
Celebrating 150 Years of Freemasonry in British Columbia and Yukon



**WE NEED YOUR HELP TO CAPTURE THE SPIRIT OF FREEMASONRY
IN BC & YUKON IN THIS 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF GRAND LODGE**

2020-2021 marks a historic milestone for the Grand Lodge of British Columbia & Yukon. We are calling on the support of Lodges, Appendant Bodies and all Brethren to help complete the production of a booklet archiving and celebrating its 150th anniversary. As of November 2021, submissions have been received from all over B.C. and Yukon Territory, including stories, photos, even poems, as well as letters of congratulations from overseas. By purchasing an advertisement your Lodge will help pay for printing of the following:

- Your Lodge's presence in the booklet itself (See following page for details)
- Message from the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master
- A Masonic timeline of notable historic achievements, important moments, and curious events in BC & Yukon over the past 150 years
- The 2021 winning essay from Ashlar College
- Letters of congratulations from the Grand Masters of the United Grand Lodge of England and Grand Lodge of Scotland, the two Grand Lodges from which the Constituent Lodges of the Grand Lodge of BC & Yukon received their Charters
- Reflections on the resilience of Freemasonry in BC & Yukon during the COVID-19 Pandemic and other challenges of 2020-2021
- Articles exploring the symbology and ritual of Freemasonry submitted by Lodges of Education & Research
- Inspiring stories of benevolent and charitable work taking place in communities
- Fascinating historical details of Freemasonry in Yukon Territory and Barkerville
- A 2020-2021 Masonic Photo Album capturing moments from this historic year
- Stories on newly built Masonic Temples, Cornerstone Layings, and exciting initiatives like the Masonic Markers Project
- Other miscellanea of note!

To participate in the 150th Booklet please submit your ad content to R.W. Bro. Wes Regan at wes.regan@shaw.ca no later than January 30th 2022 as per the following:

Send print quality high resolution image (300 DPI or larger) and ad copy. For quarter page ads text cannot exceed 200 words. For half page ads text cannot exceed 350 words and for full page ads text cannot exceed 650 words.

As a rule of thumb less is more in terms of text. To date Lodges have commonly offered a statement of congratulations, followed by either (or a combination of) details about meeting location and evenings, a brief overview of something of historic note to do with the Lodge or the Lodge building it meets in, or promotion of your online presence (website). A Lodge logo or emblem or photo of the Brethren or building have commonly been included in submissions. A designer will complete the ad and send back for approval. All questions can be directed to wes.regan@shaw.ca / 604-805-3591 for examples see pp7-9

For Lodges able to design their own advertisement here are the specs for layout.
Some demonstration ads appear on pages 7-9 of this promotional flyer.

Full Page
7.875 x 10.3875 in

\$1,000

Half Page
7.875 x 5.0687 in

\$500

Payment for ads can be sent
by cheque to:

Westminster Lodge 174
Care of Peter Guichon
6323 - 195 B Street
Surrey BC
V3S 7L8

Memo: 150th Anniversary
Booklet Ad

Or by Interac E-Mail money
transfer to

Peter Guichon
gl150celebration@gmail.com
Subject: 150 Anniversary
Booklet Ad

Quarter Page
7.875 x 3.8125 in

\$250

Safeguarding the Initiatic Tradition: The Masonic Experience Today

RW Bro. WES REGAN

Freemasonry is an initiatic society defined by ritual and symbolism, but what does that mean?

To be initiated, broadly speaking, is to be welcomed into a specific social group, often using rituals, ceremonies or customs which make it obvious both to the newly initiated and those who constitute the group they are joining. It also means to begin something, not unlike igniting a fire.

Initiation implies a journey to explore something, to master something, to become something. In the case of initiatic societies like Freemasonry there is an exoteric aspect to this in which the general membership now recognizes this newcomer as privy to their customs and bound to their rules, and in which the aesthetic of Freemasonry and its customs are made explicit and obvious to the newly initiated. There is also an esoteric aspect to this which relates to the private experience of the initiated or initiate (transitioning to a noun from a verb) as they internalize the process of becoming that something new, a Freemason, or someone new, a Brother of X Lodge.

As works by anthropologists and sociologists attest, whether they are scholars of religion or scholars of biker gangs, the rites of passage involved in being initiated are as diverse and unique as the human family itself. They can run from excruciating displays of fortitude to solemn and systematic ceremonies, to a simple repetition of an oath. In all instances the moment represents a transition from being outside a circle of community to being inside one, whatever the aims, customs and other attributes of that community may be.

Why do we do this?

