



To the Secretaries,

Warm Fraternal Greetings from the Worshipful Master and Officers of the Vancouver Lodge of Education & Research,

We encourage all lodge Secretaries and Brethren to mark Saturday April 29th in their calendars as Grand Masonic Day is back - bigger and better than ever. Taking place at the new Vancouver Masonic Centre, the 2023 program brings a diverse set of speakers and workshops offering practical knowledge to help newer Brethren build a strong foundation, and content to inspire and challenge more advanced leaders in the Craft. Based on your feedback at last year's event we believe this year's program strikes a balance and delivers on a range of wants and needs which were clearly articulated to the organizing committee. [To register visit here.](#)

The 2023 program includes two keynote speakers, one in the morning and one in the afternoon interspersed with breakout sessions in different rooms at the VMC. The morning keynote will be provided by Professor (and Bro.) J. Scott Kenney of Memorial University. Bro Kenney's presentation will share his unique research into the different factors which typically draw men to Freemasonry today and keep them engaged. The afternoon keynote will be provided by Bro. Andrew Hammer who will be reflecting on learnings from the last 20 years of the Observant Freemasonry (AKA Traditional Observance) movement. His 2010 book "Observing the Craft" sent ripples through North American Freemasonry which are still being felt today. Other speakers include past Grand Master Barry Burch and Grand Director of Ceremonies Shaun Turner who will be offering their newly developed "EA and FC Foundations" Workshop developed for Duke of Connaught Lodge. MW Bro Philip Durrell will be offering a talk on What Motivates Freemasons while RW Bro Trevor W. McKeown, Grand Historian and Archivist will be offering a workshop on the importance and practicalities of archiving, historic record keeping and the taking of minutes and why they are so crucial in the Craft. A workshop on Music in Freemasonry will also be provided.

[Tickets](#) include lunch along with refreshments and snacks available throughout the day.

In 2022 the Vancouver Lodge of Education & Research celebrated its 75th anniversary and with it the 40th annual occurrence of Grand Masonic Day, our Grand Jurisdiction's premier Masonic Education event, which it has organized since 1982. Masonic education is consistently identified by newer brethren as something of great value, keeping them engaged and interested in Freemasonry and committed to the business of the lodge. We encourage you to embrace Grand Masonic Day 2023 as an investment in your brethren as the building blocks of your lodge. The organizing committee has worked hard to ensure that investment will pay dividends and we look forward to you joining us Saturday April 29th at the Vancouver Masonic Centre.

Sincerely,

RW Bro. Wes Regan
Worshipful Master
Vancouver Lodge of Education & Research

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wes Regan', with a long, sweeping underline.



PRELIMINARY PROGRAM FOR GRAND MASONIC DAY 2023 SATURDAY APRIL 29TH VANCOUVER MASONIC CENTRE				
Room	Plenary Arras Ballroom	Doric (Blue) Lodge Room	Tuscan (Red) Lodge Room	Salon
8:30	Registration			Coffee Station Bar Service Mix and mingle
9:15	Opening			
9:30	Morning Keynote Arras Ballroom Professor J. Scott Kenney "Contemporary Freemasonry, Meaning, and Society: What Attracts Men to the Craft Today?"			
10:45		MW Bro Barry Burch and RW Bro Shaun Turner EA and FC Foundations Workshop	MW Bro Philip Durell What Motivates Freemasons	
11:45	Refreshment and Open House / Lunch			
12:00				
12:30	JGW Address			
1:00	DEBATE			
2:00		Archiving, historic record keeping, and minutes, RW Bro. Trevor McKeown	Music in Freemasonry TBD	
3:00	Break	Break	Break	
3:15	Afternoon Keynote Bro. Andrew Hammer Reflections on two decades of Observant Freemasonry: What Have We Achieved and What Have We Learned			
4:30	Closing Statements	Open House		
6:00	Event Ends			