



THE HONOURABLE COMPANY OF FREEMEN
OF THE CITY OF LONDON OF NORTH AMERICA

37th Annual General Meeting

Royal Canadian Military Institute (Library)
426 University Avenue, Toronto
Tuesday April 19th, 2016 - 6:00pm

Agenda

1. Call to order
2. Declaration re: Constitution of the Meeting
3. Motion to approve Agenda
4. Appointment of scrutineers
5. Motion to permit the Chair to vary order of Agenda
6. Minutes of the 36th Annual General Meeting held on April 14, 2015
7. Matters arising from the Minutes
8. Master's Report
9. Hon. Clerk's Report
10. Hon. Treasurer's Report
11. Committee Reports (Communications, Events, Membership and Charitable Trust)
12. Questions from floor
13. Approval of actions of the Court during the year
14. Election of the Court for the coming year
15. New business
16. Termination



**The Honourable Company of Freemen
of the City of London of North America**

36th Annual General Meeting

Agenda

April 14, 2015

1. Call to order
2. Declaration re constitution of the Meeting
3. Motion to approve Agenda
4. Appointment of scrutineers
5. Motion to permit the Chair to vary order of Agenda
6. Minutes of the 35th Annual General Meeting held on April 15, 2014
7. Matters arising
8. Master's Report
9. Hon Clerk's Report
10. Hon Treasurer's Report
11. Committee Reports (Communications, Events, Membership and Charitable Trust)
12. Enquiries by Members
13. Approval of actions of the Court during the year
14. Election of the Court for the coming year
Nominations from the floor of the Annual General Meeting may be made for Court members only. Such nominations must be in writing signed by the nominee, the mover and seconder and be in the hands of the Master or Secretary prior to the meeting and each of the signatories must also be present at the meeting.
15. New business
16. Termination

Honourable Company of Freemen of the City of London of North America

Minutes of 36th Annual General Meeting

*The Library of the newly refurbished RCMI
(Royal Canadian Military Institute)
426 University Avenue, Toronto, ON M5G 1S9*

1. Call to Order

The Master, John Welch, welcomed Freemen and their guests to this, the 36th Annual General Meeting of the Honourable Company.

2. Declaration re Constitution of the Meeting

The Constitution of the Honourable Company states that "The Annual General Meeting of Members shall take place annually, generally at the same time as the Annual Dinner when the Master will present a report on behalf of the Court".

There being more than 10 members present the Meeting was therefore duly constituted. Tom O' Carroll will act as secretary to the meeting.

3. Motion to approve the agenda

The motion was approved without dissent.

Proposer John Bishop, seconder Ann Welch.

CARRIED

4. Appointment of Scrutineers

The By-Laws authorize the appointment of scrutineers and two volunteers were nominated to so act.

Ken Foxcroft and Michael Green

Proposed John Bishop, seconded Stephen Lautens

CARRIED

5. Motion to permit the Chair to vary the order of Agenda

Proposer John Welch, seconder Michael Green

CARRIED

6. Minutes of the 35th Annual General Meeting

The minutes were approved without dissent.

Proposer Dean Smith, seconder Ann Welch

CARRIED

7. Matters arising

There being none, the Master thanked the Court for their support

8. Master's Report – John Welch

Appended hereto:

Proposer John Welch, Seconder John Bishop

CARRIED

9. Hon. Clerk's report – Tom O' Carroll

Appended hereto:

Proposer Tom O' Carroll, Seconder Dean Smith

CARRIED

10. Treasurer's Report – Roger McMillan

Appended hereto:

The Honourable Treasurer's report and statements of Financial Position for the year ending March 31, 2015 was presented by Tom O' Carroll.

The Financial Reports of the Honourable Company of Freemen of the City of London of North America for the period April 2014 to March 31, 2015 presented to, and approved by the Court, be accepted and approved.

