

THE GRAND EAST

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Vol 1 Issue 11

APR 2025

Grand Master's Message

Brethren,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome **The Canadian Grand Masters along with their delegates to the All-Canada Conference**. This gathering is a time of brotherhood, an opportunity to share experiences, and a crucial moment to prepare the next generation for the journey ahead. Together, we continue to strengthen the bonds that make Freemasonry an enduring and respected institution. My sincere gratitude goes to the organizers for their efforts in making this event possible.

I am also honored to share that on March 28, 2025, the Grand Lodge Officers, along with other members, attended the legislative session at the Manitoba Legislative Building in response to an invitation from the Honourable Malaya Marcelino. The Minister delivered a Member's Statement commemorating the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. Furthermore, on April 23, 2025, Mayor Scott Gillingham will welcome members to recognize this incredible milestone. These official acknowledgments highlight the impact and legacy of our fraternity within the broader community.

Excitement is building as we approach the **150th Anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba**. This milestone is a testament to the dedication and perseverance of those who came before us, and it is a moment for us to reflect on our shared history. If you have not yet secured your tickets, I urge you to do so today—availability is extremely limited, and this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to witness history in the making.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the 150th Anniversary Committee for their dedication and tireless efforts in planning these celebrations. As we prepare for these events, we require additional volunteers to assist with setup. If you are available and willing to lend a hand, please contact the Event Planner at your earliest convenience.

In April, I will be traveling to Orlando to attend the 2025 Membership & Marketing Conference alongside Illustrious Sir Darrell Rostek and other members. This event will provide invaluable insights into growing and strengthening our fraternity. Looking ahead, I remind everyone that the **Annual Communication for the Grand Lodge of Manitoba is fast approaching**. Please mark your calendars for **June 6 and 7, 2025**. Further details will be provided by the Grand Lodge Office in the coming weeks.

As we navigate the months ahead, I encourage each of you to embrace the principle of **KISS—Keep It Simple and Strong**. Simplicity allows us to focus on what truly matters: the essence of brotherhood, the respect we hold for one another, and our unwavering commitment to the values of Freemasonry. Let us continue to foster unity, respect, and a shared vision for the future.

I look forward to seeing you all at these momentous events as we honor our past, celebrate our present, and build toward a strong and vibrant future for Freemasonry.

Fraternally,

MW Bro. Emad Bisharat
Grand Master
Grand Lodge of Manitoba



Grand Lodge Officers and District Deputy Grand Masters

2024-2025

Grand Master	MW Bro. Emad Bisharat (3)
Deputy Grand Master	RW Bro Rey Galapon (136)
IPGM	MW Bro. Mason Jardine (62)
Sr. Grand Warden	MW Bro. Doug Webster
Jr. Grand Warden	RW Bro. Glenn Ramos (111-189)
Grand Treasurer	RW Bro. Gord Greasley (3)
Grand D of C	RW Bro. Thor Weidenbacher (3)

APPOINTED BY THE BOARD

Grand Secretary	M.W. Bro. Kris Goodmanson (136)
Grand Librarian	R.W. Bro. Brian Rountree (174)
Grand Archivist	Bro. Trevor Millar (1)
Grand Chaplain	R.W. Bro. Dennis Henney (182)
Grand Historian	R.W. Bro. Ted Yorke (183)

APPOINTED BY THE GRAND MASTER

Grand Lodge Education Officer	V.W. Bro. Jeff Price (186)
J.R.C Evans Lecturer	R.W. Bro. Thor Weidenbacher (3)
Sr. Grand Deacon	R.W. Bro. Gerry Derhak (3)
Jr. Grand Deacon	V.W. Bro. Michael Hall (136)
Grand Organist	V.W. Bro. Gordon MacDonald (4)
Sr. Grand Steward	V.W. Bro. Don Benson (25)
Jr. Grand Steward	V.W. Bro. Jan Andrew Beloro (136-192)
Gr. Sword Bearer	R.W. Bro. Roy Van Luven (178)
Gr. Standard Bearer	V.W. Bro. Kevin Latozke (186)
Grand Pursuivant	V.W. Bro. Elmer Maranan (136-192)
Grand Piper	V.W. Bro. Troy Blair (1)
Grand Tyler	V.W. Bro. Joward Rosales (14)

