

# ***Grand Lodge of Manitoba***

*Ancient Free and Accepted Masons*



## **CONSTITUTION AND REGULATIONS**

*June 8th, 2024*

***Grand Lodge of Manitoba***  
***A.F. & A.M.***

I, Kristjan Goodmanson, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, do hereby certify that the following is a true copy of the Constitution and Regulations adopted at the One hundred and forty-ninth Annual Communication of that body held in the City of Winnipeg on the 8th day of June A.L. 6024, A.D. 2024; and all subsequent amendments made thereto from that date.

In testimony whereof, I have hereto appended my official signature and the seal of the Grand Lodge at the City of Winnipeg, this 8th day of June A.L. 6024, A.D. 2024.

Kristjan Goodmanson PGM  
Grand Secretary

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## DEFINITIONS

The following general definitions shall apply to words and phrases used in the Constitution:

<b>Board</b>	Board of General Purposes.
<b>Charter</b>	Warrant of Constitution from Grand Lodge to a Lodge.
<b>Communication</b>	A duly constituted meeting of Grand Lodge.
<b>Directive</b>	An order issued for the government of the Craft, by the authority of the Board, the Custodians or the Grand Master, to be held in the Folio issued to all Lodges.
<b>Dispensation</b>	Written authority from the Grand Master in the exercise of his power to dispense with certain provisions of this Constitution, the Ceremonials and the Work.
<b>Executive Office</b>	The office where the business and clerical work of Grand Lodge is transacted.
<b>Grand Master</b>	The member of Grand Lodge who was last elected to and installed in that office at a Communication of Grand Lodge.
<b>Lewis (2003)</b>	A man who is the son of a Mason in good standing, or, if deceased, was in good standing at the time of his death.
<b>Lodge</b>	A body of Freemasons working together under authority derived from a charter issued by Grand Lodge, or a dispensation issued by the Grand Master; one of the constituent bodies of Grand Lodge.
<b>Master</b>	The member of a Lodge who was last elected to that office at a duly constituted meeting of his Lodge, and who was installed therein.
<b>Official Circular</b>	The Official Circular is a document prepared under the authority of the Grand Secretary on a form approved by the Board to provide particulars with respect to petitions received from each constituent Lodge for the information of all Masons, members in Manitoba.
<b>Past Master</b>	A member who has served his term of office as Master of a Lodge by performing all the duties of that office.
<b>Regular Meeting</b>	The meeting of a Lodge held in accordance with its bylaws for the consideration of the general business of the Lodge.

<b>Regulation</b>	Any resolution, edict, law or ordinance, of any kind whatever, other than the Constitution which it may adopt.
<b>Residence</b>	The principal place of abode.
<b>Summons</b>	A written communication from the secretary of a Lodge, issued for the purpose of notifying the members that a meeting of the Lodge is to be held; a written notice to a member of Grand Lodge or a member of a Lodge ordering him to appear before Grand Lodge, a Grand officer, the Board, a committee thereof, or his Lodge.

# Grand Lodge of Manitoba

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons

## CONSTITUTION and REGULATIONS

### PART 1

#### GRAND LODGE

Grand Lodge of Manitoba, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, under the powers vested in it by its Act of Incorporation and Amendments thereto, enacts provisions for the government of the Craft in Manitoba as follows:

#### STYLE AND TITLE OF GRAND LODGE

**C-1** The Style and title of Grand Lodge shall be, "Grand Lodge of Manitoba, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons"

#### SEAL OF GRAND LODGE

**C-2** The following is the Seal of Grand Lodge:



#### POWERS OF GRAND LODGE

**C-3** Grand Lodge is the supreme Masonic power and authority in Manitoba, save that held by a recognized Grand Lodge of Freemasons in fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Manitoba whilst it has a subordinate Craft Lodge located in Manitoba, possessing all the attributes of sovereignty including legislative, executive and judicial powers, limited only by the Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry, and by the provisions of its Act of Incorporation and of this Constitution.

**C-3.1** Grand Lodge has jurisdiction over every Lodge that derives its powers from Grand Lodge, over every Mason wherever he may reside who is a member of any such Lodge, and over every Mason residing or sojourning in Manitoba.

**C-3.2** Grand Lodge has all the powers necessary and proper for a sovereign Grand Lodge, including the power to establish or discontinue fraternal relations with other Grand Lodges and to grant to Master Masons the right to hold membership in any organization that requires, directly or indirectly, its members to be Master Masons in good standing if such organization has been approved by first, the Committee on Fraternal Relations; second, the Board of General Purposes; and third, the Grand Master, which approval, similarly may be withdrawn.

**C-3.3** The legislative powers of Grand Lodge extend to every subject of legislation not expressly delegated by itself to the Lodges, and as enacted, altered, amended or repealed from time to time, are fully effective in regard to all Lodges and Masons within its jurisdiction.

**C-3.4** The executive powers of Grand Lodge include the granting of dispensations and charters to establish and perpetuate Lodges within Manitoba and in any other territory where no Grand Lodge exists; the revocation or suspension thereof; the issuing of special dispensations for all purposes permitted by any of the provisions of this Constitution; and the exercise generally, of all such authority as may be necessary to implement its legislation to the fullest extent.

**C-3.5** The judicial powers of Grand Lodge include the enforcement of discipline upon every Lodge and every Mason within its jurisdiction, the decision of all controversies between Lodges or between one Lodge and a member or members of another Lodge and the power to revise upon appeal, a decision upon any matter of discipline that was considered under authority delegated by it.

**C-3.6** In the case of death, illness, resignation or absence from the jurisdiction of both the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master, the first eligible Past Grand Master, in order of ascending seniority, may assume the duties and be invested with the powers of the Grand Master until the election and investiture of a Grand Master at the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.

## **MEMBERSHIP OF GRAND LODGE**

**C-4** The membership of Grand Lodge is comprised of:

**(a)** Master Masons in good standing who are members of Constituent Lodges in this jurisdiction.

**(b)** Past Masters who hold honorary rank in this jurisdiction. Provided, however, that for purposes of balloting, a member of Grand Lodge must have been a member in good standing of a constituent Lodge in Manitoba for at least six months immediately preceding the date of the Annual Communication.



**(c)** Grand Lodge in recognition of service or other fraternal qualities may confer on a Past Master of any Grand Lodge with which this Grand Lodge has established fraternal relations such honorary rank as it may deem appropriate. The approval of the Grand Master shall be obtained before each motion to confer honorary rank is proposed and the affirmative vote of not less than five-sixths of the members then present in person shall be required to pass such motion.

**(d)** Grand Lodge in recognition of service or other fraternal qualities may confer upon a Past Master of this Grand Lodge such honorary rank as it may deem appropriate. A petition to confer such honorary rank shall be made in writing by seven or more members of Grand Lodge and be subject to approval by the Grand Master prior to the opening of the Annual Communication at which it is to be considered. The affirmative vote of not less than five-sixths of the members then present in person shall be required to pass the motion to confer such honorary rank.

**(e)** The Grand Master after consultation with the Deputy Grand Master, the Senior Grand Warden and the Junior Grand Warden has the prerogative to confer the rank of Past District Deputy Grand Master upon any Past Master of a Lodge not included in a Masonic District, who has rendered conspicuous leadership and eminent service to Freemasonry.

**(f)** Every officer of Grand Lodge or District Deputy Grand Master or member of the Board must be a Past Master and a member of this Grand Lodge. Exception being that of the Grand Piper, who may be a Master Mason. (Amended 2012/6/2)

## **OFFICERS OF GRAND LODGE**

**C-5** The officers of Grand Lodge, and their official designations, are as follows:

- The Most Worshipful Grand Master
- The Most Worshipful Immediate Past Grand Master
- The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master
- The Right Worshipful District Deputy Grand Masters
- The Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden
- The Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden
- The Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer
- The Right Worshipful Grand Secretary
- The Right Worshipful Grand Chaplain
- The Right Worshipful Grand Historian
- The Right Worshipful Grand Director of Ceremonies
- The Right Worshipful Grand Librarian
- The Right Worshipful Grand Archivist
- The Very Worshipful Senior Grand Deacon
- The Very Worshipful Junior Grand Deacon
- The Very Worshipful Grand Organist
- The Very Worshipful Senior Grand Steward
- The Very Worshipful Junior Grand Steward
- The Very Worshipful Grand Sword Bearer
- The Very Worshipful Grand Standard Bearer
- The Very Worshipful Grand Pursuivant

The Very Worshipful Grand Tyler  
The Very Worshipful Grand Lodge Education Officer (Added 2015/06/06)

Any member of Grand Lodge who is entitled to a designation superior to that of the office he occupies shall be entitled to make use of such superior designation.

**C-5.1** The Grand Master may, at his discretion, appoint a Grand Piper. If the appointee is a Past Master the official designation will be The Very Worshipful Grand Piper; if the appointee is a Master Mason the official designation will be The Grand Piper. (Added 2012/6/2)

**R-5** The officers and past officers of Grand Lodge shall have precedence and rank as follows:

The Grand Master, Past Grand Masters in order of seniority, Deputy Grand Master, District Deputy Grand Masters, Other elected Grand Lodge officers in order of rank, Past elected Grand Lodge officers including Past District Deputy Grand Masters in order of rank, Appointed Grand Lodge officers in order of rank, Past appointed Grand Lodge officers in order of rank.

### **ANNUAL COMMUNICATION OF GRAND LODGE**

**C-6** The Annual Communication of Grand Lodge shall be held in the City of Winnipeg commencing on the first Friday in June of each year, at such time and place as may be determined by the Board. The Annual Communication may similarly be held elsewhere in Manitoba upon a resolution passed at a Communication held two or more years prior thereto.

**C-7** An Emergent Communication for special business may be called by order of the Grand Master at any date, time and place, upon seven days prior notice, stating the business that may be considered thereat. An Emergent Communication for ceremonial purposes may be called by order of the Grand Master upon such notice as he may deem sufficient.

**C-8** The quorum at any Communication of Grand Lodge for the transaction of business shall be twenty-five members hailing from at least seven constituent Lodges. At a Communication for ceremonial purposes, six members of Grand Lodge in addition to the Grand Master or his representative shall form a quorum.

**R-8** *The Committee on Arrangements and Elections shall arrange for and supervise at each Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, the registration of all members of Grand Lodge, visiting brethren and Master Masons, and shall ascertain that all seeking admission to such Communication are qualified to attend. The location for such registration shall be convenient to the place where such Communication shall be held, and the times within which registration may occur shall be determined by the Grand Master and stated in the notice for such Communication.*

**C-9** The Grand Master shall preside at all Communications of Grand Lodge at which he is present. In his absence, the Deputy Grand Master shall preside but from his own chair, and

no one but a Past Grand Master shall occupy the Grand Master's chair. If the Deputy Grand Master is also absent, the junior Past Grand Master present shall preside.

**R-9** *Every member in attendance shall wear the clothing and insignia of his rank.*

**R-9.1** *The Grand Secretary shall keep a record of the attendance of representatives from other Grand Lodges. If a representative shall have failed to attend three consecutive Annual Communications without furnishing an explanation in writing satisfactory to the Grand Master, his appointment shall automatically be rescinded and the Grand Master empowered to appoint another representative in his place.*

**R-9.2** *After the Annual Communication has been opened, the order of business, subject to the will of the Grand Master, shall be as follows:*

- (a)** *Receiving representatives from other Grand Lodges*
- (b)** *Reading and confirming Minutes of the last Annual and subsequent Emergent Communications*
- (c)** *Address of the Grand Master*
- (d)** *Report of the Grand Secretary on nominations for elective offices and the Board*
- (e)** *Report of the Board of General Purposes*
- (f)** *Reading petitions, appeals and other correspondence*
- (g)** *Report of the Grand Secretary*
- (h)** *Reports of the Grand Treasurer and Auditor*
- (i)** *Proposed amendments to the Constitution*
- (j)** *Address of the Grand Chaplain*
- (k)** *Reports of the Standing Committees of the Board*
- (l)** *Presenting reports of Special Committees*
- (m)** *Unfinished business*
- (n)** *General business*
- (o)** *Report of the sub-Committee on Credentials and Elections—declaration of result of elections*
- (p)** *Installation and investiture of officers*

**C-10** Every member of Grand Lodge who is present in person may vote when a motion is put to the vote. This provision shall not apply to the Grand Master or the presiding officer at that time, who, when the vote is called may vote or abstain from voting in his absolute discretion and in the event he has elected to abstain, he shall not vote subsequently to break a tie. No Lodge shall attempt to direct or control the vote of any member of Grand Lodge. (amended 2022/06/04)

**C-11** Except as otherwise provided, a simple majority vote of the members then present in person shall be required to pass a motion at any Communication of Grand Lodge. In case of a tie vote, the motion shall be declared lost.

**C-11.1** A standing two-thirds majority vote of the members then present in person shall be required to overrule a decision of the Grand Master or presiding officer on matters of procedure only.

**R-11** All members shall remain seated during the transaction of business, except:  
The member who is speaking,

Members entering or leaving the room,  
Grand officers whose duties require them to move from one part of the room to  
another.

**R-11.1** A speaker shall address himself to the presiding officer only. He may continue to speak for not more than ten minutes, except by permission of the presiding officer. The seconder and any subsequent speaker on a motion may speak for not more than five minutes each. No one shall speak twice to the same motion, unless invited by the presiding officer to answer a question or give an explanation. This shall not prevent the mover from exercising his right to close the discussion. No one shall interrupt a speaker (unless on a point of order) except that the presiding officer on his own initiative or at the request of a member, may call him to order. After a point of order has been decided (provided the decision has not adversely affected his right to continue) the speaker may proceed. A written copy of any motion presented to Grand Lodge shall be handed to the Grand Secretary before it is discussed.

**C-12** Notice of any proposed amendment to this Constitution shall be forwarded in writing to the Grand Secretary on or before February 1st prior to the Annual Communication at which it will be presented as a motion. . *(Amended 2023/6/3)*

**C-12.1** The Grand Secretary shall publish all proposed amendments to this Constitution so that they shall be available and in the hands of the members of Grand Lodge on or before the 30<sup>th</sup> day of April in each year.

**C-13** To alter, to add to, or to delete articles of the Regulations, any member of Grand Lodge in good standing in the jurisdiction shall submit a Notice of Motion in writing to the Grand Secretary. The Grand Secretary shall circulate the Notice of Motion to

- a) all Manitoba Lodges for the month following the receipt of the notice of motion, for their consideration and comment.
- b) All members of the Board of General Purposes

Circulation of the Notice of Motion as set out shall be sufficient notice for the Board of General Purposes to consider the proposal at its next meeting, provided that 30 days has elapsed. A two-thirds affirmative vote of those members present and entitled to vote shall be required to pass the motion. *(amended 2024)*

**C-13.1** Any Member of Grand Lodge, not being satisfied with the decision of the Board of General Purposes, may appeal the decision at the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge following the same procedure as is required to amend the Constitution.

**C-14** A recorded two-thirds majority vote of the voting members of Grand Lodge then present in person shall be required to pass a motion to amend this Constitution upon prior notice as herein provided.

**R-14** *The Grand Deacons and Grand Stewards shall count the votes and the Grand Secretary shall record the same.*

**C-15** At the request of five members then present in person, a ballot instead of an open vote shall be taken.

**C-16** All amendments to this Constitution adopted by Grand Lodge shall become effective upon the closing of the Communication at which they were adopted and shall be published in an appendix to the annual report of its proceedings.

**C-17** Grand Lodge may refer any matter to the determination of the Grand Master or of the Board.

### **ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS OF GRAND LODGE AND THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES**

**C-18.1** The following officers of Grand Lodge shall be elected by ballot at each Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, namely:

The Grand Master

The Deputy Grand Master

The Senior Grand Warden

The Junior Grand Warden

The Grand Treasurer

The Grand Director of Ceremonies *(Amended 2012/6/2)*

If only one member of Grand Lodge is nominated for election to any of these offices, he shall be declared elected without a ballot.

**C-18.2** The following officers of Grand Lodge shall be appointed by the Board of General Purposes, subject to confirmation by a resolution of Grand Lodge:

The Grand Secretary

The Grand Chaplain

The Grand Historian

The Grand Librarian

The Grand Archivist

Each of these officers shall hold office at the pleasure of the Board and each shall be a Past Master, a member of Grand Lodge and reside within the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge. *(Amended 2012/6/2)*

**C-18.2.1** Grand Secretary – Qualifications for the position of Grand Secretary: *(Added 2012/6/2)*

(a) Must have served on the Board of General Purposes and be a resident of Manitoba.

(b) Shall possess good written, verbal communication and computer skills.

(c) Shall have sufficient time (as directed by the Board of General Purposes) to perform the duties of Grand Secretary and must be willing to travel.

**R-18.1** *One third of the total number of elected members of the Board shall be elected for a three-year term by ballot, at each Annual Communication of Grand Lodge. Any additional vacancies that may exist among the elected members of the Board shall be filled by election for the unexpired term thereof, by ballot at each Annual Communication of Grand Lodge. (Amended 2018/11/30)*

**C-19** Nominations for the elective offices of Grand Lodge and for the Board shall be made in writing by a member of Grand Lodge and received in the office of the Grand Secretary not later than the fifteenth day of March preceding the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge at which they are to be presented. Each nominee shall be a Past Master and a member in good standing of Grand Lodge, resident within the Province of Manitoba and he shall include his Masonic history and photo with the nomination. *(Amended 2012/6/2)*

**R-19** The Grand Secretary shall publish a list of the names and the Masonic history of those who have been nominated and are eligible for election so that the information shall be available and in the hands of all members of Grand Lodge on or before the 30<sup>th</sup> day of April. *(Amended 2012/4/20)*

**R-19.1** The Sub-Committee on Credentials and Elections shall examine the nominations received in the office of the Grand Secretary and shall arrange for printing a sufficient number of ballots for the election of eligible nominees for the elective offices of Grand Lodge and for the Board. The committee shall supervise all arrangements made for conducting the elections, counting the ballots and declaring which of the nominees have been elected.

**R-19.2** The printed ballots shall include the name, Masonic rank, place of residence and Lodge name and number of each nominee for election as well as the office or position for which he is nominated.

**R-19.3** A polling station shall be established at or near the place where the Annual Communication is to be held and in a location convenient to the place where the registration of members attending the Communication is to be made. The times within which the polling station shall be open to receive ballots, shall be determined by the Grand Master and shall be stated in the notice or summons for the Communication. The polling station shall be supervised by the Sub-Committee on Credentials and Elections and this shall include the delivery of ballots to the members entitled to receive them, the control over depositing ballots after they have been marked, the custody of the ballot boxes and the closing of the poll.

**R-19.3.1** Grand Lodge may establish one or more advance polling stations. The stations may be held at such time and place as determined by the Grand Master and shall be published at the same time and in the same manner as required by Regulation R-19. A member of the Sub-Committee on Credentials and Elections shall be present to supervise the balloting. His duties will include delivery of ballots to members entitled to receive them, the control over depositing of ballots after they have been marked, the custody of the ballot boxes and the closing of the poll. The member of Grand Lodge shall produce a current dues card, but is not required to register at or attend the Annual Communication to receive a ballot. *(Amended 2015/03/20)*

**R-19.4** Each member of Grand Lodge upon registration at the Annual Communication, who produces a current dues card, shall be provided with the ballot or ballots to which he is entitled. He shall thereupon mark his ballot or ballots and deposit the same in the ballot box under the control of the member in charge of the polling station.

**R-19.5** Each member of Grand Lodge shall be entitled to as many votes upon each ballot as there are offices or positions to be filled by the counting of such ballots. These votes shall be cast by marking the letter "x" opposite the name of each candidate for whom the member intends to vote. A ballot shall not be spoiled if fewer than the full number of votes to which the member is entitled thereon, are cast. A ballot shall be spoiled if more than the full number of votes to which the member is entitled thereon, are cast.

