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The Freemason News

Sovereign Grand Lodge Consecrated

Ceremony Attended By Grand Lodges From Around The World

On November 1st, 1997 Masonic history was made in North America with the Consecration and Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Newfoundland and Labrador. In the words of MW Bro Maurice Kershaw, Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Quebec, "... our Canadian Family of Grand Lodges is now complete".

The Consecration Ceremony was conducted by MW Bro the Right Honourable Lord Farnham, Pro Grand Master, United Grand Lodge of England assisted by six of his Grand Lodge Officers and RW Bros Ray Haldane-Wilsons and Richard A. H. Brown, Grand Masters of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Over 550 brethren were in attendance for the ceremony.

MW Bro the Right Honourable Lord Burton, Grand Master Mason, Grand Lodge of Scotland, was in attendance and wished the newly installed Grand Master and Grand Lodge well.

The new Grand Lodge consists of thirty lodges, made up of the twenty-seven lodges formerly under the jurisdiction of the United Grand Lodge of England and Lodges Cormack, Westmoorland and Mic Mac formerly under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. All lodges are represented either in the composition of Officers or Board of General Purposes.

Christmas Message

On behalf of myself and Judy I would like to send our best wishes to all Brethren and their families for a wonderful Christmas Season and a healthy, prosperous New Year.

To the Brethren of Newfoundland & Labrador:

The past year has gone by so quickly. It has been a very rewarding, productive and exciting year for all of our Lodges and Brethren. The hopes and dreams of having our own Grand Lodge became a reality. As we look forward to 1998, we start down the road together on a journey which will see our Grand Lodge become a vibrant and world-class entity among the Grand Lodge of the World. An organization that will represent the interest of this Province's Freemasons with honour.

To the Brethren who lead our Lodges, Concordant Bodies, Masonic Park, and other Masonic endeavours, I express my sincere thanks for your dedication, cooperation and support. As we practice Freemasonry daily we must, by example, share with our families and the public our teachings and dedication to our communities and country.

As we celebrate the Yuletide Season in our individual ways, I would ask that you take a moment to remember the less fortunate among us and take the opportunity to practice that virtue we all profess to admire - **Charity**.

Herman W. Starks
Grand Master

Message From Grand Master - England

The following message was conveyed from the Grand Master, United Grand Lodge of England, by MW Bro the Right Honourable Lord Farnham, Pro Grand Master, at the Consecration Ceremony on November 1st -

I am delighted that the Pro Grand Master, MW Bro the Lord Farnham, is able to represent me in forming the Grand Lodge of Newfoundland & Labrador.

I send to the Brethren of the new Grand Lodge my best wishes for a long, successful and happy future as it takes its place among other Grand Lodges in the Provinces of

Canada and alongside its former sister District under the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

May Brotherly love and affection ever distinguish this Grand Lodge and its members.

Edward
Grand Master

Grand Lodge Fees

The Constitution adopted at the formation of the Grand Lodge provides the following fee schedule -

- ?? Dispensation to form a new lodge\$100.00
- ?? Registration of every person initiated, including a Grand Lodge Certificate \$40.00
- ?? Past Master's Certificate \$20.00
- ?? Annual Grand Lodge Assessment per member\$12.00
- ?? Replacement of certificates\$10.00
- ?? Dispensations\$5.00

Board of General Purposes

The following Brethren comprise the Board of General Purposes -

RW Bro. Neil M. Chaplin, Chairman, MW Bro Herman W. Starkes, RW Bros. Alfred G. Decker, William L. Martin, Robert M. Hellier, Alfred O. MacPhee, Alfred P. Wilson, C. Frank Rogers, W. Job Parsons, Vincent J. Pike, George Cull, James Tulk, Albert G. Noftall, Frank G. Skanes, Glendon R. Vokey, Reginald G. Reid, Frank F. Tibbo, VW Bros Cecil E. Templeman, Jeffrey C. King, B. Randy Moulton, Maxwell J. Squires, W. Roy Moores, Donald W. Newell, T. E. David Carmichael, and Malcolm N. Butt.

Grand Lodge Officers

- Grand Master MW Bro Herman W. Starkes
- Deputy Grand Master RW Bro Neil M. Chaplin
- District Deputy Grand Master - District 1 RW Bro Alfred G. Decker
- District Deputy Grand Master - District 2 RW Bro William L. Martin
- District Deputy Grand Master - District 3 RW Bro Robert M. Hellier
- District Deputy Grand Master - District 4 RW Bro Alfred O. MacPhee
- District Deputy Grand Master - District 5 RW Bro Alfred P. Wilson
- Grand Senior Warden RW Bro C. Frank Rogers
- Grand Junior Warden RW Bro W. Job Parsons
- Grand Chaplain RW Bro John R. Snow
- Grand Treasurer RW Bro Vincent J. Pike
- Grand Secretary RW Bro George Cull
- Grand Registrar RW Bro James Tulk
- Grand Senior Deacon VW Bro Colin A. Forward
- Grand Junior Deacon VW Bro David G. Rowsell
- Grand Superintendent of Works VW Bro Maxwell J. Squires
- Grand Director of Ceremonies VW Bro Roy D. Saunders
- Assistant Grand Secretary VW Bro Maxwell C. Sceviour
- Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies VW Bro W. D. Ross Ashbourne
- Grand Sword Bearer VW Bro H. Sheridan Yetman
- Grand Organist VW Bro Herbert R. LeGrow
- Grand Pursuivant VW Bro John R. Dollimont
- Grand Steward VW Bro Brian H. Strickland
- Grand Steward VW Bro K. Brian Sceviour
- Grand Steward VW Bro Wayne C. Dodge
- Grand Standard Bearer VW Bro Frank W. Pike
- Grand Tyler VW Bro Herbert D. Manthorne
- Grand Historian RW Bro J. Gordon Bartlett