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS

First Masonic District	R.W. Bro. Jeff Olafson (186)
Tenth Masonic District	R.W. Bro. Tim Klassen (154)
Thirteenth Masonic District	R.W. Bro. Arnold Calambacan Sr. (136)
Assiniboine Masonic District	R.W. Bro. Robert Nicolas (36)
Parkland Masonic District	R.W. Bro. Ronald Morton (68)
Unity Masonic District	R.W. Bro. Jeffrey Chartrand (180)
Grand Master's Area	R.W. Bro. Bryan Cruda (174)

Grand Master's Itinerary 2024 – 2025

DATE	DAY & TIME	EVENT
April 1, 2025	Tuesday @ 6:30 p.m.	150th Anniversary Committee Meeting at MMT
April 2, 2025	Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m.	St. John's Lodge O.V.
April 3, 2025	Thursday @ leaving 5:00 p.m.	The three lodges in Brandon – O.V.
April 5, 2025	Saturday @ 10:00 a.m.	Templum Sion O.V.
April 7, 2025	Monday @ 6:00 p.m.	Past Masters' Dinner – AL3
April 8 – April 13, 2025	Tuesday - Sunday	Membership & Marketing Conference – Orlando
April 15, 2025	Tuesday @ 6:30 p.m.	150th Anniversary Committee Meeting at MMT
April 16, 2025	Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.	BGP - MMT
April 22, 2025	Tuesday @ 6:30 p.m.	150th Anniversary Committee Meeting at MMT
April 23, 2025	Wednesday @ 2:00 p.m.	Mayor Scott Gillingham will recognize The Grand Lodge of Manitoba on this incredible milestone
April 25 – 26, 2025	Friday & Saturday – all day	All Canada Conference
April 25, 2025	Friday, starting @ 5:00 p.m.	150 th Anniversary Celebration at the RBC Convention Centre

In addition, I would like to remind all members of the Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba June 6 & 7, 2025. Please mark your calendar and details to follow.

Masonic Education

The Compasses

V.W. Bro. Harold W. Hughes
G.R. Ont. 1957

The same crude observations that led the man of antiquity to see the earth as an oblong square caused them also to believe that the heavens were circular. They asked; Was not the sky a dome? Did not the heavenly bodies move in curved tracks?

Were not the sun and moon discs in shape? By an inevitable association of ideas, the compasses, which were used to test or draw circles and curves, were made to stand for the heavenly or the divine in man, and this is their meaning still as they lie on the altar of the lodge.

Right conduct, right spiritual aspirations, and the revealed will of God. Fitting it is that the lodge place the symbols of these principles at its very center, for the mason who walks in their light continually will never wander far from the paths of life.

EARLY FREEMASONRY IN CANADA

Stuart Livingstone Brown PM

I recently read a brochure written by the late Worshipful Brother Frederick W. Harris PM, and published in 1916. It was titled "Freemasonry in Annapolis Royal"

Of great interest was a statement from a paper entitled "First Glimpses of Masonry in North America" read by the late S.D. Nickerson, Grand Secretary, before the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in March 1891. Quote, "I find reference to a tradition among Masonic Historians to the effect that Lord Alexander, son of Sir William Alexander, may have been initiated an Entered Apprentice during his residence in Nova Scotia". The facts of the case are that Sir William of Menstrie received Charters for the whole of Nova Scotia in 1621, 1625 and 1628 and settled for a Scottish Colony at Port Royal which his people, under David Kirk captured in 1628 from the French. Nova Scotia at that time included all of the present Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, the lower portion of Quebec and the upper portion of Maine.

The son, Sir William Alexander, the junior, was left in command of the colony and remained here until the peace of 1632 compelled him to return the colony to France. It was during this period of four years that the father was created Viscount Stirling and Lord Alexander of Tullibody and later Earl Stirling, Viscount of Canada.

D. Murray Lyon in his *History of Freemasonry in Scotland* gives extracts from the original minutes of the Lodge at Edinburgh showing that on the "Third day of Joulay, 1634," Lord Alexander, son of Sir William Alexander was "admitet folowe of the craft" in the Lodge and gives his autograph as of such title.

If Sir William was in fact initiated an Entered Apprentice at Port Royal during his years of residence from 1628 to 1632, then Masonry came to Canada and indeed North America, at least 357 years ago.

