



THE GRAND LODGE OF SASKATCHEWAN
Office of the Grand Secretary Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons

To be the Fraternal Organization of choice for men in the Province of Saskatchewan

July 10, 2020

Brethren:

I hope everyone and their families are safe. These are unprecedented times, and we will have to deal with it the best we can. The COVID virus has brought the world to its knees and will have a lasting effect for many years to come. However, Freemasonry has survived other pandemics, world wars and calamities. It will survive this one, too. In the meantime, we will have to change a few of our practices.

It is unfortunate that our largest demographic is above the age of 60 and are the most vulnerable. This does not mean those under the age of 60 are not susceptible to the virus. There are many of you who have underlying health conditions or are not comfortable engaging in group functions at this time. There are also many of you who are anxious to resume Lodge activities. We recognize this wide range of viewpoints, but we cannot re-open Lodges and Masonic activities as normal.

Guidelines and protocols specific to our meetings are included in this mailing. We will be developing further guidelines and rulings specific for rituals and other practices. We must keep the safety of our members a priority and will not sacrifice health for a quick return to normal. I would advise Worshipful Masters to call for a Lodge meeting only if there is a compelling reason to resolve some outstanding business that could not be resolved by other means. I will also remind Worshipful Masters that dispensations are required if meeting day and hour are changed. Dispensation is also required if election and installation of officers is different other than stipulated in the constitution. We will continue to revisit our guidelines and protocols as updates occur to the Saskatchewan Health Authority public health orders and guidelines. I ask for patience from those of you who are anxious to resume Masonic activities.

We must not forget those who are not comfortable attending gatherings as we move towards resuming our Lodge meetings and activities. I would encourage Lodges to continue hosting social activities that all their members can attend and will feel comfortable and safe.

We are charged to be exemplary in our civil duties and it is incumbent on each brother to respect the public health orders and guidelines set out by the Saskatchewan Health Authority.

Stay safe and happy.

Fraternally,

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