



Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons

The Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan

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

The Traveling Gavel

Grand Master's Monthly Bulletin

Grand Master's Message



Greetings brethren. As I write this my final monthly message, thank you for the honour and privilege it has been to serve this Grand Jurisdiction.

Reflecting on the past twelve months, it has been quite the whirlwind and adventure. Flying from coast to coast for the first time since the accident; representing this jurisdiction at several major events this year (MSA, & the 275th anniversary of St. Andrews No. 1, to name a few); the presentation of several long service awards of which two were to brethren of my own lodge which made it extra special for me; the surgery in the middle of the term put a slight damper on travel but thankfully was during the dead of winter. As I prepare for our 120th annual communication and passing the reins to our next Grand Master, I look forward to supporting this Grand Lodge for many years to come, but first a much-needed rest.

Our 120th annual communication is fast approaching, and I want to remind all the brethren that cutoff for the 2nd hotel block reservation is June 1st at the Temple Gardens Hotel as well the cutoff for ticketed events for the communication is June 5th. A copy of the registration is on the back.

I am looking forward to the final month of the term, with the completion of the visits to each of the 41 lodges of our jurisdiction, it has been exciting to see the brethren engaged throughout the province. It has also been fun attending our concordant bodies AGM's and especially want to thank them for the hospitality given at both the Order of the Eastern Star and Royal Arch events.

If you are wanting an official visit from the incoming Grand Master, please contact the Grand Lodge office to make arrangements.

Annual Communication Grand Lodge of Quebec, Montreal- May 28th -May 31st, 2026

Doric-St. George No. 71 June 3rd, 2026

Annual Communication Grand Lodge of Manitoba, Winnipeg- June 4th- 6th, 2026

Annual Communication Grand Lodge of Alberta, Calgary- June 11th-13th, 2026

Annual Communication Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan, Moose Jaw- June 18th-20th, 2026



Official Visit to Lodge Progress No. 092 May 7th, 2026.

Accompanied by MW Bro. Dennis Skuce (Most Senior Brother present of Progress), RW Bro's Mike Keogan DGM, Gord Davey GSW, Judicael Mokoumi GJW, Ron Crush DDGM North-West, George Frederick West-Central District, VW Bro. Al White Grand Steward North-West District, (VW) Bro. Daniel Stokalko Grand Organist, W Bro. George LaRose of Estevan No. 25 and Bro. Wade Spychaj the most Junior member of Progress. Thank you again to the brethren for the hospitality and warm welcome but especially hosting the very special presentation.

W Bro. George LaRose initiated into Bruce Lodge No. 36 on May 1st, 1951, now with Estevan Lodge No. 25 received his **75-year** Certificate and Pin on May 7th, 2026.



Official Visit to Maple Leaf Lodge No. 009 May 21st, 2026

Accompanied by RW Bro's Mike Keogan DGM, Dave Turner DDGM South-West District, Doug Haroldson PDDGM & Grand Chaplain, Les Potter PDDGM most Senior Brother present of Maple Leaf, Keith Unger PDDGM and WM of Swift Current No. 26, VW Bro. Andrew Hecker Grand Steward South-West District, & Bro. Efren Chavez most Junior Brother present. Thank you brethren for the hospitality and warm welcome, I am glad we were able to reschedule after the initial plans were changed due to the surgery.

THE GENIUS OF MASONRY.

BY A ROYAL ARCH MASON.

THE MASONIC REVIEW. - 1855

OUR object in this article will be to show not only what is peculiar to Masonry, but in what respects it differs from all other associations of a kindred character. Many have grossly misjudged of Masonry, by regarding it in the light of a Divine institution. By thus investing it with a sanctity which never belonged to it, and to which it never made any claims, the members of the fraternity have been held responsible for a purity of life and an integrity of deportment even greater than that which has been required of professors of religion.

Though it has its altar and its priests, its rites and its ceremonies, yet it does not invade the sanctuary of religion, nor assume an organization based upon the recognition of a religious creed, requiring faith therein as a condition of membership.

It requires no religious tests, save a belief in God and his revealed will, of any who enter its hallowed courts. Founded in a belief of the existence of God the great Jehovah, the supreme Architect and Ruler of the Universe, a firm and unwavering trust in his goodness and mercy, united with a belief in the Revelation which he has made to man, as contained in the Holy Scriptures, it leaves intact the right of private judgment, thus bringing all men of all creeds upon one common platform of faith, and uniting them together in a pure spiritual worship. In the Masonic fraternity an Atheist is a monster, for whom there can be found no name or place in all her records.

