deputy Grand Master

The DDGM shall be elected by electronic ballot and installed at the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.

##### Section 2 - District Secretary

This is a position of Past Master rank and appointed by the DDGM. . The tour of duty is for the same tenure as the DDGM.

##### Section 3 - District Chaplain

## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

A chaplain for the district shall be appointed by the DDGM, to act during the DDGM's term of office.

### **Section 4 - District Historian**

A historian for the district shall be appointed by the DDGM, to act during the DDGM's term of office.

### **Section 5 - District Financial Examiners**

Two financial examiners from the district lodge membership, shall be appointed by the DDGM to act during his term of office. Financial Examiners cannot serve more than two consecutive terms unless at the discretion of the DDGM.

## **ARTICLE V - DISTRICT COMMITTEES**

### **Section 1 - General**

The district depends on its committees to perform many necessary and advantageous functions. This helps to ensure that the work of the district is spread among the constituent lodge members and the district membership is not required to become involved in detailed discussion and planning. Committees, however, do not have the authority to take action on matters or expend district resources without prior approval of the district membership or DDGM. Each committee will submit semi-annual and annual reports to the DDGM.

### **Section 2 - Standing Committees**

They shall be appointed and assigned duties by the DDGM at his discretion and may consist of but not be limited to the following:

a) b) c) d) e) f) g) h) i) j) k) l)

## **ARTICLE VI -**

Long Range Planning Benevolence

Officer Mentoring

Education, Etiquette and Protocol Masonic Instruction

Information Management Grand Lodge Programs By-Laws

Regalia Coordinator District Charity

District Communications Masonic Foundation

## **DUTIES OF DISTRICT OFFICERS**

### **Section 1 - District Deputy Grand Master**

The powers and duties of the DDGM are outlined in the Constitution of our Grand Lodge. Appendix 'A' to these By-laws outlines the permissible scale of expenditures specified in the Constitution, and further, those approved by Ottawa District I.

### **Section 2 - District Secretary**

His duties, under direction of the DDGM, are as follows:

- a) to maintain the minutes, properly recorded, of all district meetings.
- b) to prepare such correspondence as may be necessary and specified by the DDGM.
- c) to examine the records of the district constituent lodges and report his findings to the DDGM.
- d) to prepare a trestle board for distribution to district lodges to advise them of local district meetings.
- e) to collect monies from the district constituent lodges, on a per capita basis in September and April  
and deposit them in the established bank account.

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f) to pay all authorized district bills and reimburse the DDGM and his committee chairmen for approved expenditures.

g) to prepare an audited financial statement covering the past years' accounts and present it at the annual district meeting in August.

h) to carry out such other duties as may be detailed by the DDGM.

i) Serve as a signing authority on any District bank accounts.

**Section 3 - District Chaplain**

The following duties are inherent to this position:

a) to arrange, in concert with the DDGM, for one District Divine Service.

b) to deliver the opening prayer at district meetings, as appropriate.

**Section 4 - District Historian**

The duties of the historian are:

a) to record and report, in particular, the outstanding events of the district and individual lodges so that

Grand Lodge may be aware of these special occurrences and that the brethren of the future may

know and appreciate the past.

b) to submit reports of outstanding events for inclusion in the Grand Lodge Newsletter and/or Ontario

Mason Magazine.

c) to call upon the constituent lodge historians for advice regarding special happenings which should be highlighted.

**Section 5 - District Financial Examiners**

Their duties shall be to audit the District Secretary's financial statement and books covering the past year's accounts

**ARTICLE VII - DUTIES OF THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES Section 1 - Long Range Planning Committee**

The duties shall include the following:

a) to identify and discuss such subjects (except ritual) which may affect Freemasonry in the Lodge,

District and/or Jurisdiction.

b) to encourage individual lodges to appoint a long range planning Committee.

c) to maintain a liaison with the lodges in the district so as to keep informed of issues affecting the

future of Masonry within the district.

d) to maintain a liaison with the Grand Lodge Long Range Planning Committee so as to be informed of

matters under consideration.

e) to make recommendations for the long term benefit of the district.

**Section 2 - Benevolence**

The duties are:

## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

- a) to ensure that individual lodges are aware of the availability of Masonic Benevolence and Charity.
- b) to attend a meeting of the Ottawa Masonic Board of Relief, when invited.
- c) to convene a meeting of individual lodge chairman/representatives for the purpose of ensuring that each lodge has the most current knowledge available on this subject.
- d) to assist lodges in the preparation of applications for benevolence or charity.
- e) to encourage lodges to keep in contact with their members who are not able to attend lodge so that they may be aware of a brother or brother's widow who may be in a situation of distress.

### **Section 3 - Officer Mentoring**

The duties of this committee are:

- a) to implement and monitor the mentor program of Grand Lodge.
- b) to ensure that each lodge has appointed a mentor program chairman.
- c) to be available for presentations, talks, question and answer sessions to lodges upon request.
- d) to convene an annual meeting, early in the Masonic year for the purpose of introducing newly appointed lodge mentor program chairman and updating reappointed chairman of changes in the mentor program

### **Section 4 - Education, Etiquette and Protocol**

The duties of the Chairman are to provide Masonic Education throughout the district.