**R-19.6** Immediately after the close of the poll, the Sub-Committee on Credentials and Elections, together with such assistants as the chairman may appoint, shall proceed to count the ballots and to determine which members have been elected.

**R-19.7** The determination of which members have been elected to office in Grand Lodge and to the Board shall be made as follows:

- (a)** The committee shall examine each ballot and reject all spoiled ballots
- (b)** The committee shall count the votes cast by all valid ballots and shall determine the total number of votes cast for each candidate named on such ballots
- (c)** The committee shall prepare a list of such candidates in a sequence commencing with the candidate receiving the largest total number of votes
- (d)** In the event of an equality in the total number of votes cast for any of such candidates, the sequence between them shall be established by the respective dates of receipt of their nominations in the office of the Grand Secretary with the earliest dates establishing priority
- (e)** The election to each office and position shall be determined by the largest number of votes cast for the candidates thereto and in the event that more than one position is to be filled by any ballot, such election shall be determined by selection from the list of candidates in sequence commencing with the candidate receiving the largest total number of votes, a sufficient number to fill all such positions.

**C-20** The sub-committee on Credentials and Elections shall prepare a report in writing, stating the names of the members of Grand Lodge who have been elected to office and in sequence of Lodge number, those elected to the Board.

**R-20** This report shall be presented to the Communication and the presiding officer shall thereupon declare such members duly elected and qualified to be installed or invested in person before the close of the Communication.

**C-21** All other officers of Grand Lodge shall be appointed by the Grand Master to be effective upon his installation into that office after which they shall be invested with their respective offices and each shall be a Past Master, a member of Grand Lodge, and a resident within Manitoba.

**C-22** If any vacancy shall occur in the Board or in any office of Grand Lodge other than the Grand Secretary, Grand Librarian or Grand Archivist, the Grand Master may appoint any member of Grand Lodge, with the rank of a Past Master, to fill such vacancy until the next Annual Communication, provided that if such vacancy occurs in the office of Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, or Junior Grand Warden, the appointee shall be a Past Grand Master.

## **POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE GRAND MASTER**

**C-23** The Grand Master is the supreme authority in all matters concerning the peace, harmony, and good government of the fraternity in this jurisdiction. He shall be a member of all Lodges by virtue of office and possess exclusively all the powers, privileges, and prerogatives inherent to his office, which include the power to dispense with any of the provisions of this Constitution for the benefit of the fraternity in circumstances deemed by him to be an emergency, all of which, including the power of dispensation, are subject to any express limitation thereof that may be provided by this Constitution.

**C-24** The Grand Master, when present, shall preside at all Communications of Grand Lodge and at the Annual Communication. He shall present a report in writing on the general state and condition of the fraternity in this jurisdiction, which shall include all rulings, directives and other significant acts during his term of office, and any recommendations for the benefit of the fraternity he may wish to make.

**C-25** The Grand Master during his term in office shall perform the following duties:

- (a)** Exercise a general supervision over the fraternity in this jurisdiction
- (b)** Institute, constitute and consecrate constituent Lodges of this jurisdiction and preside over all ceremonies conducted by Grand Lodge, or appoint a member of Grand Lodge to represent him upon such occasion
- (c)** Examine after enactment all bylaws of Lodges and amendments thereto and approve them if they comply with this Constitution and with established Masonic usage and custom
- (d)** Determine all questions of order and of Masonic law and of differences between constituent Lodges that may be submitted to him

**C-26** The Grand Master during his term of office may exercise any of the following powers:

**C-26.1** Grant dispensations -

- (a)** For the formation of a new Lodge
- (b)** For the election, installation and investiture of officers of a Lodge at times other than those provided by this Constitution
- (c)** For the reception by a Lodge of a petition for initiation from persons who do not possess the requirement as to residence provided by this Constitution
- (d)** For the reception by a Lodge of a petition from a rejected applicant for initiation within a shorter period of time than that provided by this Constitution
- (e)** Authorizing a Lodge to confer a degree on a candidate within a shorter period of time than that provided by this Constitution and waiving proof of proficiency in the degree or degrees already conferred on him
- (f)** "healing a candidate" irregularly conducted through the ceremony of a degree
- (g)** relieving from Masonic disability a member of a Lodge whose charter has been arrested or has lapsed
- (h)** Authorizing any other act or proceeding that may be inconsistent with the provisions of this Constitution except such provisions as are stated to be beyond the power of dispensation



**C-26.2** Arrest the Charter or dispensation of a Lodge and suspend its activities pending the decision of a Communication of Grand Lodge upon such action.

**C-26.3** Appoint a Master Mason to any office in a Lodge under dispensation.

**C-26.4** Appoint representatives near other recognized Grand Lodges and receive and accredit representatives from such Grand Lodges.

**C-26.5** Direct any officer of Grand Lodge to attend him on an official visit or to visit a Lodge and make a report thereon or to report upon his performance of the duties of his office or to produce any documents or correspondence in his possession relating to the affairs of Grand Lodge.

**C-26.6** Preside in a Lodge and direct its proceedings, call a meeting of a Lodge for a special purpose, review the records or activities of a Lodge, summon the Master of a Lodge to attend him and direct the production to him of the Charter, books, papers, or accounts of the Lodge.

**C-26.7** Suspend from office any officer of Grand Lodge including District Deputy Grand Masters or any officer of a Lodge and to restore him after suspension.

**C-26.8** Confer on any District Deputy Grand Master who has faithfully discharged his duties the rank of Right Worshipful Past District Deputy Grand Master.

**C-26.9** Call a meeting of the Board of General Purposes for a special purpose.

**C-26.10** Attend, as a member, any meeting of a standing or special committee of the Board of General Purposes.

**C-27** The Grand Master shall be consulted officially upon any subject relating to the fraternity only through the Grand Secretary, the Deputy Grand Master or a District Deputy Grand Master.

## **DUTIES OF OTHER ELECTED GRAND LODGE OFFICERS**

### **Deputy Grand Master**

**C-28** In case of the death, illness, resignation or absence from the jurisdiction of the Grand Master, or if directed so to do by the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master shall assume the duties and be vested with the powers of the Grand Master, or shall assume such duties for such period and be vested with such prerogatives and powers of the Grand Master as the Grand Master may in writing direct.

## **Grand Wardens**

**C-29** The Senior Grand Warden, and in his absence, the Junior Grand Warden, in case of the death, illness, resignation or absence from the jurisdiction of the Deputy Grand Master or if directed so to do by the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master, shall assume the duties and be vested with the prerogatives and powers of the Deputy Grand Master.

**C-30** The Grand Wardens, when they accompany the Grand Master on his official visits, shall act as his Wardens while he presides in a Lodge.

## **Grand Treasurer**

**C-31** The Grand Treasurer shall be a member by virtue of office of the Finance Committee, and shall oversee the accounting of the funds of Grand Lodge. He shall present to each Annual Communication of Grand Lodge an audited financial statement of all financial accounts of Grand Lodge. The Grand Treasurer shall also have the following duties:

- (a)** To ensure that all moneys due to Grand Lodge are collected and deposited in the name of Grand Lodge, at the credit of the proper account in a financial institution selected by the Board.
- (b)** To issue cheques on the account of Grand Lodge, on warrants from the chairman of any committee of the Board authorized to disburse the funds of Grand Lodge.
- (c)** To keep books of account, in which shall be shown all moneys received by and payments made for Grand Lodge, together with all sums due to or owing by Grand Lodge.
- (d)** To have charge of the administration and management of all funds of Grand Lodge, subject to the direction of the appropriate committee of the Board.
- (e)** To assist the Finance Committee in the development of the Annual Budget as set out in C-45.1 *(amended 2024)*

## **Grand Secretary**

**C-32** The duties of the Grand Secretary shall be:

- (a)** To attend the Communications of Grand Lodge and all meetings of the Board and to act as Secretary of Grand Lodge and of the Board, except when otherwise ordered by the Board. To have charge of all clerical work, correspondence and records having to do with, and arising out of the Communications of Grand Lodge and the meetings of the Board. To provide notice of meetings of the Board, and maintain a general oversight to see that their activities are being carried out in accordance with the responsibilities placed upon them.
- (b)** To have general control and oversight of all administrative operations of the Grand Lodge Office. *(added 2024)*
- (c)** To have benevolent oversight of the affairs of constituent Lodges and correspondence and negotiations arising there-from.
- (d)** To have the custody of the Grand Lodge Seal, jewels, regalia, furniture and supplies.
- (e)** To affix the Seal, where the same is required, to all Grand Lodge documents.
- (f)** To present at the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge:

- (i) A statement in detail of the indebtedness of Lodges to Grand Lodge.
  - (ii) A summary of the membership of the Lodges.
  - (iii) A list of members of Lodges who have been expelled, suspended or restored.
  - (iv) A list of dispensations granted by the Grand Master.
  - (v) A list of Charters issued, surrendered, or arrested.
  - (vi) A list of Lodge bylaws and amendments approved.
  - (vii) A list of Grand Representatives appointed since the previous Annual Communication.
  - (viii) All items of unfinished business from the previous Annual Communication.
- (g) To report to the Special Committee on the Condition of Freemasonry, any instance of neglect or refusal on the part of a Lodge to comply with the provisions of this Constitution.
  - (h) To notify every Lodge of the granting of a dispensation for the formation of a new Lodge.
  - (i) To supply every Lodge with a list of expulsions, suspensions, restorations and rejections subsequent to the date of the last such list, as soon as convenient after the receipt of the half-yearly returns of the Lodges.
  - (j) To keep, in a form prescribed by the Board, a register showing the names and Masonic records of all members of Lodges in the jurisdiction.
  - (k) To prepare and issue all Charters, dispensations, certificates, commissions and other documents ordered by Grand Lodge, the Grand Master or the Board.
  - (l) To keep a special record of all members of the Craft, who are members of more than one constituent Lodge, of the Lodges of which they are members and in the event of suspension of any such member from any such Lodge, to give notice promptly of such suspension to all the Lodges of which the suspended Freemason is a member.
  - (m) To keep a record of all rulings made by the Grand Master, Grand Lodge or the Board, and to act as the chief executive officer for the Grand Master.
  - (n) To submit to the archives for cataloguing and storage, all Grand Lodge records more than seven years old, except those classified as confidential.
  - (o) To perform any other duties assigned to him by Grand Lodge, the Grand Master, or the Board. Any or all of the aforesaid duties and any other duties of the Grand Secretary may be assigned, transferred or delegated by the Board as it may direct.

**C-33** The remuneration of the Grand Secretary, the office staff, and all expenses relative to the executive office of Grand Lodge shall be fixed by the Board and shall be payable from the General Fund of Grand Lodge.

**C-34** The fiscal year end of Grand Lodge of Manitoba shall be December 31st each year. At the subsequent and each following Annual Communication, the members assembled shall, by ordinary resolution, appoint an auditor or auditors to hold office until the next Annual Communication. Each auditor shall be a member in good standing of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Manitoba with Public Practice rights and independent of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba as that term is understood by accountants. The report of the auditor and the Financial Statements for most recent completed fiscal year along with comparative

figures for the immediately preceding fiscal year shall be placed in front of the members at each Annual Communication. (amended 2019/06/08)

### **Grand Chaplain**

**C-35** The Grand Chaplain shall conduct the devotional ceremonies at all Communications of Grand Lodge. He shall also prepare an address on a Masonic topic, for delivery at the Annual Communication.

### **Grand Historian**

**C-36** The Grand Historian shall, during his term of office, compile a record of all matters relating to the current history of Grand Lodge, under the direction of the Grand Master.

### **Grand Director of Ceremonies**

**C-37** The Grand Director of Ceremonies shall direct the organization of the Grand Lodge before it is opened, shall introduce visitors, direct the formation of processions, and execute the commands of the Grand Master. In addition to his other duties, he shall have the care, during the Communication of Grand Lodge, of the clothing, regalia, and jewels belonging to it.

### **Grand Librarian**

**C-38** The Grand Librarian shall submit to the Board of General Purposes annually, through the Editorial and Library Committee, a summary of the activities of the library for the year.

### **Grand Archivist**

**C-39** The Grand Archivist shall formulate policies for the administration of the Manitoba Masonic Archives, maintain them in a current status and ensure that they are adhered to. He shall supervise the collection, classifications, cataloguing and storage of all documents and artifacts for research purposes and assist in the preparation of displays for educational events. He shall report to the Board of General Purposes annually through the Training, Resource and Archives Committee.

### **Grand Deacons, Organist, Stewards, Sword Bearer, Standard Bearer and Piper**

**C-40** The Grand Deacons, Grand Organist, Grand Stewards, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Standard Bearer and Grand Piper shall attend all Communications of Grand Lodge and shall perform the duties prescribed for them by the Grand Master.

### **Grand Lodge Education Officer**

**C-40.1** The Grand Lodge Education Officer, under the direction of the Grand Master, is to provide aid and assistance to the Lodge Education Officers within the jurisdiction and serve

as the Vice Chairman of the Education and Training Committee. He will submit to the Education and Training Committee and the Board of General Purposes on occasion, a report on the condition of Lodge Education and Training and a yearly report on the same to the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. (Added 2015/06/06)

### **Grand Pursuivant**

**C-41** The Grand Pursuivant shall have charge of the entrance to Grand Lodge Hall, and shall admit members vouched for by the Grand Tyler.

### **Grand Tyler**

**C-42** The Grand Tyler shall preserve order outside the entrance to Grand Lodge Hall. He shall satisfy himself that members seeking admission are properly qualified, and shall announce their names to the Grand Pursuivant. He shall perform any other duties assigned to him by the Grand Master or Grand Lodge.

### **Custodians of the Work**

**C-43** The Board of General Purposes is the Custodians of the two separate Works and the Ceremonials now in use in this Grand Jurisdiction with the power to amend and regulate the same subject to the approval of Grand Lodge. (amended 2019/06/08)

**C-43.1** Grand Lodge shall have the power to recommend changes to the two separate Works and Ceremonials now in use in this Grand Jurisdiction either by resolution or motion passed by a majority of two thirds of the voting members of Grand Lodge then present in person. The proposed resolution or motion must be submitted in writing to the Grand Secretary no later than March 30. The Custodians of the Work shall implement such changes as recommended.

**C-43.2** Each constituent Lodge shall be entitled to continue in such Work as it shall have adopted.

### **INSIGNIA, CLOTHING, MEDALS, AWARDS**

**R-43** *The insignia and clothing to be worn by officers and members of Grand Lodge and of Lodges shall be as follows, or as may be approved by the Board:*

#### **Jewels**

*These jewels shall be of gold or gilt.*

#### **Grand Master**

*The compasses extended to an angle of 45 degrees, with the segment of a circle at the points; within this a gold plate on which is represented an eye irradiated, within a triangle also irradiated.*

<b>Past Grand Master</b>	<i>A similar jewel without the gold plate.</i>
<b>Deputy Grand Master</b>	<i>The compasses and square united, with a five-pointed star in the centre.</i>
<b>Past Deputy Grand Master</b>	<i>The compasses and square united.</i>
<b>District Deputy Grand Master</b>	<i>The compasses and square united, with a five-pointed star in the centre, surrounded by a circle on which is engraved the name of the District.</i>
<b>Past District Deputy Grand Master</b>	<i>The same, omitting the five-pointed star in the centre.</i>
<b>Senior Grand Warden</b>	<i>The level.</i>
<b>Junior Grand Warden</b>	<i>The plumb.</i>
<b>Grand Treasurer</b>	<i>A chased key.</i>
<b>Grand Secretary</b>	<i>Crossed pens with a tie.</i>
<b>Grand Chaplain</b>	<i>A book on a triangle.</i>
<b>Grand Historian</b>	<i>A scroll surmounted by a torch within a circle.</i>
<b>Grand Director of Ceremonies</b>	<i>Two rods crossed.</i>
<b>Grand Librarian</b>	<i>An open book surmounted by the torch of wisdom within a circle.</i>
<b>Grand Archivist</b>	<i>An oil lamp within a circle.</i>
<b>Grand Deacons</b>	<i>A dove and olive branch.</i>
<b>Grand Organist</b>	<i>A lyre.</i>
<b>Grand Sword Bearer</b>	<i>Two swords in Saltire, with a ribbon across the centre,</i>
<b>Grand Standard Bearer</b>	<i>Two Banners, the dexter bearing the Arms of the Grand Lodge, the sinister bearing the Arms of the Grand Master for the time being, the staves being in saltire and tied by a ribbon.</i>
<b>Grand Stewards</b>	<i>A cornucopia within the compasses extended upon an irradiated gold plate, surrounded by a circle on which is</i>

engraved, "Grand Lodge of Manitoba, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons".

**Grand Lodge Education Officer** – A winding staircase consisting of 3, 5 & 7 steps. (Added 2016/01/15)

**Grand Pursuivant** Arms of the Grand Lodge with rod and sword crossed.

**Grand Piper** A Bagpipe. (Added 2012/6/2)

The jewels of the Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Chaplain, Senior Grand Deacon, Junior Grand Deacon, Grand Director of Ceremonies, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Organist, Grand Pursuivant, Grand Piper and Grand Lodge Education Officer (amended 2016/01/15) are to be within a circle with an embossed wreath composed of a sprig of acacia and an ear of corn. (Amended 2012/6/2)

**Grand Tyler** A sword in a circle on which is engraved "Grand Lodge of Manitoba, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons"

These jewels shall be of silver.

<b>Master of Lodge</b>	The square.
<b>Past Master</b>	The square with a pendant, on which is engraved the diagram of the 47th proposition of the first book of Euclid.
<b>Senior Warden</b>	A level.
<b>Junior Warden</b>	A plumb.
<b>Treasurer</b>	Two keys crossed.
<b>Secretary</b>	Two pens crossed.
<b>Chaplain</b>	A book on a triangle.
<b>Deacons</b>	A dove.
<b>Director of Ceremonies</b>	Two rods crossed.
<b>Stewards</b>	A cornucopia.
<b>Organist</b>	A lyre.
<b>Inner Guard</b>	Two swords crossed.
<b>Tyler</b>	A sword.

### Collars

**Grand Master, Present and Past**  
Chain with nine stars over garter blue silk.

**Deputy Grand Master, District Deputy Grand Master, Present and Past**  
Chain with seven stars over garter blue silk.

**Grand Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary and other Elected Grand Officers**  
Chain with five stars and emblem of office on pendant.