We can only discuss the principles of Masonry in the light of a human institution, subjecting those principles to the common and universal standard of morality. It is only in contrast, or rather we should say, in comparison with institutions of a similar character that we can judge of its peculiarity in respect to all those things which pertain to man's happiness in the moral and social state. In all matters pertaining to Church and State regulations concerning man's faith or politics, the Order stands entirely aloof, exhibiting its genius only in whatever bears a relation to his moral and social life. While it embraces the idea of a universal liberty, a universal equality, and a universal fraternity, it at the same time wisely guards these greatest of earthly blessings, and by an ordination peculiar to the Craft, prevents them from degenerating into an unbridled licentiousness on the one hand, a wild anarchy on the other, and infidel socialism on the third. It takes men as they are, in their rude, native, depraved state - as rough, misshapen blocks from the quarry of nature - and by the application of those great rules of social and moral life, upon which the institution is founded, reduces the human character to a symmetry and beauty of form such as will make them pillars in the fabric of society. It claims to "improve the manners and to mend the heart," not, however, by a divine or superhuman agency, but by the inculcation of a rule of life drawn from the holy Scriptures, most beautifully and impressively symbolized by the plumb, the level, and the square. Human actions are not left to the guidance and control of a naked faith, but are reduced to a science, at once purifying and ennobling.

This is Masonry, and whoever teaches to the contrary does not deserve to be dignified with the title of an apprentice to an art whose characteristics are wisdom, strength, beauty, temperance, prudence, justice and truth.

But it may be asked, in what respect does Masonry differ from other institutions of a social character? and this brings us to a consideration of the genius of the Order. In reply to this, we remark that the Masonic Institution differs from all other human institutions both in its letter and in its spirit. Its peculiarity, in regard to the letter, consists in, and is exhibited by its ancient constitutions and landmarks. It has outlived all other human constitutions, and as

it regards its landmarks, though thousands of centuries have passed away, during which empires and nations have risen, flourished, fallen, and passed away from the memory of man, or at most, only live upon the page of history, it may be said in reference to every thing essential to the integrity of the institution, that they have not been removed, but remain unchanged and unchangeable. Other institutions that have come down from antiquity, through the ever varying progress of human events, have lost their original character, and been merged into the spirit of the age, assuming new forms as the genius of the times have dictated but Masonry, like the granite pyramids, with base deeply imbedded in the plain, and apex pointing to heaven, has stood the shock of centuries, and towers sublimely over the wrecks of time. The effacing fingers of decay have not swept one line of beauty from its calm, benignant features pediment and plinth and shaft and capital, arch and key-stone, corner-stone and cap-stone, remain as entire as when first placed by the architect, and no symptoms of decay or dissolution are to be found in the whole temple of the mystic art.

But what were the temple without the presiding genius?

What were the body without the soul? As the temple of Solomon, on Mount Moriah without the Divine Shekina, whose glory illumined, and whose presence inspired its priests and prophets, was drear and desolate, so the temple of Masonry, though standing in all its strength and beauty - "With cornice and frieze and lofty sculptures graven," would be like the rock excavated temples of Petra, "a habitation for dragons, and a court for owls." If over the wide arched gateway was not inscribed in letters of light, "Brotherly love, Relief and Truth," if a masonic faith, a masonic hope, and a masonic charity did not pervade the minds and hearts of those who entered and dwelt in her courts, then would the order exist only in name, a solemn mockery, a hiss and a bye-word, provoking only the contempt of the world and the reprobation of heaven.

The love of others may fail, but a Mason's is lasting as life and stronger than death. In the day of prosperity multitudes will flit and flutter around, like the light winged insects of a summer's day, but no sooner does the dark, stormy hour of adversity come, than they disappear, and leave the unfortunate to sadness and despair. The fidelity of others may fail, and the most solemn asseverations may prove to have been falsehoods, designed to deceive but truth, the foundation of every virtue, is the guiding star of every upright Mason, and no fear or fraud or favor will for a moment cause him to swerve from the unerring line.

The faith of others may falter and their trust in God be shaken by the waywardness of the world, the uncertainty of earthly events, and the assaults of infidelity but the firm foundations of a Mason's faith can never be moved founded upon the "rock of ages," the powers of destruction shall not prevail against it.

The hopes of others in the dark and trying hour, may yield, and the heart, sickened by a sad delay, may turn distrustingly away from the object of its pursuit, but the hope of a Mason is like an anchor to the soul amid the storms of life, secured by which he outrides the tempest, and glides peacefully into that harbor, "where the wicked cease to trouble, and the weary are forever at rest."

The charity of others may fail, and the tongue of slander may blast with its sirocco breath the fairest fame but a Mason's charity faileth never. "It believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things" and when the storm of execration and hate would come, and with merciless violence sweep away the last redeeming remnant of good, it casts its broad mantle over the vices and follies of the erring, and though it justifieth not, in the midst of wrath, it remembers mercy, and refers to the decisions of the last day.