Proposed John Welch, Seconder Hugh Oddie

CARRIED

Chair: Any further questions

Seconder Ken Foxtrot

CARRIED

11. Committee Reports

Communications – Bill Motley

No Report:

Events – Ishrani Jaikaran

Appended hereto:

Membership - Peter Reed

Appended hereto:

London Clerk – Ashley Prime

All quiet from London apart from getting Lord Mayor's office to agree to a letter for Hazel McCallion. Ashley was not able to attend the last Clerk's meeting but will attend on March 23rd,

Charitable Trust – Francis Sommerville

The Master called for the adoption of the reports which was seconded by Stephen Lautens.

Chair: Any further questions

Seconder Ken Foxtrot

CARRIED

12. Enquiries by Members

A two-part question was put by Hugh Oddie, Past Master, regarding paid speakers namely:

1. Could the Honourable Company afford taking such a step from the usual process of inviting the appropriate volunteer individual and:

2. Would this be the practice going forward?

The Master, John Welch explained that the suggestion is an attempt to increase the profile of the Honourable Company and the decision had been made in consultation with the Court, also:

1. It was anticipated that the guest speaker would be sponsored and as such would not be an expense to the Honourable Company and:

2. There was no policy regarding paid or unpaid speakers and such selections would be considered by the incumbent Masters and Courts.

13. Approval of the actions by the Court during the year 2014/2015

Having heard the reports of activities and their results, the Master proposed that the actions of the Court undertaken on behalf of the Company during the year ending March 31, 2013, as recorded in the minutes of its meetings and in the Annual Report be and the same are hereby ratified, confirmed and approved.

Seconder Ken Foxcroft.

CARRIED

14. Election of Officers and members of the Court for the coming year

The Nominating Committee consists of 3 past Masters, the most recent Francis Sommerville, serving as Chair.

The slate for 2015/2016 is recommended as follows:

Master: Tom O' Carroll

Immediate Past Master: John Welch

Deputy Master and Treasurer: Roger McMillan

Honorary Clerk: Ishrani Jaikaran

Wardens:

PM Francis Sommerville, PM Ken Foxcroft,
Norman Morris, Peter Reed, Rebecca Bartlett
Jones, Stephen Lautens and Michelle McCarthy.
Captain Ray Gibson

Member Emeritus:

Captain Ray Gibson

Nominating Committee & Charitable Trust:

Chair John Welch,

Francis Sommerville and Ken Foxcroft

Ex Officio:

London Clerk: Ashley Prime

City and Guildhall Liaison Neil Purcell

US Liaison: Peter Hermant

All have agreed to serve.

Proposed John Bishop, seconder Dean Smith

CARRIED

15. New Business

There was no new business

16. Termination

The meeting was terminated at 7:30 pm.

CARRIED

Proposer Ann Welch, seconder John Bishop

Tom O' Carroll

Hon. Secretary

MASTERS REPORT 2015

Welcome to the Honourable Company's 36th Annual General Meeting. I am pleased to see the excellent turnout this evening as I suspect in large part due to the decision to hold the AGM in the refurbished RCMI. Perhaps you will have a chance to explore the club after the meeting as they have done a wonderful job on the new facilities. Thank you, for taking the time and interest in attending tonight's AGM.

The Annual Dinner was held on May 2nd at the National Club that once again served us well on the night. Our speaker was Andy Byford , Chief Executive Officer of the Toronto Transit System. He was ably introduced Past Master John Smith and thanked by myself as Master Elect. Mr. Byford gave an excellent speech on the challenges and his enthusiasm for the TTC. In addition to the Freeman and their guests, also in attendance was the Deputy Consul General Ms. Fern Horine, the President of the St Georges Society Michele McCarthy, The President of the National Club Steven Lautens, and our Founder Capt. Ray Gibson. In total there were eighty-five members and guests in attendance.

At last year's dinner we experimented somewhat with the proceedings conscious of the time involved but keeping in mind of our traditions. Past Master John Bishop canvassed the membership for feedback that was gratefully received and will be taken into consideration at this year's dinner. Our aim is to shorten some of the elements of the proceedings without losing sight of tradition. I wish to thank those members who contributed with their feedback. As always the dinner was a great success.