**Grand Stewards** Crimson silk, four inches wide, bound with silver lace.

**Other Grand Officers**  *Garter blue ribbon, four inches wide, bound with silver lace.*

**Officers of Lodges**  *To be of sky blue ribbon; if silver chain to be used it must be placed over a blue ribbon, the medallions to contain not more than three five-pointed stars.*

### **Aprons**

*Aprons shall be of lambskin, 18 inches in width by 16 inches in depth, adorned with the distinctive emblems of office and rank as detailed below, or of such other design as may be authorized from time to time by the Board:*

**Grand Master, Present and Past**

*In the centre the blazing sun, on the edging the pomegranate and the lotus, and at each corner and on the flap the seven-eared wheat.*

**Deputy Grand Master**

*In the centre the emblem of office, and with the pomegranate and lotus on the edging.*

**District Deputy Grand Masters, Past District Deputy Grand Masters and other elected Grand Lodge officers**

*In the centre the emblem of office, and with the acacia and seven-eared wheat on either side on a border of blue.*

**Board of General Purposes, Present and Past**

*In the centre a closed book of Constitution within an equilateral triangle with acacia and seven-eared wheat on either side on a border of blue. (2014/03/21)*

**Grand Stewards, Present and Past**

*Border of crimson with the emblem of office in the centre, edged with silver braid.*

**Grand Piper, Present and Past**

*Border of Manitoba Masonic Tartan with the emblem of office in the centre, edged with gold braid. (Added 2012/6/2)*

**Other Appointed Grand Lodge Officers**

*Border of blue, the emblem of office in the centre.*

**Other Past Grand Officers**

*Border of blue one inch in width on the top and three inches in width on the bottom and both sides; adorned in the centre with the emblem of rank.*

**Master or Past Master of Lodge**



*Border of sky blue silk with silver tassels, near each lower corner and on the flap a T-square of silver.*

**Officers of Lodges** *Border of sky blue silk and silver tassels; a sky blue rosette near each lower corner and on the flap; the emblem of office in the centre.*

**Master Mason** *Border of sky blue silk and silver tassels; a sky blue rosette near each lower corner and on the flap. An officer of a Lodge may have the emblem of his office in the centre of his apron.*

**Fellow Craft** *Lambskin with a sky blue rosette near each lower corner.*

**Entered Apprentice** *Plain lambskin.*

### **Cuffs**

*The wearing of cuffs of approved design, shall be restricted to the Grand Master.*

## **UNDRESS CLOTHING**

*The following undress regalia and insignia or such other regalia and insignia as may be approved by the Board may be worn by Past Grand Officers:*

### **Aprons**

**Past Grand Master** *Plain white lambskin, 17 inches wide, 15 inches deep, inclusive of a four inch garter blue ribbon border, adorned with the blazing sun in the centre.*

**Past District Deputy Grand Master**  
*Apron of the same dimensions bordered with four inch wide garter blue ribbon, with the name of the district in a circle, surmounting a square and compass, embroidered in blue in the centre.*

**Past Grand Treasurer**  
*Apron of same dimensions, with key embroidered in blue, within a wreath of corn and acacia*

**Past Grand Secretary**  
*Apron of same dimensions, with two pens in saltire or crossed over, tied by a ribbon, within a wreath of corn and acacia.*

**Past Grand Chaplain**  
*Apron of same dimensions, with the book within the triangle, surmounting a glory or radiated star of 12 points.*

**Past Grand Historian**

*Apron of same dimensions, with jewel of office in centre, within a wreath of corn and acacia.*

**Past Grand Director of Ceremonies**

*Apron of same dimensions, with two rods in saltire or crossed over, tied by a ribbon, embroidered in blue, within a wreath of corn and acacia.*

**Past Grand Librarian**

*Apron of same dimensions, with jewel of office in the centre, within a wreath of corn and acacia.*

**Past Grand Archivist**

*Apron of same dimensions, with jewel of office in the centre, within a wreath of corn and acacia.*

**Past Grand Deacon** *Apron of same dimensions, with the dove and olive branch embroidered in blue in the centre, within a wreath of corn and acacia.*

**Past Grand Organist**

*Apron of same dimensions, with a lyre or harp embroidered in blue in the centre, within a wreath of corn and acacia.*

**Past Grand Sword Bearer**

*Apron of same dimensions, with two swords in saltire, with a ribbon across the centre, embroidered in blue in the centre, within a wreath of corn and acacia.*

**Past Grand Standard Bearer**

*Apron of same dimensions, with two Banners, the dexter bearing the Arms of the Grand Lodge, the sinister bearing the Arms of the Grand Master for the time being, the staves being in saltire and tied by a ribbon embroidered in blue in the centre, within a wreath of corn and acacia.*

**Past Grand Tyler** *Apron of same dimensions, with a sword in a circle embroidered in blue in the centre, within a wreath of corn and acacia.*

**Past Grand Steward**

*Apron of same dimensions, but with crimson edging four inches wide, with a flap, bordered with ribbon two inches wide, and with the emblem of office in the centre.*

**Past Grand Pursuivant**

*Apron of same dimensions, with arms of Grand Lodge surmounting a sword and rod, saltire or crossed, embroidered in blue in the centre, within a wreath of corn and acacia.*

**Past Grand Piper** Apron of same dimensions having a border of the Manitoba Masonic tartan, with a bagpipe embroidered in blue in the centre, within a wreath of corn and acacia. (Added 2012/6/2)

**R-43.1** An officer of Grand Lodge, shall wear the jewel, collar and apron of his office when attending any official function of Grand Lodge or when making a visit to a Lodge in his official capacity. The wearing of such official insignia and clothing shall be optional for all other Lodge visits and authorized Masonic functions.

**R-43.2** A Past Grand Officer may wear the designated insignia and clothing of his rank at any appropriate Masonic function, Lodge visit or meeting.

**R-43.3** If any Lodge shall have adopted a special style of regalia previous to June 1910, it may continue to use it but any changes must be in conformity with these provisions.

**R-43.4** Any Lodge which has celebrated its hundredth anniversary may ornament its aprons by a device, approved by Grand Lodge, making reference to the attainment of such anniversary.

**R-43.5** The insignia, clothing, medals, jewels and other regalia specified by this Constitution shall be worn only at meetings of Lodges or while attending Divine Services, Masonic funerals and memorial services held under the sponsorship of the Grand Master, a D. D. G. M. or the Master of a Lodge or as authorized by this Constitution or by dispensation of the Grand Master.

During the funeral or memorial service of a brother where no Masonic service is to take place, regalia may be worn by members as a tribute with permission of the clergy and consent of the family.

**R-43.6** Permission to hold a public procession of Freemasons in regalia must be obtained from the Grand Master.

## **MEDALS AND AWARDS**

**R-43.7** Every Master Mason who has been a member in good standing of any constituent Lodge or Lodges of this Grand Lodge or of any recognized Grand Lodge for a period of 50 years which may include no more than an aggregate of one year of time under a demit or certificate of standing and who is at present a member of a constituent Lodges of this Grand Lodge, and has not received an award for such membership from a recognized Grand Lodge may be awarded a medal of a material and design to be determined by the Board. The medal shall be suspended from a garter blue ribbon.

For a period of 55 years, he shall be awarded a bar of similar material bearing the words "Fifty-five Years" which shall be affixed to such ribbon, and for each subsequent five years of service a bar shall be added. (Added 2012/1/27)

**R-43.8** There shall be in the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, an award known as the "**William Douglas Medal**" given for exceptional service to the Craft by a member of a Lodge in this jurisdiction. The recipient shall not have attained the rank of Worshipful Master.

- (a) *The award shall be announced by the Grand Master at an Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.*
- (b) *Nomination of a prospective recipient of the award shall be made by resolution of the Lodge of which he is a member. The nomination must be accompanied by a full account of the services rendered to the Craft by the nominee and forwarded to the Grand Secretary.*
- (c) *A committee consisting of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Secretary shall consider the nominations and review the qualifications of the nominees. Final selection shall be made by the Grand Master on the basis of merit as indicated by the information submitted with the nomination.*
- (d) *The award shall carry no Masonic rank.*
- (e) *A suitable medal shall be presented to the recipient of the award.*

**R-43.9** *There shall be in the Grand Lodge of Manitoba an award known as the "**Grand Master's Award for Merit.**" The recipient shall be chosen by the Grand Master upon due consultation with such brethren as he shall select for that purpose. This award may be conferred on any Mason for his contribution to the Craft and mankind.*

**R-43.10** *There shall be an award known as the "**Certificate of Meritorious Service**" granted by the Grand Master to any member of a Lodge in this jurisdiction who has given exceptional service to the Craft. Such member may be nominated by any Master Mason who shall forward his nomination to the Grand Secretary accompanied by an account of the services rendered by the nominee. The Grand Master shall choose the recipient(s) of the award after consultation with the Deputy Grand Master, Grand Secretary, and District Deputy Grand Master of the Masonic District of which the recipient(s) is a member.*

**R-43.11** *In memory of the late Most Worshipful Brother B. Stuart Parker, there shall be an award known as the "**B. Stuart Parker Award**" which may be presented to any Master Mason, regardless of rank, who exemplifies in his life and actions, the "Ideal of a Freemason".*

- (a) *A selection committee of not less than three (3) recipients of the award shall review the qualifications of all potential candidates for this honour and recommend to the Grand Master for his approval, a worthy recipient to receive the award. (It is noted and understood that until there are at least three (3) recipients of this award, the selection committee will, in the interim, be comprised of recipients of the Grand Masters Award for Merit.*
- (b) *The award shall be presented at an Annual Communication of Grand Lodge on those occasions when a qualified recipient has been selected.*
- (c) *Not more than one (1) award shall be presented at any one time.*
- (d) *A suitable gold or gold gilded medal suspended from a chain and collar, and an appropriate Certificate of Achievement, shall be presented to the recipient.*
- (e) *The names of the recipients shall be recorded on a suitable memorial plaque displayed in the foyer of the Masonic Memorial Temple.*

**R-43.12** *There shall be, in the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, an award known as the "**J. E. Reesor Bingeman Medal.**" This medal shall be awarded to a Master Mason who has contributed more than five years of exceptional service to the Cancer Care Driver Program. This medal shall be presented each year at the Grand Communication to Master Mason(s) on the recommendation of the Chairman of the Mason Care Committee.*

**R-43.13** *In memory of the late Right Worshipful Brother Wayne W. Cash, there shall be an award known as the “Wayne W. Cash Award” to be given for the donation of blood as a member of the Masons Care - Partners for Life initiative, which may be presented to any Master Mason that is this member of this jurisdiction, regardless of rank. (Added 2012/4/20)*

- (a) *A suitable medal approved by the Grand Lodge of Manitoba suspended on a blood red ribbon along with a Certificate of Achievement shall be presented to a Master Mason upon achieving 30 donations as determined by Canadian Blood Services.*
- (b) *A bar or button shall be awarded and added to the ribbon at 50 & 70 donations, and every 30 donations thereafter.*
- (c) *The award shall carry no Masonic rank.*
- (d) *The award may be presented in open lodge, at a special event or at Grand Communications at the discretion of the Grand Master.*

**R-43.14** *There shall be in the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, an award known as the **J.R.C. Evans Medal** which may be worn by any member who has faithfully served the Grand Lodge in the capacity of J.R.C. Evans Memorial Lecturer (added 2017/01/20)*

## **GRAND LODGE FEES**

**C-44** The fees payable to Grand Lodge shall be as determined from time to time by the Board; provided that the annual per capita fee shall be subject to approval by Grand Lodge.

## **GRAND LODGE FUNDS**

**C-45** The funds of Grand Lodge are classified as follows:

**(a) The Masonic Endowment Fund**

- (i) This is a restricted endowment fund. The capital of the fund is for investment purposes only. Returns on investments will be disbursed into the Investment Income Account twice per fiscal year, on dates satisfactory to the Finance Committee.
- (ii) Revenue from returns on investments shall be allocated on a 70/30 formula. Seventy (70) percent of total income shall be transferred to the Investment Income Account while thirty (30) percent of said revenue is retained and reinvested in the fund.
- (iii) In a case of exigent circumstances, the Board may withdraw up to \$100,000 dollars in any three-year fiscal period. Such withdrawal must be approved by the Finance Committee prior to any action by the Board.
- (iv) All funds will be invested in accordance with an Investment Policy that is approved by the Board.

**(b) The Investment Income Account**

- (i) The purpose of this account is to provide monies to the General Fund on an as required basis. The proceeds received from the Endowment Fund may be used to offset expenses identified in the annual budget and the overall operation of Grand Lodge. All transfers must be reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee.
- (ii) Provide assistance in any emergency affecting Freemasonry, within or beyond this jurisdiction or to provide for loans to constituent Lodges or corporations existing for Masonic purposes. All requests for assistance must be received and approved by the Finance Committee and prior to any action by the Board.
- (iii) No expenses shall be charged directly to this account. Expenses to be supported by these funds under (i) or (ii) above shall be charged to the general fund and the corresponding amount shall be transferred from this account to the General Fund.

**(c) General Fund**

This is the operating fund of Grand Lodge. It shall be used for the payment of all current expenditures of Grand Lodge that have been identified in the annual budget and/or expenditures approved by the Finance Committee and/or the Board.

All requests for assistance must be approved by the Finance Committee prior to any action by the Board. . *(Amended 2023/6/3)*

**C-45.1 The Annual Budget**

- (a) An annual budget of General Fund expenses for the next fiscal year of Grand Lodge shall be developed by the Finance Committee. All committees that require operational funding must submit their requests to the Finance Chairman by February 1
- (b) The draft budget will be presented to the Board for discussion, review and amendment. The final draft of the budget is subject to approval by Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication.
- (c) In the event the Annual Budget is not approved at the Annual Communication, all individual expenditures of Grand Lodge must be approved by both the Finance Committee and the Board of General Purpose prior to being disbursed. . *(Amended 2023/6/3)*

## **SIGNING OFFICERS**

**C-46** The Signing Officers of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, A.F. & A.M. shall be:

The Grand Master

The Deputy Grand Master

The Grand Secretary

The Grand Treasurer

Chairman – standing committee responsible for Finance (*Amended 2012/6/2*)

The Executive Secretary

**C-46.1** On all official financial documents and financial transactions of Grand Lodge requiring two signatures, one such signature must be that of the Grand Treasurer or the Grand Secretary. (*Amended 2012/6/2*)

## **PART II**

### **DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS**

**R-200** Grand Lodge, by resolution, shall establish Masonic Districts within its jurisdiction and shall determine the Lodges that comprise each District.

**R-201** The District Deputy Grand Master for each Masonic District shall be elected by ballot at the Annual District Meeting held within the District. If only one member is nominated for election to this office, he shall be declared elected without a ballot.

**R-201.1** Each nomination shall be made in writing by a member of Grand Lodge who is a member of a Lodge within the District. Each nominee shall be a Past Master and a member of a Lodge within the District.

**R-201.2** Each nomination shall be filed both with the Grand Secretary and the District Secretary prior to the closing of nominations. Nominations shall close at such time as may have been determined by a resolution of the District, provided that all nominations shall close not later than forty full days prior to the date of the Annual District Meeting.

**R-201.3** The District Deputy Grand Master shall appoint a District Committee consisting of no fewer than three members of Lodges comprising the District, to supervise all arrangements for conducting the election, counting the ballots and declaring which of the nominees has been elected.

**R-201.4** The procedures in regard to the election and the counting of ballots shall correspond with the procedures for the election of a member to an elective office in Grand Lodge.

**R-201.5** The election of a District Deputy Grand Master shall be effective upon its confirmation by the Grand Master after consultation with the Deputy Grand Master, following which he shall be installed into office at the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.

**R-201.6** The District Deputy Grand Master shall be a voting member of all Lodges in his District by virtue of office.

**R-201.7** If any vacancy shall occur in the office of District Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Master may appoint any Past Master who is a member of a Lodge within that District to fill such vacancy.

**R-201.8** District officers may be elected in accordance with the provisions of District Bylaws.

**R-202** The duties of the District Deputy Grand Master shall be:

- (a)** To visit officially every Lodge in his District at least once in his term.
- (b)** To preside, at his discretion, in a Lodge on the occasion of his official visit; to ascertain its condition; to examine its books and records; to give instruction and advice to the Master, officers and members.
- (c)** To draw particular attention to the moral and benevolent principles of Freemasonry.



- (d) To assure himself that the secretary of every Lodge in the District forwards promptly to the Grand Secretary's office, the official returns, together with all fees due to Grand Lodge.
- (e) To make a report to the Grand Secretary on the form prescribed for that purpose for the information of the Committee on the Condition of Freemasonry within 10 days after each official visit made by him.
- (f) To prepare in duplicate on forms furnished by the Grand Secretary, a tabular statement showing the condition of the Lodges in the District for the year ending March 31st and to transmit it to the Grand Secretary on or before April 15th.
- (g) To prepare in duplicate, a report on the general condition of Freemasonry in the District, with a summary of his official acts, and to transmit it to the Grand Secretary on or before April 15th.
- (h) To receive and transmit to the Grand Secretary, any petition for a dispensation to establish a new Lodge, or for the removal of a Lodge from one place to another in the District. With this application he shall send a recommendation based on enquiries he has made.
- (i) To appoint such other officers as he may consider necessary.
- (j) To undertake any other responsibility that may be entrusted to him by the Grand Master, Grand Lodge, or the Board.

**R-203** Each District shall hold an annual meeting at such time and place and upon such notice as shall be approved by the Grand Master. Seven members of Grand Lodge who are members of a Lodge or Lodges within such District shall constitute a quorum for the meeting. The District Deputy Grand Master or a Deputy approved by the Grand Master shall preside over the meeting.

**R-203.1** The District may pass bylaws for its own government and enact any other measure relating to its own affairs. All bylaws must be consistent with this Constitution and the regulations of Grand Lodge. Bylaws of a District shall deal only with matters in respect whereof it is competent for the District to legislate, and shall not purport to enact or amend any part of this Constitution.

**R-203.2** The bylaws of a District shall be submitted for the approval of the Grand Master and, when approved, a copy shall be filed with the Grand Secretary. All amendments and additions by bylaws shall be submitted and filed in the same manner.

## **BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES**

**C-204** The Board of General Purposes shall consist of:

The Grand Master,  
 The last three Immediate Past Grand Masters, if they are willing and able,  
 Deputy Grand Master,  
 Grand Wardens,  
 Grand Treasurer,  
 Grand Secretary,  
 the District Deputy Grand Masters, and  
 21 elected members.

The election of any member of the Board as a District Deputy Grand Master shall not affect his position as an elected member. (Amended 2023/6/3)

Transition Clause

*Transition to the new number of elected members will require 3 years to achieve, as set out in R-18.1. Current elected Board members will serve out their terms. As the annual election process goes forward, the Board will be reduced in accordance with the new number of annual elected members. This clause will be deleted once the transition is complete. (Added 2023/6/3)*

**R-204** *The official designation of a member or past member elected to the Board shall be "Right Worshipful", and a member appointed to the Board shall be "Very Worshipful". His title for use in signing a Lodge register during his term of office shall be "B G P" as an abbreviation for "Board of General Purposes" and following his term of office it shall be "P B M" as an abbreviation for "Past Board Member". Members appointed to the Board prior to June 6, 2015 retain their previous title of "Right Worshipful". (Amended 2015/03/20)*

**C-205** All Past Grand Masters shall be entitled, when attending a meeting of the Board of General Purposes, to address the Board without first being invited to do so by the President. (added 2019/06/08)

**C-206** All Standing Committee Chairmen to be elected shall be elected from among members of the Board at the first meeting following the Annual Communication. The Committee Chairmen, in discussion with the Board, will assign members to the various committees.

- a) Any person wishing to be considered for election as chairman to any Standing Committee shall submit a summary of their skills and abilities to the Grand Secretary by the date of the Annual Communication. The Grand Secretary will circulate those resumes to all members of the Board prior to the meeting called for the purpose of electing chairmen.

(amended 2023/06/03)

**C-206.1** The Deputy Grand Master shall be the President of the Board of General Purposes and the Senior Grand Warden shall be the Vice-President. (added 2022/06/04)

**R-206** *Regular meetings of the Board shall be held in Winnipeg in the months of September, November, January, March, and April. Such regular meetings shall be held on a date and at a place selected by the President. A special meeting may be called at any time and place by the Grand Master, the President, or the Vice-President. Written notice of all meetings indicating the nature of the business to be considered thereat shall be sent to every member of the Board at least six days prior to the meeting. Seven members shall constitute a quorum of the Board. All motions shall be decided by a majority vote of those members voting thereon. The presiding officer may vote or abstain from voting in his absolute discretion and in the event he has elected to abstain, he shall not vote subsequently to break a tie. In case of a tie vote, the motion shall be declared lost.*

**C-207** The Board shall be the administrative and executive body of Grand Lodge and without limiting the generality thereof, it shall directly, or by delegation, exercise the powers and perform the duties hereinafter set forth, namely:

- (a) To control the furniture and regalia of Grand Lodge.
- (b) To control all other property belonging to Grand Lodge, to authorize any expenditures it may deem proper for the due administration of the affairs of

Grand Lodge and to invest the funds of Grand Lodge in such investments and securities as from time to time are authorized by the Act of Incorporation of Grand Lodge.