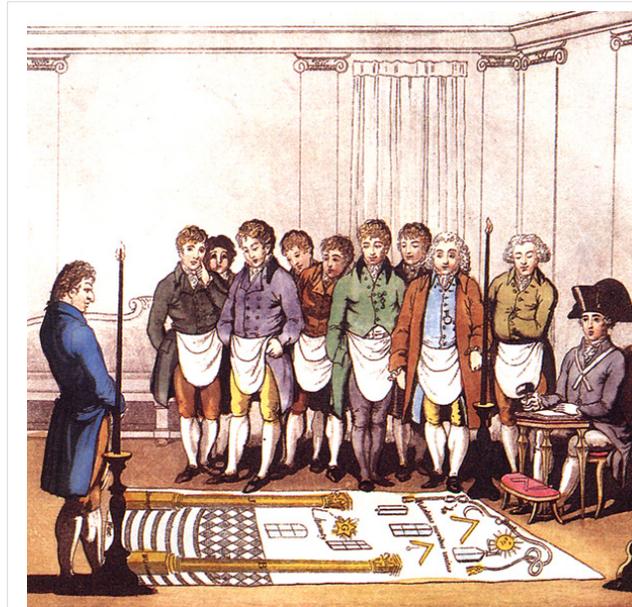
As Dimitris Xygalatas, an anthropologist and cognitive scientist at the University of Connecticut points out “By aligning behavior and creating shared experiences, rituals forge a sense of belonging and common identity which transforms individuals into cohesive communities”

French Author and past editor of the longstanding esoteric studies journal *L'Initiation*, Yves-Fred Boisset writes that “...the entire history of humanity testify to the fact that membership in a sect, in a secret society, or in an initiatic order arises from the real needs of human

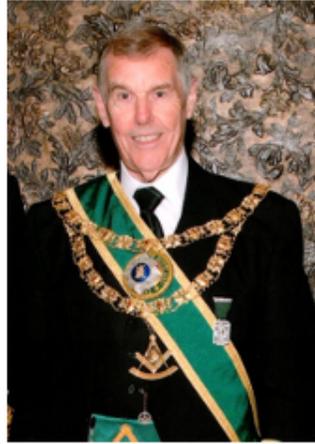
nature” to which he adds the need to withdraw from an oppressive world, to belong, especially to something seen as ‘elite’, to satiate the desire to share in a secret with one’s peers, the need to feel the security and protection that comes from being within a “social microcosm” or “cell” and the need to “distinguish oneself from the herd”.

In short, we want friends, we want to feel loved, to feel special, and to feel safe.

There is a second aspect to initiation though, as someone who has been initiated may find themselves initiating someone else in the future. In some initiatic orders this is made explicit, as a premium is placed on lineage and perpetuation. An Ancient Luminary, a Master, perhaps multiple ones, pulls together various strands of knowledge into a system of thought, a collection of rites, an order, a society, and then initiates others into that circle to share in the knowledge and practices they have so ben-



**Message from
Bro W Ramsay McGhee, OStJ, DL, MCMJ
Grand Master Mason**



It is indeed a privilege and a pleasure to convey heartiest congratulations to the Grand Master, Office-bearers and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon on attaining their 150th anniversary.

150 years continual service of any organisation is quite an achievement and to look back and consider all that has been achieved in that time will be, to say the least, enlightening and interesting.

While your celebrations will indeed be a time to look back, a time to share reminiscences and a time to reflect, it will also be a time to look forward. The Brethren who have gone before have accomplished their part – they have taken the Lodge through the first 150 years - it is now down to the Master, Office-bearers and Brethren of this ancient and honourable Grand Lodge to take Freemasonry in British Columbia and Yukon forward; to display the same initiative, innovation and industry that your predecessors have shown, and I wish you every success and every happiness in your endeavour.

Ramsay McGhee



W Ramsay McGhee
Grand Master Mason
Grand Lodge of Scotland



CELEBRATING **150** YEARS OF FREEMASONRY IN
GRAND LODGE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA AND YUKON
congratulations!





Best wishes to all from ...

The Brethren of District No. 2



Union Solomon No. 9, Lewis No. 57,

Perfection No. 75, North Star No. 167, Westminster No. 174, Legacy U.D.



Freemason's Hall · 508 Agnes Street · New Westminster · www.freemasonshall.ca



**CONGRATULATIONS TO GRAND LODGE
ON YOUR 150 YEARS.**

University Lodge is celebrating its 100 years 1920-2020.
A celebratory dinner will be announced post COVID

**Centennial-
King George
Lodge No. 171**

**Celebrating 75 years of Freemasonry in Marpole and Richmond, 1947-2022
Join us on the first Tuesday of the month at 6730 No. 3 Rd, Richmond, BC**