As everyone appreciates, the costs of holding the annual dinner increases yearly as the effects of inflation on food prices, wages and room rentals have their impact. The National Club and the annual dinner organizers work diligently to provide a delicious dinner in keeping with member's expectations while making every attempt to manage the costs. As such we have reached out to members to seek their assistance in defraying some of these expenses so that the annual dinner continues to be an enjoyable event. I wish to thank those Company members for their generosity on your behalf. However, it goes without saying that cost containment will continue to be an ongoing challenge and I ask all members of the Company to be understanding of that reality year over year.

In June of last year, we held the Meet the Court and new member event at the Moss Park Armory. We invited Carolyn Harris PhD, to speak on "Royalty at Rideau hall, Lord Lorne, Princess Louise and the Emergence of the Canadian Crown". Ms. Harris gave the attendees a spirited talk that was both enlightening and

entertaining. I wish to thank Capt. Tom Foulds for his assistance in this event. All proceeds on the night went to the Company's charity account in support of our scholarship.

In October we once again by popular demand embarked on the Credit Valley Scenic Explorer train to enjoy the fall colours of the Credit Valley. As was anticipated the event was sold out. Prior to the train ride quite a few of the members and guests enjoyed a delightful brunch at a local Orangeville restaurant. By all accounts the day was a great success.

Our final event took place at the Caledonian Pub on College Street that provides an award winning list of over 200 malt whisky's. Twenty-five were in attendance congregating in the pub's intimate tasting room where we sampled three distinct regional malts accompanied by an excellent introduction to each by the owner and host, enjoyed with a suitably Scottish 3 course meal.

I want to take this moment to personally thank Ishrani Jaikaran, Events Chair, on behalf of the Court and all Company members for her excellent and innovative ideas in organizing our events over the past year.

Tom O'Carroll has been very supportive during my tenor and as Company Clerk has kept the affairs of the Company in good order.

I wish to thank Roger MacMillan who as the Honorary Treasurer has managed the Company's finances in good order for another year in succession.

Past Master Frances Sommerville has chaired the Company's Trust maintaining our excellent relationship with Western University where our scholarship funding is secure for the immediate future.

Thanks to Peter Reed as Chair of Membership, Neil Purcell our London Liaison, and to Ashley Prime our resident representative in London.

Thank you to Bill Motely for his efforts regarding communications.

On behalf of the Court a special thanks to Past Master John bishop who continued to provide continuity and valued advice regarding many aspects of the Company's affairs.

Finally thank you to all members of the Court who generously gave of their time to carry out the functions and activities of the Company during the past year.

In closing I have enjoyed my time as Master and representing the Company on various occasions throughout the year. I am confident in handing over my responsibilities to your new Master, Tom O'Carroll, whom I know will continue to steward the Company going forward. I look forward to working with the new court in the capacity as Past Master and Chair of the Charitable Trust. I want to end by thanking all of those who assisted me during the past year and their efforts on behalf of the Honourable Company.

John Welch
Master

HONOURABLE CLERK'S REPORT
MEETINGS OF THE COURT

The Court met on four occasions during 2014/2015.

Meetings of the Court were held on:

1. Tuesday May 13th, 2014
2. Tuesday July 8th, 2014
3. Tuesday September 23rd, 2014
4. Tuesday January 27th, 2015

An 'Extraordinary' meeting was held, via e-mail, on April 2nd, 2015 in which two new members were approved prior to The Honourable Company's May 1st, 2015 Annual Dinner.

A quorum was present at each meeting. Minutes were approved for all meetings with the exception of Tuesday January 27th, 2015 and the 'Extraordinary meeting held, via e-mail, on Thursday April 2, 2015, which will occur at the next meeting of the Court.

John Bishop presented the nominating committee, chaired by Past Master, Francis Summerville, a slate of officers for 2015/2016 to the Court for their approval. This approved slate will be presented to the Annual General Meeting for discussion and final approval

The affairs of the Honourable Company are in good order.