- (c) To control and direct the executive office of Grand Lodge and to appoint an Executive Secretary if the Board deems it expedient to do so, which Executive Secretary shall hold office at the pleasure of the Board.
- (d) To consider in each year the budgets of receipts and expenditures of the General Fund as prepared by the Committee on Finance and Administration and of the Reserve Fund as prepared by the sub-Committees on Benevolence and on Masonic Enhancement with power to add, delete from, or otherwise vary any part thereof and to approve these budgets prior to presentation to Grand Lodge for final approval.
- (e) To inspect or empower any committee under its direction, to inspect all the books, records, and accounts of Grand Lodge and of any constituent Lodge and to summon the attendance before it of any officer of Grand Lodge and of any constituent Lodge; to recommend to the Grand Master that the Charter or dispensation of a Lodge be arrested or that any officer of Grand Lodge or of any constituent Lodge be suspended from office and to report thereon to Grand Lodge.
- (f) To make a recommendation to the Grand Master upon every petition for dispensation to form a new Lodge and to Grand Lodge upon every petition for a Charter.
- (g) To approve the form and prescribe the use of petitions for initiation or affiliation and any other forms for use by Lodges or by Grand Lodge as it may deem proper.
- (h) To give precedence in the order of business at its meetings to all matters referred to it by the Grand Master or by Grand Lodge.
- (i) To establish special committees for particular purposes, to appoint the members thereof who, except for the chairman, may include individuals who are not Freemasons, and to require such committees to report to the Board.

**R-208** *All communications, petitions, or representations made to the Board by brethren who are not members thereof, shall be submitted in writing through the office of the Grand Secretary.*

**R-209** *The Board shall submit to each Annual Communication, a report in writing providing a summary of the business transacted by it including recommendations, decisions and judgments, subsequent to the closing of the preceding Annual Communication*

**C-210** All recommendations, decisions and judgments of the Board are subject to approval, rejection or amendment by resolution passed at the Annual Communication immediately following.

**R-211** *The Standing Committees of the Board each having a senior officer of Grand Lodge as a member by virtue of office and grouped according to function are as follows:*

- (a) **Finance** - Deputy Grand Master and Grand Secretary (Amended 2024/04/19)
  - Investments
  - Finance

**(b) Arrangements and Elections - Deputy Grand Master**  
*Credentials and Elections*  
*Reception and Arrangements*

**(c) Jurisprudence - Deputy Grand Master**  
*Jurisprudence*

**(d) Masonic Relief - Senior Grand Warden**  
*Benevolence*  
*Enhancement*  
*Special Projects*

**(e) Fraternal Relations - Senior Grand Warden**  
*Fraternal Relations (Amended 2014/09/19)*

**(f) Resource – Deputy Grand Master**  
*Library and Archives (Amended 2017/01/20)*

**(g) Management - Deputy Grand Master (Amended 2011/11/25)**

**(h) Education and Training – Junior Grand Warden (Amended 2017/01/20)**

**(i) Strategic Planning – Deputy Grand Master, Junior Grand Warden (Added 2024/04/19)**

**(j) Technology – Junior Grand Warden (Added 2014/04/219)**

**R-212** *The duties and powers of the Standing Committee shall be as follows:*

**(a) FINANCE** (Amended 2016/04/15))

*To supervise all financial funds of Grand Lodge.*

*To invest, reinvest, purchase, sell, dispose of, and generally to manage or supervise the management of all funds of Grand Lodge that are made available for that purpose.*

*To restrict the investment and reinvestment of all such funds to such forms as may be authorized by Grand Lodge or by its Act of Incorporation or by the Board or by the laws of Manitoba governing the investment of trust funds by trustees.*

*To prepare and present to the Board for its consideration and subsequently to the Annual Communication for approval, a budget of income and expenses of the General Fund for the ensuing fiscal year, together with an estimate of the per capita fee sufficient to provide for the payment of the net budgeted expenses.*

*To report on its activities through the Board to Grand Lodge*

*To consider and report upon all matters referred to this committee by the Board.*

**(b) ARRANGEMENTS AND ELECTIONS**

***Credentials and Elections***

To arrange for and supervise the registration of all members of Grand Lodge, visiting brethren and Master Masons at each Annual Communication, as well as at any Emergent Communication when directed by the Grand Master.

To arrange for and supervise the examination of credentials, printing and distribution of ballots, polling stations and custody of all ballot boxes.

To examine and count the ballots, to determine the results of the elections and to report thereon prior to the close of the Annual Communication.

***Reception and Arrangements***

To arrange for suitable accommodations for all Communications of Grand Lodge.

To arrange for the reception of visitors and guests at such Communications.

To assist in arranging programs of entertainment and generally promote the comfort and well being of all members, visitors and guests present at all such Communications.

**(c) JURISPRUDENCE**

***Jurisprudence***

To make regular reviews of the Constitution and Regulations of Grand Lodge and when advisable to recommend revision thereof and amendments thereto.

To consider and report upon proposed amendments to the Constitution of Grand Lodge as to form and constitutionality.

To advise the Grand Master, Grand Lodge, and the Board on Constitutional matters and matters of Masonic Jurisprudence.

**(d) MASONIC RELIEF**

***Benevolence***

To prepare a budget of expenditures for submission to the Finance Committee as required for the Annual Budget as set out in C-45.1 that may be considered to be adequate to provide for the requirements of Masonic charity and benevolence within this jurisdiction.

To recommend all emergent requests for funding of a charitable nature to the Finance Committee and the Board including Masonic charity and benevolence requests that are not included in the approved budget.

To manage its budgetary allocation through the Grand Treasurer  
*(section amended 2024/04/19)*

### **Enhancement**

To prepare a budget of expenditures for submission to the Finance Committee as required for the Annual Budget as set out in C-45.1 that may be considered adequate to support, encourage and assist activities and projects which will enhance, improve and promote the image of Freemasonry in this jurisdiction. This includes the relationship with the general public, concordant Masonic bodies, and their associated adult and youth organizations.

The committee will recommend all emergent requests for assistance affecting Freemasonry within and beyond this jurisdiction to the Finance Committee and the Board.

The Finance committee and the Board may consider requests for loans to constituent Lodges or corporations existing for Masonic purposes, to assist in the purchase, construction, improvement or furnishing of Lodge premises. Such loans shall be on such terms and at such rates of interest as the Finance committee and the Board shall approve.

To manage its budgetary allocation through the Grand Treasurer  
(section amended 2024/04/19)

### **Special Projects**

To promote, organize, and administer all fund raising activities delegated to it by the Board and approved by Grand Lodge that are in support of charitable activities or registered charitable organizations.

To supervise and maintain continuity in such long term projects as may be approved by the Board or Grand Lodge.

### **(e) FRATERNAL RELATIONS** (Amended 2014/09/19)

#### **Fraternal Relations**

To enquire into and report on the advisability of establishing or maintaining fraternal relations with other Grand Masonic bodies and other organizations in which Grand Lodge may grant to Master Masons the right to hold membership.

To review the reports received from Grand Masonic jurisdictions and to report to the Annual Communication.

### **(f) RESOURCE** (amended 2017/01/20)

To provide direction and support to the Grand Librarian and Grand Archivist. The Grand Librarian and Grand Archivist will be members of this committee by virtue of their office.

#### **(i) Library**

To supervise the loan and return of books, and multimedia on Freemasonry and ensure the proper repair and maintenance of same,

to replace them when necessary, and to purchase new books and educational material.

To maintain a reference library of rare and out of print books pertaining to Freemasonry.

To examine notices and magazines for articles of interest to this jurisdiction and to maintain and index them.

**(ii) Archives**

The Archivist is responsible to receive, identify, catalogue, restore and administer documents and artifacts of historical significance to the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, and to respond to legitimate requests for information.

**(g) MANAGEMENT** (Amended 2021/04/29)

Supervise and review the administrative policies, procedures and activities of Grand Lodge and make recommendations upon any matter affecting the Grand Lodge of Manitoba

Assist the Grand Secretary in the implementation of all motions, resolutions, and constitutional and regulatory amendments approved by Grand Lodge and/or the Board.

Provide advice to the Grand Secretary with the operations of the Grand Lodge office as required.

Recommend qualified individuals for appointment to office(s) as set out in C-18.2 for approval by the Board.

Recommend such administrative assistance as may be necessary for the efficient operation of the Grand Lodge office for approval by the Board.

Consider and report on all matters referred to the committee by Grand Lodge, the Grand Master and the Board.

**(h) EDUCATION AND TRAINING** (amended 2017/01/20)

To be responsible for Masonic education and training programs, and to establish and maintain the highest possible standards.

To plan and recommend procedures that would assist Lodges and the Grand Lodge in deciding upon programs to enhance Masonic education and training.

To respond to concerns of the brethren, and to formulate programs which will stimulate interest in education and training programs.

To monitor education and training programs in this jurisdiction, and to assess

To act as a resource for Craft Lodge education and training programs.

May conduct education and training programs independent of Craft Lodges that benefit the fraternity in general.

**(i) STRATEGIC PLANNING** (amended 2022/03/18)

The Strategic Planning Committee shall consist of: The Chairman, the Deputy Grand Master, the Junior Grand Warden, and the Chairmen of the Management Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Technology Committee, or their designated representatives. The Chairman may also consider the appointment of two Brethren from the jurisdiction. The duties and responsibilities of the committee shall be:

- i. To review and update the Strategic Plan annually to ensure that its goals and objectives are aligned with and effectively support the mission, vision, and values of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, A.F. & A.M.
- ii. To facilitate coordination and integration of strategic planning efforts across all committees of the Grand Lodge, involving committee heads of the Board of General Purposes where necessary, and all Grand Lodge Officers during the Masonic calendar year.
- iii. To ensure that the goals and objectives outlined in the Strategic Plan are effectively communicated to all Lodges annually and are actionable and measurable respectively. (amended 2024/04/19)

**(j) TECHNOLOGY** (amended 2024/03/24)

The Technology Committee will be comprised of a chairman and at least four members who have demonstrated skills and abilities as it pertains to this committee's functions. Duties and responsibilities shall be:

To provide information and assistance to the Grand Secretary and the Board in the general upkeep and efficiency of all computer and electronic systems utilized by the Grand Lodge of Manitoba including

- Network, computer server, telephones
- All computer programs current and up to date
- Safety of all data and computer systems
- Assist the Grand Secretary as required to monitor the database performance
- Recommend any upgrades to hardware or software to the Grand Secretary and the Board as deemed necessary



**R-213.** The Board shall appoint a member to fill a vacancy on a committee.

**R-214.** Every committee shall act under the general supervision of the Board and shall make detailed reports to it at the request of the presiding officer or at any other time deemed appropriate by the committee chairman.

**R-215.** Every committee shall send to the Grand Secretary not later than May 1st, a report covering its work for the year

**R-216** The Grand Master shall appoint a **Special Committee on the Condition of Freemasonry**. Its duties shall be as follows:

To study closely, the condition of Freemasonry in this jurisdiction.

To review the reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters, paying particular attention to any important or unusual circumstances contained therein, making recommendations to the Board for the benefit of the Craft.

To secure the cooperation of District Deputy Grand Masters and Masters of Lodges, recommending to them means of assisting or encouraging Lodges.

The Senior Grand Warden will be the Chairman with the Junior Grand Warden as Vice Chairman and all District Deputy Grand Masters will be members of this committee.

**R-217** The Grand Master will appoint a Chairman to chair the **Masons Care Committee**. Its duties and composition shall be as follows:

The mandate of this committee is outlined in a “**Memorandum of Understanding**” with the Canadian Cancer Society-Manitoba Division which is updated every five years.

The Freemasons of Manitoba agree to maintain a fleet of vehicles. We will provide funds through the Canadian Cancer Society-Manitoba Division and act on their behalf to purchase replacement vehicles in accordance with the schedule agreed to in the “Memorandum”. We also commit to provide sufficient drivers to operate those vehicles.

The administration of this program is undertaken by the Canadian Cancer Society-Manitoba Division who also provide appropriate signage and publicity in order to ensure that our commitment to the community is acknowledged.

## **PART III**

### **LODGES**

#### **Formation of a Lodge**

**C-300** A petition to the Grand Master for a dispensation from seven or more Master Masons, one of whom must be a Past Master, shall be required for the formation of a Lodge. The form of petition shall be prescribed by the Board and furnished by the Grand Secretary. The petition shall be accompanied by a certificate of standing for each petitioner who is a member of a constituent Lodge of this Grand Lodge or of any recognized Grand Lodge.

**C-301** The petitioner shall apply for a certificate of endorsement from the Lodge nearest to the place where it is proposed to form a new Lodge.

**C-302** A Lodge may grant the application for endorsement only after it has passed a resolution to that effect. If any of the petitioners are unaffiliated with Lodges in this jurisdiction, it shall investigate their character and fitness in the same way as in the case of petitioners for affiliation. It may adopt that procedure with regard to all the petitioners, if it chooses to do so.

**C-303** The Lodge giving endorsement shall complete the certificate of consent attached to the form of petition. This endorsement shall be necessary before the petition can succeed. A certificate of approval from the District Deputy Grand Master shall also be required, following an investigation by him under the provisions of this Constitution.

**C-304.** The Grand Secretary, after receiving the petition, shall refer it to the Board for consideration. A recommendation from the Board shall be required before the Grand Master gives his decision. The Grand Master may grant or reject the petition.

**C-305** The duties and powers of a Lodge under dispensation shall be similar to those of a Chartered Lodge. The bylaws for its use shall be prescribed by the Board.

**C-306** A petition for a Charter from a Lodge under dispensation shall contain evidence, satisfactory to the Board, that it has been working for at least four months. It shall be sent to the Grand Secretary not later than the 15th day of May for consideration at the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge. It must be accompanied by the dispensation, bylaws, and books of record of the Lodge.

**C-307** If a Lodge under dispensation does not forward to the Grand Secretary for consideration at the Annual Communication a petition for a Charter, the dispensation, unless it is arrested by the Grand Master or Grand Lodge, shall continue in effect until the 15th day of May in the following year.

**C-308** After receiving from the Board a report on a petition for a Charter, Grand Lodge may order it to be issued. The name and number of the Lodge shall be designated in the Charter. Grand Lodge may decline to grant the petition and order the Lodge to continue under dispensation for a further period of 12 months or may refuse the petition, cancel the

dispensation and order the Lodge to be dissolved. In the event of a dispensation being continued for 12 months, no further continuance shall be granted.

**C-309** In the event of a Charter being granted, the Lodge shall be constituted within six months.

**C-310** A Lodge must have been regularly instituted and registered on the register of Grand Lodge before it can be recognized. It may continue its activities, unless its Charter or dispensation be surrendered, arrested or revoked, as long as it has seven or more members in good standing who are Master Masons.

**C-311** A Lodge takes precedence according to the serial number given to it in its Charter.

**C-312** A Lodge shall not recognize any Body in this jurisdiction purporting to be a Craft Lodge that does not hold a Charter or dispensation from Grand Lodge, or from a Grand Lodge in fraternal relationship with it. Its members shall not visit any such body or hold Masonic intercourse with any of its members.

**C-313** A Lodge shall recognize as Freemasons only those persons who have been initiated in a Lodge holding a Charter or dispensation from Grand Lodge, or from a Grand Lodge in fraternal relationship with it.

### **Powers and Duties of a Lodge**

**C-314** The powers of a Lodge are derived from its Charter or dispensation, from this Constitution, and from the regulations of Grand Lodge. They may be defined broadly as follows:

- (a)** To conduct its work and transact its business, under the control and direction of the Master, the primary executive authority; to conduct any other work under dispensation from the Grand Master.
- (b)** To pass bylaws for its own government and to enact any other measure relating to its affairs. All bylaws must be consistent with this Constitution and the regulations of Grand Lodge. Bylaws of a constituent Lodge shall deal only with matters in respect whereof it is competent for the Lodge to legislate, and shall not purport to enact or amend any part of this Constitution.
- (c)** To enforce discipline upon its members, subject in all cases to appeal to the Board or to Grand Lodge.
- (d)** The Charter or dispensation must be in the possession of the Lodge and displayed at every meeting. If it be lost or destroyed, a dispensation for the transaction of business must be secured from the Grand Master.

**C-315** The bylaws of a Lodge shall be submitted for the approval of the Grand Master, and when approved, a copy shall be filed with the Grand Secretary. All amendments and additions to bylaws shall be submitted and filed in the same manner.

**C-316 The duties of a Lodge are as follows:**

- (a) To provide an official Seal
- (b) To become incorporated in the manner provided by the Act of the Legislature of the Province of Manitoba entitled "The Grand Lodge of Manitoba Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons Incorporation Act".
- (c) To have its bylaws written or printed in a book. Every member at the time of his initiation or affiliation shall affix his signature to them, as a declaration of his willingness to obey them.
- (d) To provide every member with a copy of its bylaws and a copy of this Constitution.
- (e) To provide a register, which shall be signed at every meeting by all members and visitors in attendance before they enter the Lodge.
- (f) To provide the books and forms prescribed by Grand Lodge.
- (g) To regularly confirm the Lodge membership to the Grand Secretary on forms supplied for that purpose and to retain a copy with the Lodge records.
- (h) To remit with such return, all monies owing by it to Grand Lodge.
- (i) To provide in its bylaws for the appointment of two or more Master Masons as auditors, who shall make an annual audit of the books and submit a report to the Lodge. A member of the Lodge while holding office shall be ineligible for the position of auditor.
- (j) To provide in its By-laws for the appointment of a Lodge Education Officer who ensures that an Educational topic is presented at every lodge regular meeting and is a part of the lodge agenda. A member of the Lodge, while holding this office, shall be known as the "Lodge Education Officer" (LEO). (Added 2012/6/2)

**C-317** The territorial jurisdiction of Lodges which derive their authority from Grand Lodge shall be concurrent throughout Manitoba.

**MEMBERSHIP IN A LODGE**

**C-318** Membership in a Lodge may be acquired:

- (a) By having been regularly initiated or
- (b) having been elected for affiliation, or honorary membership or
- (c) in the case of a new Lodge, by having been named in the dispensation.