The Hours of Masonry

The Masons of the York Rite have only the terms "high twelve" and "low twelve" to designate particular Masonic times, that is noon and midnight; and in relation to the hours of labor and rest, they seem to have preserved but one tradition, namely, that Masons begin to work at six in the morning, are called to refreshment at high twelve; called on again at an hour past high twelve, and continue their labour until "low six" or evening.

But some of the Masons of the continent and of the continental rites have paid more attention to the system of Masonic horometry, and have formed or invented a variety of terms and legends in relation to Masonic hours. Among these rites, that of Zinnendorf, established about the end of the last century in Germany, has some curious details. The following extract from the ritual is translated from Lenning's Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry:-

Q. How many hours are there in a Freemason's Lodge?

A. Five.

Q. How are these hours called?

A. Twelve, noon, high noon, midnight and high midnight.

Q. When is it twelve?

A. Before the Lodge is opened and when the Lodge is closed.

Q. When is it noon?

A. When the Master is about to open the Lodge.

Q. When is it high noon?

A. When the Lodge is duly opened.

Q. When is it midnight?

A. When the Master is about to close the Lodge.

Q. When is it high midnight?

A. When the Lodge is closed and the profane are allowed to approach.

Q. How many consecutive hours do Freemasons work in their Lodge?

A. Three hours.

Q. What are these three hours?

A. Noon, high noon and midnight.

Q. What are the hours when Freemasons do not work?

A. Twelve and high midnight

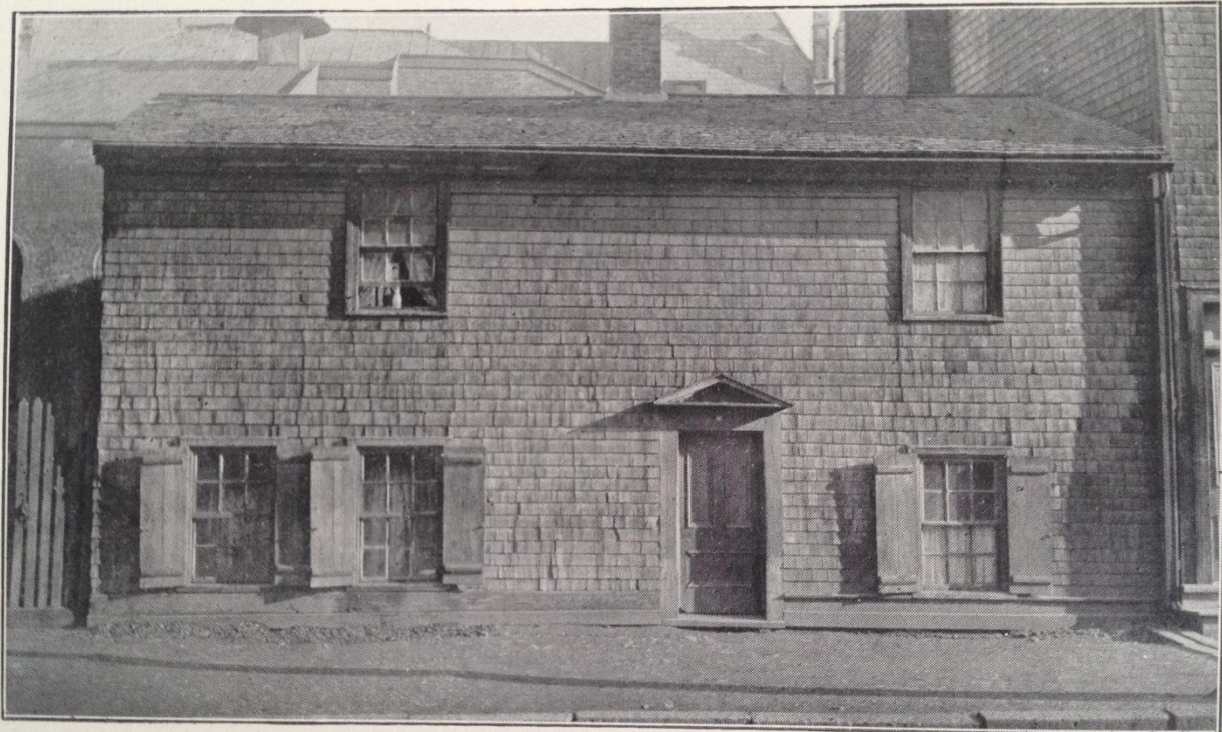
There are other divisions into Masonic weeks and years, but what has been given above is enough to show the care with which Masonic symbolism is cultivated among these philosophical rites, for all these answers are of course allegorical and symbolical.- One more answer in this catechism of the Zinnendorf ritual may conclude this paragraph, as it is highly suggestive of a deep religious truth.