Thomas J. O' Carroll – Clerk of the Court
The Honourable Company of Freemen of the City of London of North America

Honorable Company of Freemen of the City of London of North America

Treasurer's Report
Report

My apologies for not being there in person so I have asked Tom O'Carroll the Honourable Clerk to present my report.

There are two components to my report. The first is the operating account report which channels the cash flow from all revenues, quaterage and events and has a year end of March 31. The second is the financial report at the end of March for the Charitable Trust which has a year end of May 31. The final year end of the Charitable Trust will be presented at the meeting following the completion of the year end of the Trust.

Financial Report of Operating Account:

As at March 31, 2015 the operating result for the Honourable Company was a loss of \$928.59. The Balance sheet shows an asset balance of \$5182.40. This is somewhat concerning as we have made the decision to bring in expensive speakers for the Annual Dinner and have had to ask for sponsorships. I suggest we formalize the planning in the future for these meetings and initiate a budget process for pricing and decide on whether to request permanent sponsorships.

At the present time we depend on the largess of some of our members and that could only prove to be a short term solution.

The computerization of our accounts has run into a slight delay as the software was not easily installed on the donated laptop. I have plans to meet with a technician that Ken Foxcroft worked with for the Charity Trust to solve that problem.

My concern is that while there are still some payables to be met, there will be financial pressure on our accounts over the next month or so I am going to send out the quaterage invoices on June 1, 2015 to return to the normal timeline for quaterage. The delay in the past was my fault for a number of reasons. However, we will return to the normal timing this year.

My goal this year is to set up event accounts with budgets in order to provide more detailed reporting and to assist in our future planning.

Financial Report of Charity Account:

Firstly, I would like to thank Ken Foxcroft formally and request it be noted in the minutes for his assistance while I am in Florida for bring up to date the CRA requirements for director's information and for completing the bookkeeping and yearend report which was delayed due to the technical issues I had with the software. In any event, the Trust report was finished and filed. I met with Ken at his house and picked up the books and the tracking receipt.

Currently, the balance in the Charity account is \$23,544.99 as of March 31 after making our \$5,000 contribution to the University of Western Ontario.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger McMillan
Honourable Treasurer

EVENTS REPORT 2014-2015

During the previous fiscal year 5 events were held by the Honourable Company. The AGM was held on Tuesday, 15 April 2014, at the Performing Arts Lodge. We thank the members who attended and look forward to our members continuing participation and support in the coming year.

The Annual Dinner was held on Friday 02 May 2014 at the National Club. Our Speaker was Mr. Andy Byford, Chief Executive Officer of the Toronto Transit System. Mr. Byford's speech was excellent and received a standing ovation. A very successful evening.

On Wednesday 25th June our Annual 'Meet the Court and Welcome to New Members' event was held at The Queen's Own Rifles Officers' Mess at Moss Park Armoury, a great venue for the event. Our Speaker was Dr. Carolyn Harris, a Royal Historian. Her topic was 'Lord Lorne, Princess Louise and the emergence of the Canadian Crown'. An excellent evening.

On Saturday, 04 October 2014 an enthusiastic group of Freemen and friends boarded the Credit Valley Explorer train for the luncheon excursion through the picturesque Forks of the Credit river valley. By all accounts it was a most enjoyable outing.

Tuesday, 10th February 2015, a whisky tasting was held at the Caledonian Pub on College Street in Toronto, in aid of The Honourable Company's Scholarship at Western University. 24 Freemen and guests attended for a three-course dinner paired with three whiskies to compliment each course. David Wolff who owns the Caledonian spoke to us about the whiskies, where they came from and how they were made. A most enjoyable evening.

The events present the opportunity to raise funds for the charity and our commitment to the scholarship fund created at the University of Western Ontario enabling a student from any academic discipline to study for a year in London, UK. We thank all those members and guests who generously support this endeavour.

Ishrani Jaikaran Events Chair

2014-2015 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

TO THE HONOURABLE COMPANY OF FREEMEN OF THE CITY OF LONDON OF NORTH AMERICA

During the 2014-2015 fiscal year we were delighted to welcome eight (8) new members to The Honourable Company.