**R-318** *A Lodge shall grant a demit upon a prescribed form to a member making written application if his dues are fully paid, no charge of a Masonic offence has been laid against him, and an enquiry into the reason for the demit has been made. The demit shall be granted within a period of one month from the date the enquiry is completed, unless it is withdrawn and if the demit is granted no fee nor dues shall be charged to the member subsequent to the date of his application. The demit shall be effective the 31st day of December in the year of application and be valid for visiting purposes until the 30th day of June of the following year. The action of granting the demit shall be reported to the Lodge at its next regular meeting for the information of the members and it shall be included in the minutes of such meeting.*

**R-318.1** *Any member so demitted may at any time within 12 months from the date of his demit, pay his current dues to the secretary, who shall make a report thereof to the Lodge*

*and thereupon the Master shall declare him restored in good standing.*

**R-319** *A member of a Lodge whose Charter or dispensation is lapsed, surrendered, arrested or revoked, may apply to the Grand Secretary for a certificate of his standing at the time of the lapse, surrender, arrest or revocation.*

**R-320** *A member who was in arrears at the time of the lapse, surrender, arrest or revocation of a charter or dispensation must pay his arrears as at the time of such lapse, surrender, arrest or revocation to the Grand Secretary when making application for a certificate of standing, but it shall be the duty of the Board to consider the merits of the application and to approve or reject it. A certificate issued under these circumstances shall be valid for visiting purposes for a period of one year from the date of its issue.*

**R-321** *Membership in a Lodge can be terminated only through death, the surrender, arrest or revocation of the Charter or dispensation of the Lodge, by obtaining a demit, by suspension for non-payment of dues or the decision of a Masonic Trial Commission. (amended 2018/01/19)*

**R-322** *A petitioner to a Lodge for the degrees of Freemasonry must be a male person at least 21 years of age, of sound judgment and strict morals, and professing a belief in a Supreme Being. He must be able to read and write the English language, and must have resided in the Province of Manitoba for the immediately preceding 12 months, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution.*

**R-322.1** *A petitioner shall not be disqualified by reason of any physical impairment provided he is able to receive and understand the work of instruction in the various degrees and to explain or exemplify the same when properly required to do so.*

**R-322.2** *A Lewis of at least 18 years of age may petition a Lodge for the degrees of Freemasonry, subject to all other qualifications outlined in subsection R-322 above.*

**R-323** *A petitioner shall present to a Lodge, a petition to which he shall have signed his full name, on a form prescribed by the Board. The petition must be endorsed in writing by two members of the Lodge who are Master Masons, and must be presented at a regular meeting.*

**R-324** *When a petition is received by a Lodge it shall be referred to a special Committee of Enquiry appointed by the Master comprising three or more members of the Lodge other than those who endorsed the petition. To assist the committee in its investigations the Lodge shall notify all other Lodges in this jurisdiction, through the medium of the Official Circular, of the name, age, place of residence and occupation of the petitioner and invite responses by the members thereof. The committee shall conduct a thorough examination of the petitioner's qualifications for membership having due regard to any responses that may have been received. (It is provided nevertheless that a Lodge which meets in any of the months of June, July and August and receives a petition during the months of May, June and July is required so to notify all other Lodges only if the petitioner at any time during the preceding 12 months has resided nearer to any other Lodge than to the Lodge receiving the petition.*

**R-325** *A period of at least 30 days from the date of the Official Circular in which the petitioner's name is published, and a period of eight weeks from the date the petition is received shall lapse before the Lodge acts on the report of the committee except in the case of a Lodge which meets in any of the months of June, July, and August and receives a petition during the months of May, June, and July, the 30 day period is waived and the provisions of Section R-324 with reference to notifying other Lodges will apply.*

**R-326** *The Master, with the consent of the Wardens and Secretary, instead of calling on the committee for a report, may order that the petition be filed and the deposit returned. A notation of the action taken shall be made in the minutes.*

**R-327** *If the committee fails to make a report in three months, the Master may appoint a new committee.*

**R-328** *In addition to any other investigations it may make the committee must satisfy itself that a petitioner, for the degrees of Freemasonry:*

- (a) Meets the qualifications prescribed for a petitioner by this Constitution.*
- (b) Has not been rejected by a Lodge during the 12 months immediately preceding the date of the petition.*
- (c) Is in financial circumstances that give reasonable assurance that he is able to continue membership without inconvenience to those who may be dependent upon him.*
- (d) Is not a member of a clandestine Masonic Lodge.*

**R-329** *A resident of Manitoba whose place of residence is nearer to a Lodge in a sister jurisdiction than it is to the nearest Lodge in this jurisdiction, may petition such nearer Lodge to receive the degrees of Freemasonry provided that such sister jurisdiction grants the like privilege to this jurisdiction.*

**R-330** *In the case of a petitioner whose application for degrees has been rejected during the preceding 12 months, the Lodge must obtain from the Grand Master a dispensation authorizing it to receive and act upon a new petition. The resolution asking for this dispensation shall have been passed by a unanimous vote of the members present.*

**R-331** *If the Grand Master declines to issue a dispensation enabling a Lodge to act upon a petition that does not comply with the provisions of this Constitution, the petition shall be filed and the deposit returned to the petitioner.*

**R-332** *The summons for a regular meeting at which there is to be a ballot on any petition shall state the name in full, age, occupation, and residence address of the petitioner, together with the names of the members who endorse the petition, and in the case of a petition for affiliation it shall also state the name, number, and jurisdiction of the Lodge of which he is a member or which issued the demit or certificate of standing upon which the petition is based.*

**R-333** *If the Lodge receives an unfavourable report from the majority of the Committee of Enquiry, the Master shall declare the petition rejected, whereupon the petition shall be filed and the deposit returned. If a favourable report is received from a majority of the committee, the petition shall be balloted on.*

**R-334** All members present, including the Tyler (if a member of the Lodge) shall vote. If the ballot is favourable, the Master shall declare that the petitioner has been elected to receive the degrees. If it is unfavourable, he shall declare that the petition has been rejected and instruct that it be filed and the deposit returned.

**R-335** The following shall be the mode of balloting: By direction of the Master, the Senior Deacon shall prepare the ballot box, and present it to the Junior Warden, Senior Warden and Master, in the order named for inspection. The Master shall then deposit his ballot from his chair after which the ballot box shall be placed on, above, or immediately west of the Altar. Each member of the Lodge, commencing on the left of the Master, shall approach the Altar, salute, deposit his ballot, salute and return to his seat. After all the members have balloted and the Master has declared the ballot closed, the Senior Deacon shall present the ballot box to the Junior Warden, Senior Warden and the Master in the order named for inspection. The Master, upon receiving the report of the Wardens shall declare the result and destroy the ballot.

**R-336** If the Master finds a ballot unfavourable, he may, without announcing the result, order a second ballot to be cast at once. Not more than two ballots may be taken, and there shall be no discussion prior to the second ballot.

**R-337** A ballot is unfavourable if it contains two or more black cubes. If the bylaws of a Lodge require a unanimous vote, one black cube shall be sufficient to make a ballot unfavourable. The rejection of a petition for initiation shall be noted in a book kept by the Lodge for that purpose and shall be recorded in the minutes.

**R-338** A petitioner for degrees whose petition has been accepted may be initiated within 12 months thereafter, but only in the Lodge that has accepted his petition. If he fails to attend for this purpose within such period, a new petition shall be required.

**R-338.1** A Lewis, whose petition has been accepted has the right to be made a Mason before any other person unless he, through complaisance, waives this privilege.

**R-339** At the time of his initiation, he shall sign the bylaws of the Lodge, a copy of which, together with a copy of this Constitution, shall be presented to him, and at the same time, the Penalty for Indiscretion, as approved and published in the Folio of Directives, shall be read to him so that every brother is aware of its contents.

**R-340** When a Lodge has conferred the Master Mason degree on one of its members, he shall be entitled to a Master Mason apron from the Lodge and after passing a satisfactory examination, a Master Mason certificate from Grand Lodge. The Lodge shall make application for this certificate on the form provided, immediately the Master Mason degree has been conferred. The Master or Secretary shall require the member to sign his name in the margin of the certificate on its delivery to him.

**R-341** A member who seeks membership in another Lodge without demitting must apply for a certificate of standing from the Secretary of the Lodge of which he is a member.

**R-342** *A Lodge may by ballot, confer honorary membership for merit on any Master Mason in good standing in any other Lodge. A resolution for that purpose must be submitted as a notice of motion and must appear in that form in the summons calling the meeting at which the vote is to be taken. The provisions of this Constitution with respect to the ballot for membership shall be observed in dealing with the resolution. If the ballot is unfavourable, notation to this effect shall be made in the minutes but no other notice or notation shall be given or made.*

**R-343** *The returns to Grand Lodge shall include names of the honorary members. Where an honorary member is a member of a Lodge outside of this jurisdiction the fees payable to Grand Lodge shall be the same as for other members. Where the honorary member is a member of another Lodge within this jurisdiction, no additional fees are payable. Where an honorary member ceases to be a member of another Lodge within this jurisdiction, the fees payable to Grand Lodge shall be the same as for other members.*

**R-344** *A Lodge may confer life membership on any of its members who are Master Masons in accordance with the provisions of its bylaws.*

**R-345** *The certificates of life and of honorary membership shall be on forms prescribed by the Board.*

**R-346** *A Lodge receiving into membership a life member of another Lodge must pay the same fees to Grand Lodge on his account as it does for all other members. However, if the Charter of such Lodge was lapsed, surrendered, arrested or revoked, the sub-Committee on Benevolence, on receipt of a written request, may approve and thereafter pay the annual Grand Lodge fees for said life member.*

**R-347** *Life and honorary members shall enjoy the same privileges and be subject to the same measures of discipline as other members.*

**R-347.1** *When the Charter of a Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba is surrendered or revoked, a member of that Lodge, who holds the rank of Honorary Membership in another Lodge within the jurisdiction may, when so requested and with the approval of the Worshipful Master, be re-classified and accepted as and Affiliated Member of the Lodge, thereby foregoing the requirements of having to file a Petition for Affiliation as normally required by the Constitution of Grand Lodge.*

## **AFFILIATION WITH A LODGE**

**R-348** *A petitioner for affiliation shall present at a regular meeting of a Lodge, a petition on a form prescribed by the Board. The petitioner shall be a Master Mason, or if he be an Entered Apprentice or a Fellow Craft, the Lodge shall obtain a dispensation authorizing it to receive the petition. The petition shall state the Lodge or Lodges of which the petitioner is a member or from which he obtained a demit or certificate of standing. The petitioner shall sign his full name to the petition and it shall be endorsed in writing by two members of the Lodge who are Master Masons.*

**R-348.1** *The residence qualification required for a petitioner for initiation does not apply to a petitioner for affiliation.*



**R-349** *When a petition for affiliation is based upon a certificate of standing or a demit issued by a Lodge not under the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge, the special Committee of Enquiry shall not make its report nor shall any ballot be taken on such petition for affiliation, until such demit or certificate of standing has been submitted to, and approved by the Grand Secretary.*

**R-350** *When a petition for affiliation is received by the Lodge, it shall be referred to a special Committee of Enquiry, appointed by the Master, comprising three or more members of the Lodge other than those who endorsed the petition. The provisions of Articles R-324 and R-325 pertaining to the Official Circular will apply. The committee, in addition to any other investigation it may make, shall satisfy itself that the petitioner:*

- (a) Is of good moral character, and professes a belief in a Supreme Being.*
- (b) Is able to read and write the English language.*
- (c) Is in financial circumstances that give reasonable assurance that he is able to continue membership, without inconvenience to those who may be dependent upon him.*

**R-351** *A petitioner whose petition for affiliation has been accepted by a favourable ballot, shall, at the first meeting at which he is present after being elected to membership, sign the bylaws of the Lodge, a copy of which, together with a copy of this Constitution shall then be presented to him, and at the same time, the Penalty for Indiscretion, as approved and published in the Folio of Directives, shall be read to him so that every brother is aware of its contents.*

**R-352** *The rejection of a petition for affiliation shall be noted in a book kept by the Lodge for that purpose, and shall be recorded in the minutes.*

## **OFFICERS OF A LODGE**

**R-353** *The officers of a Lodge are the Master, Immediate Past Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer (or Secretary/Treasurer), Secretary (or Secretary/Treasurer), Chaplain, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Director of Ceremonies, Senior Steward, Junior Steward, Organist, Inner Guard, and Tyler.*

**R-354** *All officers shall be Master Masons in good standing and with the exception of the Tyler and Organist, they must be members of the Lodge.*

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF A LODGE**

**R-355** *The Master, Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, or Secretary/Treasurer and Tyler shall be elected in accordance with the Bylaws of the Lodge at the regular meeting of the Lodge either in April or November from the candidates nominated for those respective offices. The selection shall be made by secret ballot*

**R-355.1** *If only one member is nominated for election to an office, he shall be declared elected without a ballot.*

**R-355.2** *If a ballot is required, the procedures in regard to the election and the counting of ballots shall correspond with the procedures for the election of a member to an elective office in Grand Lodge.*

**R-355.3** *The candidate receiving the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected.*

**R-356** *A member shall not hold more than one office in a Lodge at any time, except where the Lodge adopts the office of Secretary/Treasurer.*

**R-357** *A member must have been regularly elected and invested as Warden to be eligible for election to the office of Master. Any member in good standing who has the rank of Master Mason, and whose dues for the current year have been paid, shall be eligible for any office except that of Master.*

**R-358** *If a Lodge shall have failed to elect its officers at the regularly designated meeting, or if a vacancy occurs in the office of any elective officer, the Grand Master may issue a dispensation to hold an election. The intention to hold an election under this dispensation must be stated in the summons calling the meeting.*

**R-359** *Any officer of a Lodge, except the Master, may resign or be removed from office for cause deemed sufficient by the Lodge. Removal for cause shall be effected by a resolution passed at any regular meeting of the Lodge by a majority vote of the members then present. The Master may appoint a Past Master of the Lodge to fill a vacancy in an elective office and any member of the Lodge to fill a vacancy in an appointive office. The Lodge may by resolution apply to the Grand Master for a dispensation to elect and invest any member of the Lodge to fill a vacancy in an elective office for the unexpired term thereof.*

**R-360** *The Master elected shall be installed and the officers elected shall be invested in person at the next regular meeting of the Lodge, or at an Emergent Meeting called in commemoration of St. John, the Evangelist or St. John, the Baptist. They shall hold office until their successors have been elected and installed or elected and invested.*

**R-361** *All the other officers, except the immediate Past Master, shall be appointed by the Master after he has been elected, unless the bylaws of the Lodge require the election of any of them by ballot. The appointed officers shall be invested at the meeting at which the elected officers are invested.*

**C-362** *That portion of the ceremony of Installation of the Master Elect of a constituent Lodge, referred to as the "Board of Installed Masters" shall be conducted only in the presence of Installed Masters and is beyond the power of dispensation of the Grand Master. The remainder of the ceremony of installing and investing the elected and appointed Lodge Officers may, with dispensation, be conducted in public.*

## DUTIES OF OFFICERS OF A LODGE

### Duties of a Master

**R-363** It shall be the duty of the Master:

- (a) To control and direct the activities of the Lodge and its officers.
- (b) To convene the Lodge and to preside at its meetings.
- (c) To confer or exemplify or arrange with a Past Master to confer or exemplify the degree of Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft or Master Mason. No degree shall be conferred or exemplified by any person who is not a Worshipful Master or Past Master.
- (d) To require that the provisions of this Constitution, the regulations of Grand Lodge and the bylaws of the Lodge be observed.
- (e) To have custody of the Charter, books, documents, papers, furniture and regalia of the Lodge, to maintain them in good condition and order, and to produce them on the order of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master, the District Deputy Grand Master, or the Board.
- (f) In the absence or disability of the Treasurer or of the Secretary, the Master shall sign cheques of the Lodge, provided always that all cheques of the Lodge shall be signed by at least two of these three officers.

### Duties of Wardens

**R-364** The Wardens shall assist the Master in conducting the affairs of the Lodge.

**R-365** If the Master is absent, the Senior Warden or in his absence, the Junior Warden may preside and have the powers and perform the duties of the Master except in the conferring of degrees. When presiding, the Senior or Junior Warden, as the case may be, shall take his seat in front of the Master's Chair.

**R-366** If the Master and both Wardens are absent, a Past Master shall preside.

**R-367** If the Master dies, is removed from office, or becomes incapable of discharging his duties, the Senior Warden, or in his absence, the Junior Warden, or a Past Master appointed by the Lodge for that purpose, shall convene the Lodge until the next installation of officers.

### Duties of Treasurer

**R-368** It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to sign all cheques of the Lodge and to perform any other duty that may be assigned to him by the bylaws of the Lodge.

### Duties of Secretary

**R-369** It shall be the duty of the Secretary, or such other member(s) as shall be delegated by the Master:

- (a) To issue, under the direction of the Master, the summons for each meeting. It shall be prepared under the direction of the Master, and shall contain a summary of the business that is to come before the meeting. Notices of

motion must be set forth in full. The summons shall be sent to all members of the Lodge, the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, the District Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Secretary, and the chairman of the Committee on Condition of Freemasonry.

- (b)** To attend the meetings of the Lodge and make a record of its proceedings.
- (c)** To conduct the correspondence of the Lodge and file copies in a form convenient for reference.
- (d)** To collect all moneys due to the Lodge and deposit them at least once a month to the credit of an account in the name of the Lodge, in a chartered bank, credit union, or trust company selected by it.
- (e)** To issue a receipt to a member upon payment of his dues, on a form prescribed by the Lodge.
- (f)** To issue and sign cheques on the order of the Master in payment of accounts passed by the Lodge.
- (g)** To have the custody of the Official Seal of the Lodge, and to send an impression of it to the Grand Secretary.
- (h)** To notify by letter, every petitioner for membership of the acceptance, withdrawal or rejection of his petition.
- (i)** (repealed 2016/04/15)
- (j)** To transmit to the Grand Secretary immediately after the election and installation of officers, a certificate in the form prescribed by Grand Lodge.
- (k)** To notify promptly, the Grand Secretary of any rejections, suspensions or restorations.
- (l)** To produce any books, papers or documents of the Lodge, not being held in the Manitoba Masonic Archives, when required by the Grand Master, District Deputy Grand Master or the Master. Any books, papers or documents of the Lodge that are more than ten years old may be transferred to the Manitoba Masonic Archives for safe keeping, at the discretion of the Master, and subject to acceptance by the Manitoba Masonic Archives.
- (m)** To remit to Grand Lodge within the required time, all fees and any other amounts due by the Lodge to Grand Lodge.
- (n)** To affix the Seal of the Lodge to the bylaws and all other Lodge documents.
- (o)** To issue to each life member not later than the 15th day of January in each year, a visiting certificate on the form prescribed by the Board.
- (p)** To keep in a form prescribed by the Board, the following:
  - (i)** A minute book, in which he shall record the proceedings of the Lodge.
  - (ii)** A book of bylaws in which he shall secure the signature of every member at the time of admission.
  - (iii)** A historical register in the form prescribed by the Board.
  - (iv)** A book in which he shall record full names of all members who have been suspended, expelled or restored, and of all persons whose petitions have been rejected. He shall also record there, the names of all persons whose petitions have been withdrawn and shall state briefly the reasons.
  - (v)** An attendance register.
  - (vi)** All necessary books of account.
- (q)** To maintain and keep up to date the folio of directives and administrative instructions received from the Grand Secretary and to submit this to the Master for his perusal on installation.

- (r) To read in Lodge and to note in the minutes, at the first regular meeting after its receipt, every official communication from the Grand Master, the Grand Secretary, the District Deputy Grand Master, the Board, or any of its committees.
- (s) If the duties of the Secretary and Treasurer are combined under one office, being that of Secretary/Treasurer, then the duties of the Treasurer as defined in Section R-368 and the duties of the Secretary as defined in Section R-369 shall apply to the office of Secretary/ Treasurer.
- (t) When a member of the Lodge dies, the following information is to be forwarded to the Grand Chaplain through the Grand Secretary's office immediately after being notified of the death: Name in full, Address, Lodge name and number, Masonic rank of the deceased, Name of next of kin and Address (if different from that of deceased). This information can be forwarded by mail, telephone, facsimile or e-mail

### **Other Officers**

**R-370** The duties of the other officers of the Lodge are defined in the Ceremonials and may be further set forth in the bylaws of the Lodge.

### **MEETINGS OF A LODGE**

**R-371** The day and hour of the meetings of a Lodge shall be stated in its bylaws, provided that the Grand Master may, for reasons deemed sufficient, grant a dispensation to alter temporarily, the day, hour, and/or place of such regular meeting.

**R-371.1** The Charter of the Lodge shall be deemed to include any changes in the day, hour, and/or place of meeting made under this Constitution to the same extent as if they had originally been contained therein.

**R-372** A dispensation shall be required for all emergent meetings held for any purpose other than for the conferring of degrees or participation in funeral services.

**R-373** A written summons for a meeting, regular or emergent, containing a statement of the business to be considered thereat, shall be sent by first class mail, electronic mail or facsimile transmission or delivered to each member in a sealed envelope, at least seven days before the date of meeting except in the case of funeral emergent meetings. The attendance of at least seven members shall be necessary for the consideration of business or the conferring of degrees.