### **Section 5 - District Masonic Instruction Committee**

The duties of the Chairman are:

- a) to assist individual lodges in the performance of authorized work and all other rituals and ceremony, and to promote a high standard of Masonic work and ritual in the district.
- b) to encourage individual lodges to appoint a director of the Work.
- c) to convene when requested, lodges of instruction.
- d) to be available to assist at lodge practices, presentations, question and answer sessions as requested

### **Section 6 - Information Management**

The duties of this committee are in liaison with Grand Lodge, provide assistance to the district lodges that are about to or are already utilizing computers in the management of their records.

This committee shall create, oversee and maintain:

- a) The District website,
- b) The District email addresses for the DDGM and District Secretary,
- c) The structure and content of the District information repository,
- d) The District Information Management Policy and supporting procedures

### **Section 7 - Grand Lodge Programs**

The duties of this committee are to:

- a) Implement and monitor the Friend to Friend Program,
- b) Implement and monitor the Brother to Brother Program,
- c) Support and encourage lodges in implementing the Cornerstone Program,
- d) Support any other Grand Lodge Programs as instructed by the DDGM.

## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

### **Section 8 - By-laws**

The duty of this committee is to review suggested amendments and to advise the DDGM as to whether or not they are in good order and proper for presentation to the District for consideration in accordance with Article X of these By-Laws

### **Section 9 - Regalia Coordinator**

The duty of this committee is to maintain care and custody of the district regalia.

### **Section 10 - District Charity**

The duty of this committee is to support and encourage participation in the District Charity selected by the DDGM..

### **Section 11 - District Communications**

The duty of this committee is to: a) ???.

### **Section 12 - Masonic Foundation**

The duties of this representative are:

a) to act as the liaison officer between the Regional Representative/Foundation Director responsible for

District activities and the individual lodges within the District.

b) to maintain a current listing of Lodge Representatives within the District.

c) to answer, or obtain answers to questions on the Masonic Foundation raised by members of the

Craft or others in the community, identify problem areas and provide any assistance required by

Lodge Representatives.

d) to maintain regular contact with each lodge in the District to ensure its members are aware of the

foundation's activities and to provide new information of interest to the members.

e) to ensure that the DDGM is aware of Foundation related and other charitable activities happening

within the District.

f) to participate with the DDGM in the presentation of Foundation cheques within the District.

## **ARTICLE VIII - FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION**

### **Section 1 - Fiscal Year**

The district fiscal year shall begin at Grand Lodge and end at Grand Lodge Communication the following year.

### **Section 2 - Completion of Financial Records**

The District Secretary is to complete the financial records for the District for the aforementioned Fiscal Year and provide them to the District Financial Examiners prior to the last day of July to allow for a fulsome review prior to the first District Meeting of the new Fiscal Year.

## **ARTICLE IX - CONDUCT OF BUSINESS**

All discussion at the district meetings is under the superintendence of the DDGM but the following Agenda and Rules of Order should normally be observed along with good parliamentary procedures in actioning motions and conducting the general business in the district.

### **Section 2 - Agenda**

## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

At all district meeting held in the Ottawa area, the following shall normally be the Order of Business, but the DDGM may alter it at his discretion:

- a) Reading the minutes of the last Regular and subsequent Emergent meetings.
- b) Reading of correspondence.
- c) Receiving reports from Committees and Auditors.
- d) General
- i) Old Business.
- ii) New business.

### **Section 3 - Rules of Order**

#### **ARTICLE X -**

- a) Brethren shall observe the first call of the DDGM's gavel.
- b) Every brother, when speaking, shall stand up in his place and address himself to the DDGM and no brother shall speak more than twice on the same question, unless in qualification or explanation, or as the mover in reply, without permission of the DDGM.
- c) Unless with the consent of the DDGM, no Motion or Notice of Motion shall be received unless previously submitted in writing.
- d) All resolutions, not otherwise provided for in the Constitution or these By-laws, shall be decided by a majority of votes; each authorized member present and voting having one vote and the DDGM a deciding vote, if required.
- e) Motions shall be made and seconded, amended if necessary, and duly processed in accordance with Parliamentary procedures used in the actioning of motions and their amendments.
- f) All authorized members present, unless excused by the DDGM, shall cast their vote or ballot when the question is put to the floor.
- g) Points of order decided by the DDGM shall not be debatable

#### **AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS**

No alteration shall be made to these By-laws unless a Notice of Motion has been duly given at a Regular meeting or an Emergent meeting called therefore, entered in the minutes of the district. District lodges should be duly informed of the notice of motion. Each proposed alteration shall be made in the form of a motion duly seconded, considered and approved by a two-thirds majority of the authorized members present and voting when it shall take effect after having been approved by the Grand Master.