The Honourable Company of Freemen of the City of London of North America currently stands at 131 members, of which 13 are life members.

We encourage members to become Freemen of the City of London which requires attendance at the Chamberlain's Court, Guild Hall, London for the Freedom Ceremony. The Freedom Ceremony is a very special occasion and may be attended by family and friends.

At this time, one member is in the final stages of his application for the Freedom of the City of London. It should be noted that as of April 1, 2015 an increase of the Magistrates Court fee has taken effect. The fee of thirty (30) pounds has been increased to one hundred (100) pounds.

Peter Reed, Membership Chair

Nominating Committee Report

2015-2016 Court

Executive:

Master – Tom O'Carroll

Deputy Master and Treasurer – Roger McMillan

Clerk – Ishrani Jaikaran

Immediate Past Master – John Welch

Wardens:

PM Frances Sommerville

PM Ken Foxcroft

Norman Morris

Peter Reed

Rebecca Barrlett-Jones

Stephen Lautens

Michelle McCarthy

Daniel Kaute

Nominating Committee and Charitable Trust

Chair – John Welch

Frances Sommerville

Ken Foxcroft

Member Emeritus:

PM Captain Ray Gibson

Ex Officio:

London Clerk - Ashley Prime

City and Guildhall Liaison - PM Neil Purcell

US Liaison - Peter Hermant

Frances Sommerville

Chair, Nominating Committee

Charitable Trust Report 2014-2015

The Charity continues to progress in a most exemplary manner. You have heard the report of the Hon. Treasurer that confirms our financial condition with adequate resources to meet our contractual commitments with the University of Western Ontario, which have been extended for another four years

I am pleased to inform you that our partnership with the University of Western University has proven to be most successful over the past few years and students who have and are receiving support for their studies in London U.K. all speak highly of their experiences.

This year Kevin Lam, is currently pursuing an undergraduate degree with an honors specialization in epidemiology and biostatistics, at Kings College London, so that I can develop the key skills required to conduct research.

I and my fellow trustees would like to extend grateful thanks to all donors and recognize the contributions of the Events Committee Chair for the fund raising efforts over the past year.

Frances Sommerville

Chair, Charitable Trust



**THE HONOURABLE COMPANY OF FREEMEN
OF THE CITY OF LONDON OF NORTH AMERICA**

REPORTS – 2015-16

MASTER'S REPORT 2016

Tom O' Carroll – Master

Welcome to the Honourable Company's 37th Annual General Meeting. We have again decided to hold the AGM in the refurbished RCMI. Thank you for taking the time and interest in attending tonight's AGM.

The Annual Dinner was held in May of last year at the National Club and as always was an enjoyable occasion in an extremely pleasant atmosphere in eloquent surroundings. Our speaker was until recently the Mayor of Mississauga for some 36 years, Hazel McCallion. The introduction fell to me and I hope that my delivery acknowledged her many years of service. I found the presentation both interesting and quite insightful into the inner workings of the services that we tend to take for granted, but rely upon heavily, in day to day life within a Municipality. Master John Welch completed this section of the evening with thoughtful and charming 'Thank-you' comments.

In addition to the Freemen and their guests, also in attendance was Ms. Fern Horine, the British Deputy Consul General, Michelle McCarthy, former President of the St Georges Society and recent recipient of the Freedom of the City of London, now Warden of the Court. Also present was Sunir Chandaria, another recent recipient of the Freedom of the City of London and a key sponsor for the event and someone who's presence is always a pleasure, our Founding Master, Patron, and Life Member of our Court, Captain Raymond Gibson.

We enjoyed our traditional ceremony of the 'Loving Cup', and as always, had a very pleasant evening of good fellowship. The National Club along with Events maestro Ishrani Jaikaran worked their magic to provide a delicious dinner in keeping with expectations from such an institution. We also had the benefit of generous sponsors as detailed in our program. I would particularly like to thank John Welch, our Master on the evening for his kind contribution.