**R-374** A majority vote of the members present shall be required to pass a motion at a Lodge meeting. The Master or presiding officer, when the vote is called, may vote or abstain from voting in his absolute discretion; and in the event he has elected to abstain, he shall not vote subsequently to break a tie. In the event of a tie vote, the Master or presiding officer shall declare the motion lost.

**R-375** A meeting shall not be adjourned to another day.

**R-376** All business of the Lodge, except the conferring of degrees, shall be done in the Master Mason degree unless an Entered Apprentice or a Fellow Craft member desires to attend, in which event the Lodge may open in the Entered Apprentice Degree to conduct the business. This section shall not affect Lodges whose bylaws prior to January 1, 1976 authorized them to transact their business in the Entered Apprentice degree.

**R-377** All meetings of the Lodge shall be held at the place and in the premises designated by the Board. No change shall be made unless authorized by a resolution of the Lodge, passed at a regular meeting of the Lodge by the votes of not less than two-thirds of the members present at such meeting. No such resolution shall be proposed unless at least one month's previous notice shall have been given to the members of the Lodge. No such resolution shall have any effect or be acted upon until the same has been approved by the District Deputy Grand Master and by the Board save that the Grand Master may for causes deemed by him sufficient, grant a dispensation for a temporary change in the place of meeting of the Lodge.

## **LODGE DEGREES**

**R-378** An Entered Apprentice may not receive the Fellow Craft degree, nor may a Fellow Craft receive the Master Mason degree before the expiration of four weeks from the date of his receiving the previous degree. Before he receives the Fellow Craft or Master Mason degree, he shall give satisfactory proof to the Lodge of his proficiency in the degree or degrees already conferred on him. These restrictions may be waived in exceptional circumstances, but only after a dispensation for the purpose has been obtained from the Grand Master.

**R-379** A Lodge may confer the Entered Apprentice degree on not more than five candidates in one day.

**R-380** A Lodge may request another Lodge to confer the Fellow Craft degree on an Entered Apprentice or the Master Mason degree on a Fellow Craft. Such other Lodge shall not require a petition or ballot, but it must be satisfied regarding the qualifications of the candidate and may make an investigation for that purpose. The request shall be transmitted through the office of the Grand Secretary.

**R-381** If a Lodge in which a member has received the Entered Apprentice degree, or the Fellow Craft degree, or both of them, goes out of existence, he may make application, through the office of the Grand Secretary, to have the remaining degree or degrees conferred on him by another Lodge.

**R-382** Objection may be made by any Master Mason to a petitioner for degrees after his petition has been accepted, and before he is initiated. Similarly it may be made before he proceeds to either of the other degrees. Every such objection shall be referred to a committee for investigation and its report shall be presented at the next regular meeting of the Lodge, unless an extension of time be given by the Master of the Lodge. If the committee or a majority of it find that the objection is sustained, a vote of two-thirds of the members present shall be required to enable the petitioner to receive the degree or degrees. If he be prevented by the operation of this section from receiving the Entered Apprentice degree, the master shall declare his petition rejected and direct that any fee paid by him be refunded. If he has received

the Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft degree, the subsequent procedure may be that which is prescribed for trials by the Board, and he may be put upon his trial accordingly.

## **VISITORS**

**R-383** Every visitor to a Lodge shall be either vouched for by a member in good standing of a Lodge in this jurisdiction present at the meeting, or satisfactorily pass an examination at the hands of two well skilled members appointed by the Master for that purpose, of whom at least one shall be a Past Master.

**R-383.1** If required to pass an examination, the visitor must produce an official Lodge receipt showing his membership dues fully paid for the then current or last preceding year, a life member's certificate, a demit or a certificate of standing bearing a date of issue not more than one year prior to the date of such visit, or other acceptable evidence of membership. Following a satisfactory examination, he shall then be required to write his name, rank and address with the name and number of the Lodge from which he hails, in the visitors' register of the Lodge.

**R-384** An objection, raised by a member present, to the admission of a visitor, shall debar him from entering the Lodge.

## **AMALGAMATION OF LODGES**

**C-385** Two or more Lodges may amalgamate under one Charter pursuant to the regulations.

**R-385** The Lodges desiring to amalgamate shall prepare a joint proposal in writing, setting forth the terms of the proposed amalgamation.

- (a)** Each Lodge shall obtain from the District Deputy Grand Master of the Masonic District in which it is situated, a certificate of his approval of the terms of the proposed amalgamation.
- (b)** Each Lodge shall adopt a resolution authorizing a petition for amalgamation upon the terms set forth in the joint proposal which resolution shall be passed by the affirmative vote of at least three-fourths of the members present at a regular meeting of the Lodge held pursuant to a summons that shall include notice of intention to present such resolution.
- (c)** Each Lodge shall forward to the Grand Secretary, a petition for amalgamation under the Seal of the Lodge, setting forth the terms of the proposed amalgamation and accompanied by a certified copy of the authorizing resolution and the certificate of approval of the District Deputy Grand Master.
- (d)** The Grand Secretary shall refer the petitions for amalgamation to the Board for consideration. The Board by a majority vote may approve the petitions as presented or approve the petitions upon conditions to be accepted by the Lodges or reject the petitions.
- (e)** The approved amalgamation shall become effective on a date determined by the Grand Master, and shall be completed on the self same day by a Ceremony of Amalgamation conducted by or under the authority of the Grand Master.

- (f) The Grand Secretary shall report to the next Annual Communication the petitions for amalgamation as approved by the Board.
- (g) The Charter and Seal of each petitioning Lodge shall be surrendered to the Grand Secretary prior to the ceremony of completion of the amalgamation. A

new Charter shall be issued to the amalgamated Lodge bearing the date of the ceremony of completion or if the amalgamated Lodge has been given the name and number of one of the petitioning Lodges, the Charter of such Lodge, endorsed appropriately under the Seal of Grand Lodge as of the date of such ceremony shall be issued to the amalgamated Lodge.

## **CHARTERS AND DISPENSATIONS**

**C-386** A Lodge may, by resolution, ask permission to surrender its Charter or dispensation.

**R-386** Notice of this resolution must have been given at a regular meeting, and must appear in the summons for the meeting at which it is proposed to take action. The resolution must be supported by at least three-fourths of the members present when the vote is taken, before the Master can declare its adoption. The assent of Grand Lodge shall be required before the surrender of a Charter shall be considered final. The assent of the Grand Master shall be sufficient in the case of a dispensation.

**C-387** The Charter or dispensation of a Lodge shall lapse when there are fewer than seven members in good standing who are Master Masons.

**C-388** The Grand Master may arrest the Charter of a Lodge after investigating any charges preferred against it. He shall submit a report of his investigations to the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.

**R-388** The offenses that render a Lodge liable to have its Charter arrested or revoked are:

- (a) Disobeying any provisions of this Constitution or any regulation or directive of Grand Lodge.
- (b) Disregarding the authority of the Grand Master.
- (c) Receiving unworthy applicants
- (d) Refusing or neglecting to enforce discipline upon its members.
- (e) Failing to meet during a period of six consecutive months.
- (f) Any act or attitude which has a tendency to bring discredit to the Craft.
- (g) Attempting to dispose of the Charter by any means other than through the regular channel of surrender to Grand Lodge.

**C-389** Grand Lodge may arrest or revoke the Charter of any Lodge found guilty of any of the offenses enumerated in the preceding section.

**C-390** The Charter of a Lodge shall not be arrested or revoked until after the Master, or in his absence, the Wardens, shall have been summoned to answer the charges against it.

**C-391** The action of Grand Lodge in assenting to the surrender of or in revoking a Charter, shall be final with regard to the Lodge and its members and the authority granted by the Charter shall revert to Grand Lodge. All property and assets of the Lodge, including the



records, funds, jewels, furniture, regalia and unpaid dues, shall be vested in Grand Lodge forthwith on the lapse, surrender or revocation of the Charter of the Lodge.

## **LODGE FEES AND DUES**

**R-392** After notice of motion has been duly given, a Lodge shall either by bylaw or by resolution, fix the amount payable by the petitioner as a fee for the degrees. In no case shall the amount be less than Seventy-Five Dollars. The whole fee shall be paid before the petitioner receives the Entered Apprentice Degree.

**R-392.1** Every petitioner for initiation into the Lodge shall make a contribution of Twenty-Five Dollars toward the cost of the presently existing permanent facilities of Grand Lodge. This amount is included in the initiation fee prescribed by this Constitution, and shall be remitted forthwith by the Lodge to the Grand Secretary for transfer to the Capital Account of Masonic Memorial Temple Ltd.

**R-392.2** Notification of changes in fees determined by resolution of the Lodge shall be provided to the Grand Secretary upon enactment.

**R-393** After notice of motion has been duly given, a Lodge shall either by bylaw or by resolution, fix the amount of the annual dues payable by its members. The Lodge may by resolution at a regular meeting waive the dues of any member.

**R-393.1** The proportion of the dues for the current year payable by a new member elected to receive the degrees, shall be calculated by such method as shall be stated in the bylaws of the Lodge, from the time the Entered Apprentice degree is conferred on him, and the proportion payable by a new member elected by affiliation shall be similarly calculated from the time of his election.

**R-393.2** Notification of changes in dues determined by resolution of the Lodge shall be provided to the Grand Secretary upon enactment.

## **SUSPENSION FOR NONPAYMENT OF DUES**

**R-394** Annual dues are payable in advance as of the first day of January in each year. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of each constituent Lodge each year before March 31st to send a special notice to all members who at the time are indebted to the Lodge for the current year's dues.

**R-394.1** This notice shall be sent on a form for such purpose obtainable from the Grand Secretary.

**R-394.2** The member in arrears shall be therein advised that unless full payment is made no later than the 30th of April thereafter, he shall be deemed suspended ipso facto, as of that date. The Lodge shall cause an enquiry to be made into the reason for nonpayment of dues.

**R-394.3** Suspension as aforesaid shall take effect notwithstanding failure to send out the notice referred to in this section.

**R-394.4** It is however provided that, following a recommendation in writing signed by any three of the following officers of the Lodge; the Master, the Wardens, the Treasurer, the Secretary or the Secretary/Treasurer, submitted at any regular meeting of the Lodge prior to the suspension of a member, the dues of any member may be waived by a vote of the majority of members present at any regular meeting of the Lodge. Such waiver shall be deemed payment on account of such dues.

**R-394.5** Where an investigation is conducted by any three of the officers referred to in subsection R-394.4 and they find that the member is in arrears by reason of financial hardship or for just cause, and the member's dues have been waived as provided for, the Lodge secretary shall report such waiver and the reason therefore to the Grand Secretary. Such waivers will be anonymously reported to the Finance Committee and the Board and written off as non-recoverable. (Amended 2024/04/19)

**R-395** In the event of suspension of any member for nonpayment of dues, it shall be the duty of the Secretary before the 15th day of May thereafter, to notify the suspended member by letter of his suspension mailed to his last known address and to any known e-mail address(es) of the suspended member (amended 2016/01/15). The names of all members so suspended shall be read in open Lodge at the first regular meeting in May.

**R-395.1** Any member so suspended, may at any time within 12 months from the date of his suspension, pay his arrears and then current dues to the secretary, who shall make a report thereof to the Lodge, and thereupon the Master shall declare him restored to good standing.

**R-395.2** Restoration after the expiration of 12 months from the date of suspension or in the event of a second or subsequent suspension may be made only by the Lodge. The petition for restoration must be accompanied by the amount of the arrears and current year's dues, and the provisions with regard to the petition for initiation providing for a special Committee of Enquiry and for a vote by ballot shall be observed. If restoration is refused the amount so tendered shall be returned to the petitioner.

**R-396** Suspension for nonpayment of dues or for any other reason shall involve the loss of all the rights, privileges, and benefits of the Craft, including membership in any other Lodge or Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction.

**R-397** No payment of dues to the Lodge or to Grand Lodge shall be required for the period of suspension.

**R-398** An historical Lodge may be formed for the purpose of perpetuating a previously chartered Lodge whose Charter has been surrendered and/or whose building has historical significance. Terms and conditions of an historical Lodge shall be determined by guidelines approved by the Grand Master.

**R-399** A Research Lodge or an Affinity Lodge may be formed in accordance with R-339.1 and R-339.2 (Amended 2023/4/26)

**R-399.1** A Research Lodge may be formed under the following criteria:

- (a) A Research Lodge may be formed for the purpose of conducting research into any and all aspects of ancient Craft Freemasonry.
- (b) The institution and chartering of a Research Lodge shall be conducted according to the procedures outlined in the Constitution for regularly constituted Lodges.
- (c) Only Master Masons in good standing in a Lodge in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba are eligible for membership in a research Lodge. No ballot shall be required for membership.
- (d) The Worshipful Master of a Research Lodge shall hold the rank of Past Master in a regular Lodge. Wardens must have occupied the office of a Warden in a regular Lodge.
- (e) Research Lodges do not have the authority to initiate, pass or raise candidates, but when tyled may exemplify parts or all of any of the established degrees.
- (f) Notwithstanding Regulation R-373, the Lodge may receive and consider research reports when fewer than seven members of the Lodge are present.
- (g) A research Lodge is exempt from the annual per capita fee on its members.  
(Amended 2023/4/26)

**R-399.2** An Affinity Lodge may be formed under the following criteria:

- (a) An Affinity Lodge may be formed for the purpose of operating with brethren of a shared affinity. (i.e., a Police Lodge, Motorcycle Lodge, Classic Car Lodge, etc.)
- (b) The institution and chartering of an Affinity Lodge shall be conducted according to the procedures outlined in the Constitution for regularly constituted Lodges.
- (c) Only Master Masons in good standing in a Regular Lodge in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba are eligible for membership in an Affinity Lodge. No ballot shall be required for membership.
- (d) The Worshipful Master of an Affinity Lodge shall hold the rank of Past Master in a Regular Lodge. Wardens must have occupied the office of Warden in a regular lodge
- (e) Affinity Lodges do not have the authority to initiate, pass or raise candidates, but when tyled may exemplify parts or all of any of the established degrees.
- (f) An Affinity Lodge is exempt from the annual per capita fee on its members  
(Added 2023/4/26)

## **PART IV**

### **GENERAL**

#### **Prohibitions**

**C-400** In all proceedings of the Grand Lodge, its officers and committees, which may affect the status of a Mason or a Lodge, the rules of Natural Justice and Procedural Fairness shall be followed. (added 2018/06/02)

**R-400** *Neither a Lodge nor any member thereof shall give a letter of recommendation to a Freemason for the purpose of assisting or enabling him to solicit assistance from a Lodge or from members.*

**R-401** *No member shall disclose any of the proceedings or business of Grand Lodge or a Lodge which should not be made known to anyone not a Mason.*

#### **Appeals**

**C-402** 1) Every Lodge in the Grand Lodge of Manitoba or any member thereof who is personally and specifically affected by any ruling, decision or action of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Board of General Purposes, or any Committee thereof in which that Lodge or member is specifically named shall be duly and promptly served with notice of such ruling, decision or action, and,

2) other than the decision of a Masonic Trial Commission on a charge of a Masonic Offence, such Lodge or member may appeal therefrom to the annual communication of Grand Lodge by giving notice of such appeal within thirty days of receipt of notice of the ruling, decision or action appealed from, provided that if the notice of such appeal is given within thirty days of the next annual communication, it shall be postponed to the following annual communication, and,

3) the accuser or the accused person may appeal from the decision of a Masonic Trial Commission to the Board of General Purposes by giving notice within thirty days of receipt of the Report of the Trial Commission.

4) an appeal shall be decided by a majority vote of the Grand Lodge or the Board of General Purposes then present hearing the appeal, as the case may be.

(amended 2019/06/08)

**C-403** The filing of an appeal shall not relieve the Lodge or member affected from the ruling, decision or action pending the decision of the appeal. (amended 2019/06/08)

**C-404** Where there is an appeal of a decision of a Masonic Trial Commission, no member of a Commission sitting on the trial of the matter shall vote, make representation, answer inquiry or otherwise take part in such appeal, but members of such Commission may attend as observers at such appeal. (amended 2019/06/08)

**C-405** The appeal decision of the Grand Lodge, or the appeal decision of the Board of General Purposes hearing an appeal from a Masonic Trial Commission, as the case may be, shall be final and no further challenge of such appeal decision shall be available. (amended 2019/06/08)

**C-406** Where an appeal is made which results in the removal or cancellation of a determination or punishment made or imposed on the first consideration of the matter, the Lodge or member of a Lodge affected by such determination or punishment shall be restored to all the rights, responsibilities, privileges and benefits of the Craft enjoyed by it, him or them immediately preceding such determination or punishment. (amended 2019/06/08)

### **Masonic Discipline Commission**

**C-407** The Grand Master may appoint one or more Masonic Discipline Commissions comprising such Masons as he shall select and having jurisdiction over the members of such Lodges as he shall name in his appointment. The purpose of each Commission shall be to consider, arbitrate, and reconcile so far as possible, all complaints received by it with respect to the conduct of any Mason that is deemed by the complainant to have a tendency to disturb the harmony of a Lodge or the fraternal feeling that should exist between Masons. Each Commission shall establish such procedures as it shall deem suitable to accomplish its purpose and shall report promptly to the Grand Master upon its activities with such recommendations relating thereto as it shall deem appropriate. The term of office of each Commission shall expire upon the closing of the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge following its appointment and upon the completion of all matters referred to it.