While the tongue of detraction would invade the sanctuary of home, and ruthlessly disturb even the aches of the dead, by dragging forth its victim to the floating gaze of the vulgar

crowd, outraging all the principles of a common humanity, the spirit of Masonry forbids the invasion, and points its anathema against such cowardly acts dictating a forbearance and charity which leaves the departed to his God, and shielding the innocent from the coarse and vulgar taunts of monsters in the form of men.

Such is the genius of Masonry. Over all the departments of life it casts a bright and genial sunshine, seeking with its kindly, voice to sooth the sorrows and mitigate the woes of mortals. By its soft hand it wipes away the tear from the helpless widow, takes the distressed and unprotected orphan into its fold, and wherever misery lifts its voice of sadness, hies on rapid wings to its relief. Under its banners may we live, possessed by its spirit may we die, and with its generations past, may we be gathered to our fathers, - softly and gently as the night winds fall to the earth may we pass away.

POTS

From its origin to the present hour, in all its vicissitudes, Masonry has been the steady unwearing friend of man. - Rev. Erastus Burr



**120th ANNUAL GRAND COMMUNICATION
of the
GRAND LODGE OF SASKATCHEWAN**

JUNE 18th to 20th, 2026

Moose Jaw , Saskatchewan

Brethren and Ladies

I welcome you to the 120th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan. I trust that you will have a wonderful time.

It has been an honour and privilege for me to serve as Grand Master of this great Jurisdiction this past year and am looking forward to weekend ahead. We are staying at the historic Grant Hall Hotel, 401 Main St N, Moose Jaw, SK. The opening ceremonies of Grand Lodge will be held at the Moose Jaw Masonic Temple on Main St. North, and the remainder of the weekend will be at the Grant Hall.

Lady Karen Davis will be looking after the Ladie function, with the optional tour of the Western Development Museum on Friday and the True Crimes Trolley tour of Moose Jaw on Saturday.

To the brethren from Saskatchewan, renew your commitment to Freemasonry here in our Jurisdiction and see what the BOGP and Grand Line have been working towards.

To our out of Province guests, we appreciate the effort and dedication you have shown to the Craft and look forward to your attendance at our Communication.

I hope that the spirit of Brotherhood will shine forth in our deliberations, and festive occasions.

If you have any concerns, please let myself or the host committee know and we will do our best to solve them.

Enjoy your stay and have a safe trip home.

**MW Bro. Troy LeBlanc
Grand Master 2025-2026**



120th Annual Communication
GRAND LODGE OF SASKATCHEWAN
June 18th, 19th & 20th, 2026 – Moose Jaw, SK

The host hotel is the **Grant Hall**, 401 Main St N, Moose Jaw. Room rates start at \$160 and can be booked at **1 (306) 691-2113**. Use group code **609502**. Deadline for the hotel block rate is **May 17th, 2026**.
 Deadline to ensure your tickets for any of the events detailed below is **June 5th, 2026**.
 Please complete the form in full, in print (no cursive).

REGISTRATION

Member Name: _____
 Surname _____ Given Name _____

Lodge Name: _____ **No.** _____ **Jurisdiction:** _____

Masonic Rank: Circle: Bro. W Bro. VW Bro. RW Bro. MW Bro. **Masonic Title:** Circle: JW SW WM PM

Mailing Address: _____
 Street Address _____ City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

Email Address: _____ **Phone:** _____

Guest's Name: _____
 (if applicable) Surname _____ Given Name _____

EVENT TICKETS

Event	Cost	Quantity	Total
Grand Master's Meet & Greet - Thursday, June 18th: 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm Grant Hall Hotel. Includes snacks (no meal). Cash bar. Attire: Casual	\$25		
Grand Master's Banquet - Friday, June 19th: 6:00 cocktails /6:30 supper Grant Hall Banquet Room. Cash bar. Attire: Formal	\$90		
Men's & Ladies' Lunch - Saturday, June 20th: 12:00 noon Grant Hall: Casual (Ladies), Business (Men)	\$30		
Incoming Grand Master's Meet & Farewell - Saturday, June 20th: 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm Bobby's Place. Attire: Casual- Al la Carte meal			
Partners' Program - Friday, June 19th: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Western Development Museum Tour Attire: Casual Note: will conflict / overlap with the Ceremonial Opening.	\$20		
Partners' Program - Saturday, June 20th: 9:00 am - 11:00 am Trolley Tour of Moose Jaw Attire: Casual	\$35		
Dietary Restrictions: _____			
	Grand Total		

Online registration is available at <https://tinyurl.com/GRSC2026> -- Send e-transfer to grsgrandcommunication2026@gmail.com
 Or remit form and payment to: GLSask2026 c/o Nathan Reeves PO Box 219 Torquay, SK S0C 2L0.
 Make cheques payable to **2026 Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan Communications**