In July of last year, we held a 'Meet the Court' evening, hosted by Past Master Hugh Oddie at his lovely Toronto home and garden. We were treated to a wonderful dinner buffet complimented by some delightful wines while we socialized in an informal and relaxed atmosphere with members and their guests. We also presented our new members with their certificates.

In October, we held a familiar wine and silent auction event but at a new location for this event, The National Club. Approximately 35 members and guests attended this enjoyable evening held in the more formal settings of one of the clubs wonderfully appointed rooms. We were able to

sample some new wine releases donated by Churchill Cellars accompanied by hot and cold hors d'oeuvres and a selection of fine cheeses.

The silent auction to support out Charitable Trust included generous donations by some of our members and included wine, liquor, a round of stilton cheese and a sailing cruise. This also provided the opportunity to welcome additional new members who were also presented with their certificates. The evening was rounded off with a raffle prize donated by the National Club of a \$300 gourmet dinner.

We held our final event of the current 'Court' in February 2016. This was again the very popular whisky tasting held at The Caledonian gastropub on College Street. As before, the event was at capacity with a 'haggis' themed meal that was second to none.

As with all of our events a large thanks goes to our Events Chair Stephen Lautens, who has been first class. I would add that Ishrani Jaikaran has been an asset in contributing to the seamless transition of the Events function, which is a window to how we are perceived. They have afforded us a great example of the importance of continuity.

I would also like to show my added appreciation to Ishrani for her stellar support in the role of the Company Clerk during the time it has been my privilege to be addressed as Master of the Honourable Company.

I wish to thank Roger MacMillan who as the Honorary Treasurer has managed the Company's finances for another year. Roger has generously also taken ownership in our ongoing process of updating our membership list. This is not a simple process which will take time and effort and will be an ongoing project.

Past Master John Welch has chaired the Company's Trust and with my full support has taken our relationship with Western University to the next level. Again, in the spirit of continuity, it has been decided that Chairing the Trust will not be automatically handed over to the immediate Past Master. This is detailed by John in the Charitable Trust report.

However, I would like to reference two significant initiatives in relation to the Charitable Trust. The first is the exciting initiative of seeking out, and engaging with past and current scholars from Western assist and hopefully, involve them with the 'The Honourable Company'. We intend to utilize our resources to further assist them in their employment endeavours and perhaps welcome them as associate members. These types of projects require cultivating relationships, hence the change in the process regarding the longevity of the 'Chair'.

The second, and one I feel is a priority for a number of reasons, is not only to acknowledge that the Charitable Trust is separate from 'The Honourable Company', but through transparency, demonstrate it. The first step has been taken in separating the 'Treasurer' position. I am grateful to Roger and Ken Foxcroft, who has volunteered for the role of the Charitable Trust Treasurer, for making this happen. The Honourable Company is there to support the Charitable Trust and the Chair and Committee of the Trust will, as it has always done, continue report to the Court so that objective can be facilitated.

I also have to state that Peter Reed has done an exemplary job as the membership Chair with a fairly substantial increase in membership, some of whom are from the U.S. This in its self effects the administration and logistics. Peter working with Neil, who is always supportive and key to our 'Freedom of the City of London' applications, have underpinned our support to individuals in their journey from membership application to the Freedom Ceremony in London.

I am very appreciative for Ashley Prime continuing to represent The Honourable Company in London and welcome Peter Hermant for assisting us in the U.S. I would be totally remiss if I did

not mention John Bishop, who although no longer serving on the Court still steps into the breach when sought, particularly in the areas of communications and web liaison.

I made commitments when I became Master, to continue to bring a variety of events, improve communications with our members, work with other Loyal Societies and review and strengthen the Company's financial position. With the support of the 'Court' for which I am very grateful, I have been active in all of these areas, of which most, will always require the ongoing attention of all incumbent Masters.

