



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

GRAND SECRETARY

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COVID-19 Update Espécial Board Meeting July 15, 2020

July 16, 2020

Brethren,

As you are all aware, the COVID-19 lockdown prevented us from holding the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge this year.

In order to conduct the necessary business and to satisfy the legal requirements of the Corporation, an Especial Meeting of the Board of General Purposes was held virtually July 15, 2020 10:00 AM. EST.

This meeting was attended by the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, all honorary, elected and appointed members of the Board of General Purposes, the Grand Wardens, Grand Registrar, Grand Chaplain, the Grand Director of Ceremonies and all District Deputy Grand Masters. The Deputy Grand Master presided over the meeting.

Under the extreme circumstances generated by the pandemic, the Board (consisting of the above named members) acted on behalf of the membership of the craft in conducting the business.

A quick summary of the business:

- All committee reports, as published and distributed to the attendees in the preliminary reports, were accepted for publishing in the final Proceedings.
- The reports of the Auditors, the Chairman of Audit & Finance and the Grand Treasurer were presented and approved.
- The report of the Management Committee was presented and approved.
- All amendments proposed for presentation this July were deferred until July 2021.
- The report of the Fraternal Relations Committee was deferred until July 2021.
- The decision of the Grand Master to extend the terms of all Grand Lodge Officers was endorsed.
- A resolution was put forth and passed that the term of the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master be extended for one year (until July 2022).
- The report of the Awards Committee was presented and approved
- The report of the Discipline Committee was presented and approved.

We were fortunate that the Grand Master was able to deliver his Address.

The report of the Committee on the Grand Master's Address was presented and included an endorsement of the Grand Master's decisions as well as a commendation on his leadership during the pandemic.

The Grand Master's Address will shortly be published on the Grand Lodge website. It will also be distributed digitally with the usual August mailing to all Lodges.

Even though the formal Communication was cancelled, formal Proceedings will be produced for historical purposes and so that the brethren may be aware of the business conducted on their behalf.

Brethren, this was a first in the history of our Grand Lodge. We thank you for your continuing support of the decisions that are being made to ensure we retain the vitality of our craft as this pandemic continues.

If there are any questions, please let me know.

Fraternally, Garry

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D. Garry Dowling".

D. Garry Dowling,
Grand Secretary