Q. How long is a Mason's day?

A. From the beginning of the year to the end.

And so, indeed, it is. The work of a true Mason is never done, — his day of labor never ends, — and at all hours and in all seasons, his task still goes nobly on for the search, — the untiring search after knowledge must be ever employing him, from week to week, from month to month, and from year to year, until days, weeks, and months and years, shall all have passed away, and life ends with the search still.

The Craftsman, 1866



Masonic Hall, 111 Grafton St. (1798 - 1802)

NEWS AND EVENTS

Kilcona Lodge #183
Official Visit
Mar 13, 2025



Sphinx Temple Lodge #116
Installation
Mar 23, 2025



Grand Lodge of Manitoba
Honored at the Manitoba Legislature
Mar 28, 2025



VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED!



Help cancer patients in your community



Canadian
Cancer
Society

**WHEELS
OF HOPE**

For more information

Email volunteer@cancer.ca
or call 1-888-939-3333



WHEELS OF HOPE TESTIMONIAL

I just wanted to drop you a line saying how helpful and wonderful the Wheels of Hope program is! I had seen the vans around, but it never really clicked in how essential they would be until I started going through my treatments. Especially during radiation, I noticed JUST how many people it is helping! Watching van, after vehicle picking up so many people in the loop outside the hospital, it's really overwhelming how much love people have to give.

All of the drivers are so kind, and it was really interesting learning about their stories and how they became volunteers. Cancer is so consuming, and they decided to give back. I love that. In particular, there was an absolute wonderful driver I had named Trevor. His wife had battled breast cancer twice, and was doing well. He is a gem of a human being. Super funny, always with a fun anecdote about what he had done on the weekend. Open with his wife's battle, and just so so kind.

Trevor always made my day better. Made me realize that there is hope, that if his wife could do it, so could I. That there's still no reason not to smile, and be kind toward others.

Cancer can be super lonely, and until you are in the thick of it, you don't realize what a gift just seeing a smiling face can be.

Holly Thiessen

Grand Lodge of Manitoba 150th Anniversary



150th ANNIVERSARY GALA

GRAND LODGE OF MANITOBA



APRIL 25, 2025

RBC CONVENTION CENTER
WINNIPEG

HONOURING THE PAST
CELEBRATING THE FUTURE
150 YEARS OF MASONRY IN
MANITOBA



SAVE *the* DATE

APRIL 25, 2025

RBC CONVENTION CENTER
YORK BALLROOM WINNIPEG

COMMEMORATING 150 YEARS
AN ANNIVERSARY GALA TO CELEBRATE
BROTHERHOOD & COMMUNITY
&
THE GRAND LODGE OF MANITOBA'S ESTEEMED LEGACY



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
AVAILABLE

CONTACT
EVENTPLANNER@GLMB150.CA



Subject: The Clock is Ticking – Only 3 weeks left for the 150th Anniversary Tickets!



Dear Brethren,

Time is moving fast, and we are now **only 3 weeks away** from celebrating the **150th Anniversary of our Grand Lodge**—a truly historic milestone! This is a **once-in-a-lifetime event**, and your presence is essential to making it a grand success.

If you haven't secured your ticket yet, **now is the time!** Don't miss this incredible opportunity to come together, honor our rich history, and celebrate the future of Freemasonry.

Get Your Tickets Today – Don't Wait! GLMB150.ca

Your participation will not only make this event memorable but also **showcase the unity and strength of our fraternity**. Let's make this a celebration to remember for generations to come!

We look forward to seeing you there.

Fraternally,

150th Anniversary Committee



Articles published in this newsletter are not necessarily the opinion of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba or any of its officers or members, but are solely those of the writer. Freemasonry is the world's oldest and largest fraternity. It is comprised of adult men (18+) of good character from every country, religion, race, age, income, education, and opinion. Its body of knowledge and system of ethics is based on the belief that each man has a responsibility to improve himself while being devoted to his family, his faith, his country, and his fraternity.

For submissions/requests and inquiries please contact:

TGEMonthlyNewsletter@gmail.com

Deadline of submission(s) and request(s) for the May issue is on April 30