In consultation with the Court, I have also introduced a new honour for those who have made an outstanding contribution to the Honourable Company be they members or not. It will be known as the 'Meritorious Award Medal' and will be first presented at the upcoming Annual dinner to four such individuals. Although any member may put a candidate forward, ultimately it will be the incumbent Master's choice and will be limited to a maximum of two possible awards per year. I feel this is a very relevant award. There are times when achievement or contribution do not always occur during service or by those who are part of an organization and this award may address that gap. Having said this, it is an award that can take into consideration many factors and as will be seen at the Annual dinner, the bar will be set very high.

We have also created a role of "Custodian of the Company's jewels". We have an inventory and in some cases, the description and history, we have now also completed a photographic record. The 'Custodian' will retain the inventory, the photographic record, be aware of who has possession of the jewels and the storage process. It will require the cooperation of our members in communicating with the 'Custodian' when items may be removed and returned.

Sadly, we recently lost three dear friends, Geoffrey Mayo, Bill Wittaker and John Lawer. Geoffrey, a Past Master is remembered for both his friendship and contribution. All who knew Bill will miss him, in addition to his support of the 'The Honourable Company', Bill was also a long term member and Mentor at the 'British Canadian Chamber of Trade and Commerce' (BCCTC). John, also a Past Master, was a special source of knowledge, advice and inspiration whenever he was approached. We will miss three such gentlemen who embodied the fellowship to which, we all aspire as members of 'The Honourable Company'.

In closing I have to say that it has been one of my life's highlight to represent The Honourable Company as Master and work and socialize with the Court, members and friends of The 'Company'. I would be happy and honoured to assist The Honourable Company going forward.

*Respectfully submitted,
Tom O'Carroll, Master*

HONORABLE CLERK'S REPORT
Ishrani Jaikaran – Company Clerk

The Court was very active in 2015/2016. Meetings of the Court were held on:

- May 27, 2015
- July 22, 2015
- September 21, 2015
- January 27, 2016
- March 09, 2016

A quorum was present at each meeting. Minutes have been approved for all meetings except the March 09 meeting.

The nominating committee, chaired by Past Master John Welch, presented a slate of officers for 2016/2017 to the Court for their approval. The slate will be presented to the Annual General Meeting for discussion and ratification.

The affairs of the Honourable Company are in good order.

Financial Report
April 19, 2016
Of The Honourable Company of Freemen of the City of London of North America
For
The Annual General Meeting

1. The Charity is now separated from the operating account and the following comments and accounting is specifically for the operating account of the Company. The year end of the Company is March 31, 2016. The accounts are being prepared to be sent to the accountant this month in preparation for the Financial Statements which will to be transferred to the incoming Treasurer
2. The balance as of March 31, 2016 is \$4,091.89 (exclusive of the Charity)
3. We received revenue of approximately \$25,600 from Quarterage and Events and expended approximately \$22,000 in various events expenses and maintenance expenses.
4. The next step is to finalize the books over the next couple of months which means getting the bank statements to the accountant to complete the year end for the operating company of the Freemen.
5. Once again we operated with a small surplus in large part due to operating and sponsorships from members of the Court. When we finalize the financial Statements for the year, as Honourable Treasurer I will prepare a transition report for the incoming Treasurer with my recommendations to make the Honourable Company more financially sustainable which will necessarily include a modest increase in Quarterage.

Respectfully Submitted
Roger McMillan
Honourable Treasurer

EVENTS REPORT
Stephen Lautens - Events Chair

The year began with an exceptional Annual Dinner at The National Club with special guest former Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion. This well-attended event is always the highlight of the new year for the Honourable Company, which includes the formal installation of the new Court for the forthcoming year.

On July 12th the Honourable Company held its popular casual summer garden party to meet the new Court at the home of Past President Hugh Oddie.

On October 20th the Honourable Company held its annual wine tasting at The National Club. About 40 members and guests attended the tasting led by Chris Churchill himself with wines generously donated by Churchill Cellars. In addition to the wines, The Honourable Company also held a silent auction with donations by Tom O'Carroll, John Bishop, Tom Foxcroft, John Welsh, Stephen Lautens and Peter Reed. The Honourable Company also welcomed several new members at the event: Harold Shepherd, Professor Jacqueline Stimson, Gerard Ezinwoke and Trevor Ward. In addition to having enjoyed a evening of tasting wines the event raised about \$2,000 for The Honourable Company's charitable fund.