### **Masonic Offenses and Trials**

**C-408** A charge of a Masonic offence may be laid by any Lodge or member thereof. The Grand Master may direct the laying of a charge against any Mason within the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge. (amended 2017/06/03)

**R-408** The following are Masonic offences:

- (a) *The promotion of or adherence to atheism* (amended 2020/03/06)
- (b) *Contempt of God or religion* (amended 2020/03/06)
- (c) *Violation of any Masonic obligation or landmark*
- (d) *Violation of the secrecy of the ballot*
- (e) *Violation of any portion of the Constitution, laws, edicts, rules, or regulations of Grand Lodge*
- (f) *Violation of any of the bylaws of a Lodge by a member thereof*
- (g) *Contemptuous expressions regarding Masonry*
- (h) *Disobedience of or disrespect for Masonic authority*
- (i) *Masonic communion with a clandestine Mason or irregular Lodge*
- (j) *Undue solicitation of candidates for Masonry*
- (k) *Wronging a Mason, a Lodge, or another person by theft or fraud* (amended 2020/03/06)
- (l) *Sexual conduct which degrades or exploits another person* (amended 2020/03/06)
- (m) *Cruelty to a spouse or child* (amended 2020/03/06)
- (n) *Addictive behavior which degrades or is injurious to the individual, his family or Freemasonry* (amended 2020/03/06)

- (o) *Committing an assault, or intentionally inflicting physical injury or other substantial harm to another person* (amended 2020/03/06)
- (p) *Using a Masonic emblem as a trademark, business sign, or in commercial advertising or any improper purpose* (2020/03/06)
- (q) *Conviction for a Criminal offence involving conduct which is contrary to the accepted morality of the Masonic Community because it is inherently base, vile, depraved, reprehensible or intrinsically wrong* (2020/03/06)
- (r) *Providing a copy of the Work or part thereof to anyone not a Mason*
- (s) *Any act or attitude which may have a tendency to bring substantial discredit to the Craft or harm to another Mason* (amended 2020/03/06)
- (t) *Failure to comply with conditions imposed in relation to a sentence for a Masonic offence.* (amended 2018/01/19)

**C-409.** The Grand Master, or if he is the accuser or the accused, the Deputy Grand Master shall appoint a Trial Commission of not less than three and not more than seven members of Grand Lodge with original jurisdiction to try any charge of a Masonic offence and if the accused brother is found guilty, to sentence him. (amended 2017/06/03)

**C-410** The Trial Commission shall consist exclusively of Past Masters, excluding any person who is a potential witness in the matter, any person with a close connection to the accused or accuser, the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Secretary and Grand Wardens. (added 2018/06/02)

**R-411** *A charge of a Masonic offence shall be made in writing, signed by the accuser and shall state the name, Lodge affiliation and place of residence of the accused, together with particulars of the alleged offence including the time and place of its commission.* (amended 2018/01/19)

**R-412** . *Upon receiving a charge of a Masonic Offence, the Grand Secretary shall request the appointment of a Trial Commission and, when it is appointed, forward the charge to its chairman.* (amended 2018/01/19)

**R-413** *The Commission shall review the form of the charge and is empowered to authorize amendments to be made thereto by the accuser. The Commission shall consider the nature of the evidence it anticipates will be offered in support of the charge and shall thereupon fix the time and place of the trial.* (amended 2018/01/19)

**R-414** *A copy of the charge shall be included in a notification to the accused of the time and place fixed for the trial and service thereof shall be made upon the accused at least 14 days prior to the time of the trial. If the Commission considers the accused should have additional time to provide a reasonable opportunity to prepare his defense to the charge, it shall decide what longer period shall elapse between the date of making service of the notification upon the accused and the time of the trial.*

**R-415** *Service of the notification shall be made upon the accused personally or by registered mail addressed to his place of residence as stated in the charge with the return address of the Grand Secretary being placed on the mailing envelope provided that service by registered mail shall be deemed to have been made upon the expiry of 14 days from the date of mailing if the envelope has not been returned within that time.*

**R-415.1** *The accuser or his representative and the accused or his representative shall meet prior to any hearing to determine whether any issues of fact or jurisprudence which might arise in the case may be resolved by agreement, and to record any such agreements and submit them to the Trial Commission before the hearing. The Trial Commission shall not be bound by such agreements but shall give them substantial weight.*” (added 2018/09/21)

**R-416** *The trial shall proceed under the control of the Trial Commission with due expedition consistent with full justice being done to both the accuser and the accused. The accuser and the accused may be represented by counsel who must be Masons in good standing and who are entitled to examine and cross-examine witnesses, to address the commission and present arguments and submissions regarding sentence thereto. Witnesses who are Masons shall give their testimony on their honour as Masons and other witnesses shall solemnly pledge themselves to state the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. Certified copies of records from a Court of competent jurisdiction may be accepted as evidence. The testimony of any witness who is unable to attend the trial may be presented in the form of a sworn declaration. The commission may record the evidence offered to it in such manner and to such extent as it deems adequate for its purposes.*

**R-416.1** *The Trial Commission may at any time refer the matter to a Masonic Discipline Commission. If the Masonic Discipline Commission is unable to resolve the matter, it shall be returned to the Trial Commission for resolution.* (added 2018/01/19)

**R-417** *The chairman of the Commission shall decide all questions as to the relevance of testimony or argument and as to the regularity of the proceedings. He shall be guided in his decisions by the rules respecting evidence in courts of law with full power to abrogate any of these rules as to quality, form or time in the interest of equity and justice between the accuser and the accused. Decisions of the chairman shall be entered upon the record of the trial.*

**R-418** *If the accused pleads guilty to the charge, the plea shall be accepted as proof of the offence alleged without the presentation of evidence. If the accused fails to appear at the trial, the Commission may proceed in his absence and conduct the proceedings to their conclusion.*

**R-419** *The Trial Commission shall as soon as reasonably practical make a written report which shall include a summary of the evidence received by it, all rulings on evidence and procedure made by the commission, the findings of fact made by the Commission, and their reasons for so finding, the decision of the Commission as to whether the charge was sustained, and if it is sustained, their sentence and their reasons for imposing it. A copy of this report shall be delivered by the Grand Secretary as soon as practical to the Board of General Purposes and the accused and the accuser. This report shall form the record of the matters dealt with by the Trial Commission in the event of an appeal.* (amended 2018/01/19)

**R-420** *An appeal from the judgment of a Trial Commission may be made by the accuser or by the accused to the Board of General Purposes. The appeal shall be made in writing signed by the appellant stating the reasons for appeal and shall be filed with the Grand Secretary. The appeal shall not relieve the offender from the judgment of the Trial Commission pending its hearing by the Board of General Purposes.* (amended 2018/09/21)

**R-421** *An accuser may appeal the decision of a Trial Commission only on the grounds that:*  
a) *procedural fairness was not followed;*  
b) *the Commission erred in its interpretation of the Constitution or Regulations;*

*An accused may appeal the decision of a Trial Commission only on the grounds that:*  
a) *procedural fairness was not followed;*  
b) *the Commission erred in its interpretation of the Constitution or Regulations;*  
c) *evidence not available at the time of the hearing which might affect the decision is now available;*  
d) *the sentence was too harsh or otherwise inappropriate.*

*The appeal shall specifically state the errors alleged. (amended 2018/01/19)*

**R-421.1** *The accuser or the accused person may appeal from the decision of a Masonic Trial Commission to the Board of General Purposes by notice to the Grand Secretary within thirty days of receipt of the Report of the Trial Commission, and shall be set down for the meeting of the Board of General Purposes first occurring thirty days or more after the filing of the appeal. (amended 2018/09/21)*

**R-422** *The Grand Secretary shall have copies of the report of the Trial Commission available for each member attending the meeting of the Board of General Purposes at which the appeal is set down. The appeal shall be decided by a majority vote of the members then present and this decision shall be final. (amended 2018/09/21)*

**R-422.1** *Where an appeal against the decision of a Trial Commission succeeds, the matter shall be referred to a new Trial Commission, containing no members of the previous Commission, who shall hear and adjudge the matter. (added 2018/01/19)*

**R-422.2** *On the hearing of an appeal from a Trial Commission, the accuser and the accused shall have the right to present, both personally and through counsel, who shall be a Master Mason in good standing, both written and oral argument, based upon the record, together with any and all other information and documentation as is relevant, but the appeal shall not be a rehearing of the evidence presented before the Trial Commission. (added 2018/09/21)*

**R-423** *Where the Trial Commission determines that a Masonic Offence has been committed, it may sentence the accused in any of the following ways:*  
a) *by Reprimand, administered in such form as the Commission shall determine;*  
b) *by Stripping the member of his Masonic Rank and the privileges which pertain to it;*  
c) *by Forbidding the member from taking a specific office in his Lodge or in Grand Lodge for a fixed period;*  
d) *by Depriving the member of membership in his Lodge, following consultation with that Lodge. The member shall have the same rights and privileges as a member who has been granted a demit, effective on the date of the Trial Commission's report, and may petition another Lodge for Affiliation.*  
e) *by Suspending the member for a fixed period not exceeding two years with or without reasonable conditions. During the period of suspension, he shall be deprived of all Masonic rights, privileges and benefits and shall not be a member in good standing. At the end of the fixed period he shall resume his membership in the Lodge or Lodges to which he belonged at the time he was suspended.*



*f) by Expelling him from the Craft. A member when expelled shall be deprived of all Masonic rights, privileges and benefits and shall not be a member in good standing. The Trial Commission may permit an expelled member to petition Grand Lodge for Restoration after the expiry of a period not less than two years and not more than five years which period shall be specified by the Trial Commission. (amended 2018/01/19)*

**R-424** *Where a member has been expelled and the Trial Commission has specified a period after which he may Petition the Grand Lodge for Restoration, and the required period has passed, he may present his Petition for Restoration to the Grand Secretary, who will refer it to the Board for investigation. The Petition and the report of the Board on its investigation, together with its recommendation if any shall be brought before the next Annual Communication where Restoration may be granted if approved by a majority of the members then present. If approved, the petitioner shall be free to petition any Lodge in the jurisdiction for Restoration or Affiliation and the Grand Secretary shall issue a certificate to that effect. (amended 2018/01/19)*

**R-425** *A Lodge shall not grant a demit to a member who has been charged with a Masonic offence pending the final disposition thereof and the completion of any sentence arising therefrom. The dues of any such member shall be waived during the period of his suspension or expulsion pursuant to any such sentence.*

## **REPEAL OF FORMER CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS AND REGULATIONS**

**C-426** All Constitutions, bylaws, rules, regulations, enactments, and legislation whatsoever made, passed, enacted or adopted at any time heretofore by Grand Lodge for the government of Lodges and Masons within its jurisdiction are hereby repealed and the provisions of this Constitution and amendments thereto are substituted in the place and stead thereof.

## **DECLATORY PROVISION**

**C-427** This Constitution having been adopted by the Grand Lodge and promulgated by the Grand Secretary, shall continue in effect subject only to any amendments, revisions, or repeal from time to time by Grand Lodge.

**PART V**  
**THE CHARGES**  
**of a**  
**FREEMASON**

*(Extracted from the ancient  
records of Lodges throughout  
the world)*

**FOR THE USE OF LODGES**

*To be Read at the Making  
of New Brethren, or When  
the Master shall order it*

Published by Order of the  
Grand Lodge of Manitoba

**THE GENERAL HEADINGS**  
of the  
**CHARGES OF A FREEMASON**

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- I Of God and Religion
- II Of the Civil Magistrate, supreme and subordinate
- III Of Lodges
- IV Of Masters, Wardens, Fellows, and Apprentices
- V Of the Management of the Craft in Working
- VI Of Behaviour, viz:
  - 1. In the Lodge while constituted
  - 2. After the Lodge is over and the brethren not gone
  - 3. When the brethren meet without strangers, but not in Lodge formed
  - 4. In the presence of strangers not Masons
  - 5. At home and in your neighbourhood
  - 6. Toward a strange brother
- VII Ancient Charges
  - To the Master-Elect

## THE CHARGES OF A FREEMASON etc.

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### I Concerning God and Religion

**A** Mason is obliged by his tenure to obey the moral law, and if he rightly understands the art he will never be a stupid atheist, nor an irreligious libertine. He, of all men, should best understand that God seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh to the outward appearance, but God looketh to the heart. A Mason is, therefore, particularly bound never to act against the dictates of his conscience. Let a man's religion, or mode of worship, be what it may, he is not excluded from the Order, provided he believes in the Architect of heaven and earth, and practices the sacred duties of morality. Masons unite with the virtuous of every persuasion, in the firm and pleasing bond of fraternal love, they are taught to view the errors of mankind with compassion, and to strive by the purity of their own conduct to demonstrate the superior excellence of the faith they may profess. Thus Masonry is the centre of union between good men and true, and the happy means of conciliating friendship amongst those who must otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance.

### II Of the Civil Magistrate, Supreme and Subordinate

**A** Mason is a peaceful subject to the civil powers wherever he resides or works, and is never to be concerned in plots or conspiracies against the peace or welfare of the nation, nor to behave himself undutifully to inferior magistrates. He is cheerfully to conform to every lawful authority; to uphold on every occasion the interest of the community, and zealously promote the prosperity of his own country. Masonry has ever flourished in times of peace, and been always injured by war, bloodshed and confusion, so that kings and princes in every age have been disposed to encourage the Craftsmen on account of their peaceableness and loyalty, whereby they practically answer the cavils of their adversaries, and promote the honour of the Fraternity. Craftsmen are bound by peculiar ties to promote peace, cultivate harmony, and to live in concord and brotherly love.

### III Of Lodges

**A** Lodge is a place where Freemasons assemble to work and to instruct and to improve themselves in the mysteries of their ancient science. In an extended sense, it applies to persons as well as to place; hence every regular assembly, or duly organized meeting of Masons is called a Lodge. Every brother ought to belong to some Lodge, and be subject to its bylaws and the general regulations of the Craft. A Lodge may be either general or particular, as will be best understood by attending it, and there a knowledge of the established usages and customs of the Craft may be acquired. From ancient times no Master or Fellow could be absent from his Lodge, especially when warned to appear at it, without incurring a severe censure; unless it appeared to the Master and Wardens that pure necessity hindered him.

The persons made Masons and admitted members of a Lodge must be good and true men, free born, and of a mature and discreet age and sound judgement, no bondsmen, no women, no immoral or scandalous men, but of good report.

### IV Of Masters, Wardens, Fellows and Apprentices

**A**ll preferment among Masons is grounded upon real worth and personal merit only, that so the lords may be well served, the brethren not put to shame, nor the royal Craft despised; therefore no Master or Warden is chosen by seniority, but for his merit. It is impossible to describe these things in writing, and therefore every brother must attend in his place and learn them in a way peculiar to this Fraternity. Candidates may, nevertheless, know that no Master should take an apprentice unless he is a perfect youth having no maim or defect in his body, that may render him incapable of learning the art, or serving his master's lord and of being made a brother and then a Fellowcraft in due time, after he has served such a term of years as the custom of the country directs; and that he should be descended of honest parents, that so when otherwise qualified, he may arrive to the honour of being a Warden, and then the Master of the Lodge, the Grand Warden, and at length the Grand Master of all the Lodges, according to his merit.

No brother can be a Warden until he has passed the part of a Fellowcraft, nor a Master until he has acted as a Warden, nor Grand Warden until he has been Master of a Lodge, nor Grand Master unless he has been a Fellowcraft before his election, who is also to be nobly born, or a gentleman of the best fashion, or some eminent scholar, or some curious architect, or other artist descended of honest parents, and who is of singularly great merit in the opinion of the Lodges.

These rulers and governors, supreme and subordinate, of the ancient Lodge, are to be obeyed in their respective stations by all the brethren, according to the old charges and regulations, with all humility, reverence, love and alacrity.

**NB** - In ancient times, no brother, however skilled in the Craft, was called a Master Mason until he had been elected into the chair of the Lodge.

### **V Of the Management of the Craft in Working**

**A**ll Masons should work honestly on working days, that they may live creditably on holy days; and the time appointed by the law of the land or confirmed by custom, shall be observed.

The most expert of the Fellowcraftsmen shall be chosen or appointed the Master, or overseer, of the lord's work, who is to be called Master by those that work under him. The Craftsmen are to avoid all ill language, and call each other by no disobliging name, but brother or fellow; and to behave themselves courteously within and without the Lodge.

The Master, knowing himself to be able of cunning, shall undertake the lord's work as reasonably as possible, and truly dispend his goods as if they were his own; nor give more wages to any brother or apprentice than he really may deserve.

Both the Master and the Mason receiving their wages justly shall be faithful to the lord and honestly finish their work, whether task or journey; nor put the work to task that hath been accustomed to journey.

None shall discover envy at the prosperity of a brother, nor supplant him nor put him out of his work if he is capable to finish the same; for no man can finish another's work so much to

the lord's profit, unless he be thoroughly acquainted with the designs and draughts of him that began it.

When the Fellowcraftsman is chosen Warden of the work under the Master, he shall be true to both Master and fellows, shall carefully oversee the work in the Master's absence, to the lord's profit; and his brethren shall obey him.

All Masons employed shall meekly receive their wages without murmuring or mutiny, and not desert the Master till the work be finished.

A younger brother shall be instructed in working to prevent spoiling the materials for want of judgment, and for increasing and continuing brotherly love.

All tools used in working shall be approved by the Grand Lodge.

No labourer shall be employed in the proper work of Masonry; nor shall Freemasons work with those who are not free, without an urgent necessity; nor shall they teach labourers or unaccepted Masons as they should teach a brother or a fellow.

## **VI Of Behaviour, viz:**

### *1. In the Lodge while Constituted*

**Y**ou are not to hold private committees or separate conversations without leave from the Master, nor to talk of anything impertinently, or unseemly, nor interrupt the Master or Wardens or any brother speaking to the Master; nor behave yourself ludicrously or jestingly while the Lodge is engaged in what is serious and solemn; nor use any unbecoming language upon any pretence whatsoever; but to pay due reverence to your Master, Wardens and fellows and put them to worship.

If any complaint be brought, the brother found guilty shall stand to the award and determination of the Lodge who are the proper and competent judges of all such controversies (unless you carry them by appeal to the Grand Lodge), and to whom they ought to be referred, unless a lord's work be hindered the meanwhile, in which case a particular reference may be made, but you must never go to law about what concerns Masonry, without an absolute necessity apparent to the Lodge.

### *2. Behaviour After the Lodge is Over and the Brethren Not Gone*

**Y**ou may enjoy yourself without innocent mirth, treating one another according to ability, but avoid excess, or forcing any brother to eat or drink beyond his inclination, or hinder him from going when his occasions call him, or doing or saying anything offensive, that would forbid an easy and free conversation, for that would blast our harmony and defeat our laudable purposes. Therefore, no private piques or quarrels must be brought within the door of the Lodge, far less any quarrels about religion, or nations, or state policy, we being only as Masons of the universal religion before mentioned; we are also of all nations, tongues, kindreds and languages, and resolved against all politics, as what never yet conducted to the welfare of the Lodge, nor ever will.

### *3. Behaviour When Brethren Meet Without Strangers, but Not in a Lodge Formed*

**Y**ou are to salute one another in a courteous manner as you will be instructed, calling each other brother, freely giving mutual instructions as shall be thought expedient, without being overseen or overheard, and without encroaching on each other or derogating from that respect which is due to any brother, were he not a Mason; for though all Masons are as brethren on the same level, yet Masonry takes no honour from a man that he had before, nay, rather it adds to his honour, especially if he has deserved well of the brotherhood, who must give honour to whom it is due and avoid ill manners.

### *4. Behaviour in Presence of Strangers not Masons*

**Y**ou should be cautious in your words and carriage, that the most penetrating stranger should not be able to discover or find out what is not proper to be intimated; and sometimes you may divert a discourse and manage it prudently for the honour of the worshipful Fraternity.

### *5. Behaviour at Home and in Your Neighbourhood*

**Y**ou are to act as becomes a moral and wise man particularly not to let your family and friends and neighbours know the concerns of the Lodge, etc.; but wisely to consult your own honour, and that of your ancient brotherhood, for reasons not to be mentioned here. You must also consult your health by not continuing together too late or too long after Lodge hours are passed; and by avoiding of gluttony or drunkenness, that your family be not neglected or injured, nor you disabled from working.

### *6. Behaviour Toward a Strange Brother*

**Y**ou are cautioned to examine him in such a manner as prejudice shall direct you, that you may not be imposed upon by an ignorant false pretender, whom you are to reject with contempt and derision and beware of giving him any hints of knowledge.

But if you discover him to be a true and genuine brother you are to respect him accordingly; and if he is in want you must relieve him if you can, or direct him how he may be relieved. You must employ him some days or else recommend him to be employed. But you are not charged to do beyond your ability; only to prefer a poor brother and a good man and true before all other people in the same circumstances.

Finally - all these charges you are to observe, and also those that shall be communicated unto you in another way; cultivating brotherly love, the foundation and cope stone, the cement and glory of this ancient Fraternity; avoiding all wrangling and quarrelling, all slander and backbiting, nor permitting others to slander any honest brother, but defending his character and doing him all good offices, so far as is consistent with your honour and safety and no further. And if any of them do you injury, you must apply to your own or his Lodge, and from thence you may appeal to the Grand Lodge, at the Annual Communication, as has been the ancient laudable conduct of our forefathers in every nation; never taking a legal course but when the case cannot be otherwise decided; and patiently listening to the honest and friendly advice of Masters and fellows, when they would prevent you going to law with strangers, or would excite you to put a speedy period to all lawsuits that so you may find the affair of

Masonry with more alacrity and success; but with respect to the brothers or fellows at law, the Masters and brethren should kindly offer their meditation which ought to be thankfully submitted to by the contending brethren; and if that submission is impracticable, they must, however, carry on their process of lawsuit without wrath and rancour (not in the common way), saying or doing nothing which may hinder brotherly love and good offices to be renewed and continued, that all may see the benign influence of Masonry, as all true Masons have done from the beginning of the world, and will do to the end of time.

