

**GRAND LODGE OF A.F. & A.M. OF CANADA
IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO**

Hamilton B District

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April 9th, 2020

Brethren,

I hope this message finds you and your loved ones well and in a good place. Over the past few weeks, Canadians have embraced change like never before, as we have all adapted in the face of this extraordinary health crisis. For Ontario Masons, that meant cancelling all Masonic events, including lodge meetings, memorial services, social events and volunteering with community groups until the foreseeable future.

In following the advice of health authorities and the directives of Grand Lodge, we have adapted our methodology of staying in touch with our brethren, lodge widows and neighbours. In practicing social distancing, we have taken to telephones and video conferencing applications to host general purpose or advisory meetings or to simply check-in with our Mentor and Brother. If you, or your lodge, haven't had the opportunity to utilize one of the many video meeting applications, and would appreciate some guidance, Bro. Ajai Datta, District Communications/Computer Resources has graciously offered his services. Bro. Datta can be contacted via: HamiltonBMasonsIT@gmail.com

Although there is great uncertainty as to when we will resume our Masonic meetings and events, know that your District Team is currently planning to host a "Virtual" Spring District Meeting on Monday, May 25th @ 7:30 p.m. Participants can access the meeting via telephone alone or a combination of video/audio conferencing. Additional details of how to participate in the meeting will be shared in the near future.

As the world commences a host of religious holidays in mid-April, may you find peace and happiness in however you plan to celebrate with your family and friends. Although the current health emergency has greatly reduced opportunities for the "usual" family and religious gatherings, we can, and we will, find acceptable methods to connect, celebrate and show each other our affection. This is ours to manage and overcome.

To the brethren and family members serving the frontlines in the health sector; agriculture, food and grocery industry; trucking and delivery; emergency services; military, government agencies, and many more – THANK YOU for your service to our communities during this very difficult time of uncertainty. Be well.

Kathy and I wish everyone the very best over the holidays and throughout these unprecedented times that we are all experiencing and adapting to.

"Stay Home, Stay Safe, Stop the Spread"

*PLEASE ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO THE DISTRICT SECRETARY
AT THE ADDRESS SHOWN ABOVE*