On February 10th the Honourable Company held its very popular whisky tasting again at The Caledonian gastropub. Featured at this sold out event was a hearty Scottish meal and three exceptional and rare malt whiskies.

Thanks to our Clerk Ishrani Jaikaran for her ongoing assistance with events.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT
Peter Reed - Membership Chair

The 2015 / 2016 year has, I believe, been a good year for increased membership. There have been eighteen new members, including three who reside in the US. This represents a fourteen percent increase in the listed membership.

One of these eighteen was, in fact, a returning member who had allowed his membership to lapse, which gave the Court the opportunity to establish a policy whereby such returning members would not be charged the initiation fee.

A second procedural update was the rationalization of the "management" of applications for the London Freedom ceremony, which will now be controlled solely by the UK Liaison (currently Neil Purcell).

It is clear that management of the entire process by one individual will result in a more efficient process.

Finally, it is recommended that the web site needs to be reviewed for needed updates, such as fees.

CHARITABLE TRUST REPORT
Past Master John Welch - Chair of the Charitable Trust

In order to enhance compliance and good governance of the Charitable Trust it was decided to formally recognize the charitable trust as a separate entity within the Honourable Company. In so far as the charitable Trust is a separate entity as licensed by the CRA for charitable purposes this decision was more a formality than a departure from current practice. The significant change in administration of the trust is the separation of the treasurer's function from that of the Company. As recommended by the Court the treasurer of the Trust will report to the Chair of the Charitable Trust beginning 2016/2017. The trustees will report to the Court at the regularly scheduled meetings.

In addition the Past Master of the court will no longer automatically assume the position of Chair of the Trust. The Chair will be elected by the trustees and will serve for a minimum of 3 years in order to maintain continuity of communication between the Company and our university contacts. There will be 4 trustees inclusive of the Chair, the treasurer, and two trustees. The Past Master may or may not wish to sit as a trustee.

As reported in previous communications the Trust is reaching out to both Western University and past scholars to explore avenues that will highlight the our scholarship as an attractive opportunity to potential scholars and to bring together past scholars into an informal, or formal, association with the Honourable Company. As part of this out reach the reports from past scholars are now available on the Company's web site as will the reports from future scholars. Past scholars will now be invited to attend the annual dinner and other Company activities as they occur. The trustees will endeavour to meet with the selected scholar prior to their term in London as an introduction to the Company and our Company contact in the City of London.

These new initiatives will be seen as iterative and transitional and over time evolving and dependent on input from all participants.

Addendum for the information of Members of the Honourable Company:

- The Honourable Company's commitment to the University of Western Ontario is for 10 years, made up of two five year terms.
- To date, 6 students have been through or are enrolled in, the program. Student reports can be found on the Company's website under the tab "Scholarship Recipients".
- The Honourable Company has covered a great portion of our commitment and has plans in place to cover the balance.

The Honourable Company of Freemen of London of North

America

**Nominating Committee Report
2016-2017**

Executive:

Master
Deputy Master and Treasurer
Clerk
Immediate Past Master

Roger MacMillan
Ishrani Jaikaran
Norman Morris
Tom O'Carroll

Wardens of the Court:

PM Frances Sommerville
PM Ken Foxcroft
PM John Welch
Stephen Lautens
Michele McCarthy
Peter Reed

Charitable Trust:

Chair
Treasurer
Trustee
Trustee

John Welch
Ken Foxcroft
Michele McCarthy
Gerard Eiznwoke

Nominating Chair:

PM

Tom O'Carroll

Member Emeritus:

PM Captain Ray Gibson

EX Officio:

London Clerk
City and Guildhall Liaison
US Liaison

Ashley Prime
PM Neil Purcell
Peter Hermant

John Welch

Chair, Nominating Committee