Any sundry required updates to the By-law document, whereas such updates may comprise items such as dates, names of past DDGMs or other details subject to change year over year be henceforth made as required, without need of further motion for amendment, and that the document be reviewed for grammatical and typographical errors at each revision and such corrections be made as a matter of course.

#### **ARTICLE XI - DISTRIBUTION**



## **District History, Ottawa District One 2024-25**

Every lodge which is, or on becoming, a member of this district and the DDGM and his Committee shall receive a copy of the District By-laws.

### **Appendix A – Scale of Expenditures - DDGM**

The following list of expenditures further qualifies those authorized in the Constitution, and may be used as a guideline in Ottawa District 1:

- 1) Procurement of the dress regalia of his office and a club bag for the DDGM; and, procurement of the dress regalia of his office and a club bag for the District Secretary, following his Grand Lodge appointment.
- 2) Payment of traveling expenses to the extent of at least one official visit in his year of office to each lodge in the district, at a rate to be determined by the District advisory committee, (return distance from his residence to the location being visited as determined by a routing calculation via Google Maps.)
- 3) An allotment of up to \$1,800 to the newly elected DDGM to offset the cost of the renting of a hospitality suite at the Grand Lodge location. This allotment is for rent only and is not for supplying refreshments or to be leveraged for an event in the district post Grand Lodge.
- 4) Such other expenses necessary to the discharge of the duties of his office, including but not restricted to:
  - a) Letterhead paper and envelopes.
  - b) Postage.
  - c) Photocopying or printing of documents.
  - d) Cellular charges relating to the duties of his office.
  - e) District Divine Service.
  - f) Bank Service Charges.
  - g) District Business Meetings.
  - h) District Secretary afforded a mileage allowance based on the Federal Treasury Board Ontario rate when traveling separately from the DDGM to the official visits of each lodge based on a routing calculation via Google Maps.

### **Appendix B – Past District Deputy Grand Masters**

1969 – 1970 W.R. Rowsorne St. Andrew's 1970 – 1971 J.A. Pell Lodge of Fidelity 1971 – 1972 H.R.J. Gilbert Corinthian 1972 – 1973 K.G. Willing Prince of Wales 1973 – 1974 P.W. Dell Goodwood

1974 – 1975 L.W. Westwell Temple 1975 – 1976 R.E. Shane St. John's 1976 – 1977 G.E. Mac Donald Acacia 1977 – 1978 K.M. Boyd Russell

1978 – 1979 C.R. Thomson Civil Service 1979 – 1980 W.B. Hodgins Carleton

1980 – 1981 J.G. Pell Lodge of Fidelity 1981 – 1982 W.D. Cook Goodwood

1982 – 1983 R.K. Campbell St. Andrew's 1983 – 1984 O.J. Osborne Mississippi 1984 – 1985 G.E. Thomas Prince of Wales 1985 – 1986 W.R. Falconer Hazeldean 1986 – 1987 A.B.B. Sewell Acacia

1987 – 1988 G.B. Bowman Russell

1988 – 1989 E.J. Hare Doric

1989 – 1990 C.U. Everson Corinthian

1990 – 1991 R.M. Boone Sidney Albert Luke 1991 – 1992 R.W. Grant Carleton

1992 – 1993 W.D. Burns St. Andrew's

1993 – 1994 E.T. Vos Hazeldean

1994 – 1995 E.B. Williams Edinburgh

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1995 – 1996 R.H. Hyland Goodwood  
1996 – 1997 D.G. Gossling Civil Service  
1997 – 1998 G.W. McKay Mississippi  
1998 – 1999 G.R. Clauson Lodge of Fidelity  
1999 – 2000 P.E. Todd St. John's  
2000 – 2001 H.D. Good Temple  
2001 – 2002 B.L. Dorling Hazeldean  
2002 – 2003 D. Franklin St. Andrew's  
2003 – 2004 R. Bouchard Carleton  
2004 – 2005 N.G. Allingham Prince of Wales  
2005 - 2006 K. Sharp Russell  
2006 - 2007 B.F. Burchill Acacia  
2007 - 2008 D. Healey Goodwood  
2008 - 2009 D. Ganderton Edinburgh  
2009 - 2010 I Bayley St John's  
2010 - 2011 L.R. Richardson Civil Service  
2011 – 2012 A.C. Saint Dennis Mississippi  
2012 – 2013 B.W. Griffin Doric  
2013 – 2014 D.N. Mancuso Hazeldean  
2014 – 2015 A.B. Wright Prince of Wales  
2015 - 2016 Angus C. Gillis St. Andrew's  
2016 - 2017 Trevor Hemmerling Temple  
2017- 2018 Brian Adams Carleton  
2018 - 2019 Adam Thompson Doric  
2019 - 2020 Jeff Christie Sidney Albert Luke  
2020 - 2021 Jeff Christie Sidney Albert Luke  
2021 - 2022 Glen Simpson Edinburgh  
2022 - 2023 Jim Bowman Russell  
2023 - 2024 Kosta Hatzis Price of Wales  
2024 – 2025 Sam (Eustace) Roberts Acacia