Amen, so mote it be.

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## Summary

of the

### **Ancient Charges and Regulations**

to be read by the Secretary (or Acting Secretary) to the **Master-Elect**, prior to his installation into the chair of the Lodge:

1. You agree to be a good man and true, and strictly to obey the moral law.
2. You agree to be a peaceful subject, and cheerfully to conform to the laws of the country in which you reside.
3. You promise not to be concerned in plots or conspiracies against government, but patiently to submit to the decisions of the supreme legislature.
4. You agree to pay a proper respect to the civil magistrate, to work diligently, live creditably, and act honourably by all men.
5. You agree to hold in veneration the original rulers and patrons of the order of Freemasonry, and their regular successors, supreme and subordinate, according to their stations, and to submit to the awards and resolutions of your brethren in the general Lodge convened, in every case consistent with the constitution of the order.
6. You agree to avoid private piques and quarrels and to guard against intemperance and excess.
7. You agree to be cautious in your carriage and behaviour, courteous to your brethren and faithful to your Lodge.
8. You promise to respect genuine and true brethren and to discountenance imposters and all dissenters from the original plan of Freemasonry.
9. You agree to promote the general good of society, to cultivate the social virtues, and to propagate the knowledge of the mystic art as far as your influence and ability extend.
10. You promise to pay homage to the Grand Master for the time being, and to his officers when duly installed, and strictly to conform to every edict of the Grand Lodge.
11. You admit that it is not in the power of any man, or body of men, to make innovation in the body of Masonry.
12. You promise a regular attendance on the communications and committees of the Grand Lodge upon receiving proper notice thereof; and to pay attention to all the duties of Freemasonry, upon proper and convenient occasions.
13. You admit that no new Lodge can be formed without permission of the Grand Master; and that no countenance ought to be given to any irregular person initiated therein; and that no public procession of Masons clothed with the badge of the Order can take place without the special license of the Grand Master.
14. You admit that no person can regularly be made a Freemason or admitted a member of any Lodge, without previous notice and due enquiry into his character; and that no brother can be advanced to a higher degree except in strict conformity with the laws of the Grand Lodge.

15. You promise that no visitor shall be received into your Lodge without due examination and producing proper vouchers of his having been initiated into a regular Lodge.

At the conclusion the Grand Master or installing officer addresses the Master-elect as follows:  
"Do you submit to and promise to support these charges and regulations as Masters have done in all ages".

Upon his answering in the affirmative, the ceremony of Installation proceeds.

# THE GRAND LODGE OF MANITOBA

## Ancient Free and Accepted Masons

### INCORPORATION ACT

WHEREAS the persons hereinafter named, by their petition, prayed that Grand Lodge of Manitoba, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons should be incorporated: John Headley Bell, George Black, William Nassau Kennedy, the Reverend Samuel Pritchard Matheson, Christopher Fortescue Forrest, Alfred Pearson, David G. Dick, Roderick McCuaig, James Leslie, Peter McGregor, the Reverend James M. Wellwood, Neville J. Lindsay, the Reverend James Dallas O'Meara, William Simpson, John J. Johnston, Thomas Clarke, John W. H. Wilson, William John Ptolemy, the Reverend John Flett, Alfred Mackeand, James A. Griffith, George F. Carruthers, John McKechnie and William George Scott;

AND WHEREAS their prayer was granted and resulted in the enactment of an Act to incorporate the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, assented to April 29, 1884;

AND WHEREAS certain persons, by their petition, prayed that an Act be passed for the purpose of further and better defining the powers of the said Grand Lodge;

AND WHEREAS their prayer was granted, and resulted in the enactment of An Act respecting Grand Lodge of Manitoba, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, assented to April 5, 1924;

AND WHEREAS the Minister of Justice has caused this Act to be prepared in English and French for re-enactment in accordance with a judgment dated June 13, 1985 and an order dated November 4, 1985 of the Supreme Court of Canada;

THEREFORE HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba, enacts as follows:

#### **Definitions**

#### **1 In this Act**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>"Constituent Lodge"</b>              | means and includes any existing or future Lodge in communion with Grand Lodge whether such Lodge is or is not incorporated unless the context otherwise requires; |
| <b>"Constitution"</b>                   | means the general bylaws of Grand Lodge as the same now or hereafter may exist;   |
| <b>"Grand Lodge"</b>                    | means Grand Lodge of Manitoba, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons;   |
| <b>"Incorporated constituent Lodge"</b> | means a constituent Lodge which has been or shall be incorporated under the provisions of this Act;   |
| <b>"The Craft"</b>                      | means collectively the Grand Lodge and all such constituent Lodges and the members thereof from time to time.   |

### **Continuation**

- 2 Grand Lodge of Manitoba, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, as constituted on the coming into force of this Act, is continued as a corporation.

### **Constituent Lodges**

- 3 The constituent Lodges in communion with the said Grand Lodge of Manitoba, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, whether incorporated or unincorporated, and the respective bylaws, rules and regulations thereof not contrary to or inconsistent with the constitution, bylaws, rules and regulations of Grand Lodge or the laws of Manitoba are hereby continued with all rights, powers, privileges, property and membership as the same now exist, subject however to the terms and provisions hereof.

### **Board of General Purposes**

- 4 There shall be a standing committee of Grand Lodge to be known as the Board of General Purposes appointed or elected from time to time in such manner and with such powers as Grand Lodge may determine from time to time by its Constitution.

### **Incorporation, Name, etc.**

- 5 Grand Lodge shall have perpetual succession and a common Seal, with power to make, alter or break the said Seal by bylaw to that effect, and may sue and equity, and shall have power and capacity from time to time and at all times hereafter to purchase, acquire, hold, possess, exchange and to have, take and receive by gift or devise to it and its successors to and for the actual use and occupation or other purposes of Grand Lodge any real and personal estate, and to build upon, alter or otherwise improve any such real estate, and to sell, alienate, lease, exchange, mortgage and otherwise dispose of such real or personal estate whensoever Grand Lodge may deem it expedient so to do.

### **Borrowing Powers**

- 6 Grand Lodge may from time to time borrow money for such purposes and upon such terms as it shall think proper and expedient and may, for securing the repayment thereof with interest thereon, make, execute and issue any mortgages, bonds, debentures or promissory notes or other instruments under the Seal of Grand Lodge, including instruments which shall operate as a mortgage and charge against the real and personal estate of Grand Lodge; provided that any such mortgage or instrument so executed shall affect only the property therein described.

### **Bylaws, Rules, and Regulations**

- 7 Grand Lodge shall have power to make any bylaws, rules and regulations not contrary to law or to the provisions of this Act, with power to amend and repeal its Constitution, bylaws, rules and regulations from time to time for all purposes relating to or bearing upon the membership, Constitution, government, well-being, property or interests of Grand Lodge or any constituent Lodges.

### **Management of Funds and Property**

- 8 Grand Lodge shall have power to appoint any of the members or officers of Grand Lodge for the management of its funds and property as it may deem expedient, to prescribe their duties, and to require such security as may from time to time be deemed proper from such members or officers or any of them for the faithful performance of their respective duties, and may remove them or any of them at pleasure, and may make and ordain and put in execution such bylaws and rules and regulations as may be deemed expedient for the purpose aforesaid not inconsistent with this Act or the laws of this Province.

### **Incorporation of Constituent Lodges**

- 9 The presiding officer and the Grand Secretary of Grand Lodge have power (subject to the Constitution, bylaws, rules and regulations of Grand Lodge) in the name and on behalf of any unincorporated constituent Lodge which is or may become organized within this province to file in the office of the member of the Executive Council charged with the administration of The Corporations Act as a certificate of the Grand Lodge under its corporate Seal and the signatures of such presiding officer and Grand Secretary that such constituent Lodge is in good standing in "The Craft" and has received a warrant from Grand Lodge stating in such certificate the names of the presiding officer and the secretary and other officers of such constituent Lodge as the same are shown on the last regular or special report of such constituent Lodge on file with the Grand Secretary of Grand Lodge, and thereupon such constituent Lodge shall be a corporation by the style or name and register number by which it shall have been designated by Grand Lodge, and such constituent Lodge so incorporated shall have a perpetual succession and common Seal with power to make, alter or break the said Seal by bylaw to that effect approved according to such Constitution, bylaws, rules and regulations of Grand Lodge as may be in force, from time to time, and, subject to the Constitution, bylaws, rules and regulations of this Grand Lodge, and to the provisions of this Act shall have thereafter like powers and privileges as are herein conferred upon Grand Lodge for acquiring, purchasing, taking, holding, building upon, altering, improving, exchanging, selling, and leasing, mortgaging or disposing of real or personal estate, for prosecuting and defending any actions, and for borrowing money and mortgaging real and personal property and executing instruments as security therefore, and from and after the time when such constituent Lodge shall

have become so incorporated, all real and personal property belonging to or held for or on behalf of such constituent Lodge at the time of the filing of such

certificate, shall be vested in and be the property of such constituent Lodge so incorporated.

### **Powers of Constituent Lodges**

- 10** All constituent Lodges that are or may become incorporated under the provisions of this Act and the members thereof shall be subject and amenable to the Constitution, bylaws, rules and regulations of Grand Lodge, and shall have and exercise all their powers and privileges under this Act, subject to the Constitution, bylaws, rules and regulations of Grand Lodge, and not otherwise.

### **Execution of Instruments**

- 11** All deeds, mortgages, discharges, bonds or other instruments executed as aforesaid, in accordance with powers conferred by this Act, by Grand Lodge or any incorporated constituent Lodge shall be Sealed with the Corporate Seal and signed by the presiding officer and the secretary of such Grand Lodge or incorporated constituent Lodge as the case may be; provided that, in the event of absence or incapacity of either of those officers, the constituent Lodge or the Board of General Purposes of Grand Lodge, as the case may be, may by resolution delegate the duty of signing to any other officer.

### **Investment of Funds**

- 12** It shall be lawful for Grand Lodge, or any constituent Lodge, to lay out and invest all such sums of money as shall from time to time be collected and not required for the immediate exigencies of Grand Lodge or such constituent Lodge in such investments and securities as from time to time may be authorized for investment of trust funds by trustees under the provisions of The Trustee Act, or amendments thereto, or any other statute of the Province of Manitoba authorizing investment of trust funds by trustees, or in the fully paid up stock or shares of any corporation having its head office in the Province of Manitoba and approved by resolution of the Board of General Purposes or of Grand Lodge as being a corporation existing for Masonic purposes; provided that, except so far as such resolution shall have been acted upon in good faith, Grand Lodge (as to any such resolution) or the Board of General Purposes (as to any resolution passed by itself) may over-rule, rescind or amend such resolution from time to time, and may by such resolution or by subsequent resolution limit the amount which Grand Lodge or any constituent Lodge, or any specified constituent Lodge, may invest in any such stock or shares; and from time to time such Grand Lodge or constituent Lodge may alter, sell, transfer and discharge such securities, shares, stocks or funds respectively, and otherwise reinvest and dispose of the same, and all such investments shall be made in the name of Grand Lodge or such constituent Lodge as the case may be. Nothing in this section contained shall be deemed to prohibit the retention of investments lawfully made by Grand Lodge or any constituent Lodge prior to the passing of this Act.

### **Formalities to Sell or Mortgage Real Estate**

- 13** No real estate belonging to Grand Lodge or to a constituent Lodge shall be mortgaged, sold, or otherwise disposed of, and no obligation for deferred payment of the whole or any part of the purchase price of real estate or any interest therein shall be incurred by any constituent Lodge without the consent first had and obtained of Grand Lodge or of the Board of General Purposes, such consent to be by resolution passed at a regular meeting of Grand Lodge or of said Board of General Purposes or at a special meeting of Grand Lodge or of said Board of General Purposes duly called for considering such resolution by notice specifying the purpose of such meeting.

### **Leases of Land**

- 14** Grand Lodge or any incorporated constituent Lodge may, subject to the Constitution, bylaws, rules and regulations of Grand Lodge, from time to time lease for any term not exceeding 10 years, any land held by it under the provisions of this Act at such rent and upon such terms as may be deemed expedient.

### **Security for Faithful Performance of Duty by Officers**

- 15** It shall and may be lawful for Grand Lodge or for any incorporated constituent Lodge to receive from any of its officers, servants or agents from time to time in its corporate name, sufficient securities by bond with one or more surety or sureties or otherwise as such Grand Lodge or constituent Lodge may deem expedient for the faithful performance of the duty of such officer, servant or agent, as such, and that such officer, servant or agent shall, as and when required to do so, truly account for, pay and invest from time to time as directed by Grand Lodge or such constituent Lodge all such sums of money, funds or other property as may come into his hands or under his control for or belonging to Grand Lodge or such constituent Lodge, and shall render and deliver up to such Grand Lodge or constituent Lodge or its successors or the successors in office of such officer, servant or agent, or any other person authorized by this Act or by any bylaw, rule or regulation existing or passed hereunder to receive the same, all such moneys, deeds, bonds, mortgages, shares, stocks, securities and other funds, documents, books and records in his possession or under his control belonging to or held for or on behalf of Grand Lodge or such constituent Lodge at the expiration of his term of office or when required to do so by or under the authority of any regulation, order or bylaw of Grand Lodge or such constituent Lodge as the case may be.

### **Funds and Property in Control of Grand Lodge**

- 16** No member of Grand Lodge or of any constituent Lodge shall have any power to assign or transfer to any person whomsoever any interest which he may have in the funds or property of Grand Lodge or any constituent Lodge as a member thereof, but the same shall at all times be the property and remain under the control of Grand Lodge or such constituent Lodge, as the case may

be, and no property of any kind belonging to Grand Lodge or any constituent Lodge shall be subject to the payment of the private debts of any of the members of Grand Lodge or any constituent Lodge or liable to be taken in execution by any judgment creditor against any individual member or members of Grand Lodge or of any constituent Lodge.

### **Death, Retirement or Suspension of Member**

- 17** When any member dies or retires from or is expelled or suspended by Grand Lodge or any constituent Lodge in accordance with the Constitution, bylaws, rules and regulations of Grand Lodge, such member shall cease to have any interest or claim whatever upon the funds, property or privileges of Grand Lodge or such constituent Lodge; provided that in case of suspension such member shall be restored to his rights and privileges upon being reinstated, or upon such suspension being vacated.

### **Non-Personal Liability**

- 18** No officer or member of Grand Lodge or of any constituent Lodge shall be or be held liable or responsible for any debt or obligation beyond the extent of any unpaid dues or subscriptions owing by him to such Lodge.

### **Property When Lodge Ceases to Exist**

- 19** Should any constituent Lodge cease to exist or be dissolved from any cause whatsoever, the property (real and personal) held or belonging to such constituent Lodge shall at once vest in Grand Lodge, but shall be charged with the payment of the debts of such constituent Lodge to the full extent of, but only to the extent of, such property.

### **Cancellation of Charter of Constituent Lodge**

- 20** In case Grand Lodge declares the warrant of any constituent Lodge (incorporated or unincorporated) forfeited pursuant to the Constitution, bylaws, rules and regulations of Grand Lodge, such constituent Lodge shall be and be held to be dissolved, and if incorporated, its certificate of incorporation shall be cancelled from the date of the resolution declaring such forfeiture.

### **Public Act**

- 21** This Act shall be deemed a Public Act.

**Note:** This Act replaces S.M. 1884, c. 61 and S.M. 1924, C. 123.



R211 Approved for re-enactment  
J. A. Fergusson  
Grand Secretary  
Grand Lodge of Manitoba  
Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons

Dated this 3rd day of August 1990 in the City of Winnipeg.

## BODIES IN AMITY WITH GRAND LODGE

The following bodies are regarded as being in amity with Grand Lodge and are therefore organizations in which Grand Lodge may grant to Master Masons the right to hold membership under this Constitution:

1. The **Sovereign Grand Lodges**, recognized as such by the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, and the Lodges working under them.
2. The **Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Manitoba** having its headquarters in Winnipeg, Manitoba and Grand Royal Arch Chapters, recognized as such by it; and the Chapters working under all such bodies.
3. The **Sovereign Great Priory of Canada of the United Orders of Malta and the Temple** having its headquarters in Toronto, Ontario and Great Priories of other countries and jurisdictions recognized as such by it; and the priories and preceptories working under the authorization of all such bodies.
4. The **Grand Council Royal and Select Masters of Western Canada, of the Cryptic Rite of Freemasonry** having its headquarters in Vancouver, British Columbia and the Grand Councils of other countries and jurisdictions recognized as such by it; and the councils working under such bodies
5. The **Grand Imperial Conclave of Canada of the Red Cross of Constantine**, having its headquarters in Barrie, Ontario, and Grand Imperial Conclaves recognized as such by it; and the conclaves working under all such bodies.
6. The **Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of Canada**, having its headquarters in Hamilton, Ontario, and the Supreme Councils of that Rite, recognized as such by it; and the consistories, chapters and Lodges working under all such bodies.
7. The **Royal Order of Scotland**, having its headquarters in Edinburgh, Scotland, and all Provincial Grand Lodges of that Order, chartered and recognized as such by it.
8. The **Imperial Council for North America of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine** having its headquarters in Tampa, Florida, and the temples and Shrine organizations chartered and recognized as such by it.
9. The **Grand Chapter of Manitoba, Order of the Eastern Star**, having its headquarters in Winnipeg, Manitoba and the Grand Chapters of that Order recognized as such by it; and the subordinate chapters working under all such bodies.
10. The **Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem**, having its headquarters in Romulus, Michigan, and all subordinate shrines of that Order recognized as such by it.
11. The **Grand Council of Allied Masonic Degrees** of the U.S.A. having its headquarters in North Carolina and the Grand Councils recognized by it.

12. The **Widows Sons**.

13. The **Grand Council of Allied Masonic Degrees of Canada** being an association of individual Councils throughout the confines of the Canadian jurisdiction of Masonry, and recognized by the Grand Councils of Allied Masonic Degrees throughout the world as a sovereign Grand Council with jurisdiction in those confines.

14. The **Grand Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor or Brotherhood of David and Jonathan of Canada and Winnipeg Conclave No. 4**. (added 2016/03/11)

15. The **York Rite College of Manitoba and Manitoba Crocus College No. 89**.  
(added 2016/01/15)

16. The **High Council Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis (SRICF)** having its headquarters in the United States and other High Councils in other countries and jurisdictions recognized as such by it and the subordinate Colleges and Rose Circles working under all such bodies. (amended 2024/03/22)

In addition to which Grand Lodge recognizes and supports the principles and objectives of:

- (1) The Supreme Grand Guardian Council, International Order of Job's Daughters.
- (2) The Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay of Canada.
- (3) The International Peace Garden Lodge of Freemasons.
- (4) The Pinoy Masons of Manitoba (added 2013/03/15)
- (5) The Masonic Car Club of Manitoba (added 2013/09/20)

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### TYLER'S OATH

I, - A.B. - do hereby and hereon solemnly and sincerely swear that I have been regularly initiated, passed and raised to the sublime Degree of a Master Mason in a just and legally constituted Lodge of such; that I do not now stand suspended or expelled; and know of no reason why I should not hold Masonic communication with my brethren.

### PENALTY FOR INDISCRETION

"No member or visiting brother shall disclose outside the Lodge, any of the proceedings or business which should not be made known to anyone not a Mason. No member or visitor shall, either at labour or refreshment, make use of any profane, irreverent or improper expressions or sentiments, or introduce any topic tending to cause dissension on partisan or sectarian subjects. The penalty if a member, shall be severe censure and reprimand, and if a visiting brother, of not being permitted to visit the Lodge until after a unanimous vote for that purpose. At the initiation or affiliation of each member, the Worshipful Master shall cause this section to be read so that every brother shall be aware of it".