



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

Annual General Meeting

Royal Canadian Military Institute (Library)
426 University Avenue, Toronto
Wednesday April 19th, 2017 - 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 37th Annual General Meeting held on April 19, 2016
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**

Annual General Meeting

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

Minutes of 37th Annual General Meeting held on April 19, 2016

1. Call to Order

The Master, Tom O'Carroll, welcomed Freemen and their guests to this, the 37th 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. Ishrani Jaikaran will act as secretary to the meeting.

3. Motion to approve the agenda

The motion was approved without dissent.

Proposer Roger Mc Millan, seconder John Bishop. **CARRIED**

4. Appointment of Scrutineers

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

John Welch and John Bishop

Proposed Michael Green, seconded Frances Sommerville **CARRIED**

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

Proposer Roger McMillan, seconder Peter Reed **CARRIED**

6. Minutes of the 36th Annual General Meeting held on April 19,2016

The minutes were approved without dissent.

Proposer John Smith, seconder Frances Sommerville **CARRIED**

7. Matters arising

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

8. Master's Report – Tom O'Carroll

Appended hereto:

Proposer Ken Foxcroft, Seconder John Bishop **CARRIED**

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

Appended hereto:

Proposer John Smith, Seconder Stephen Lautens **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, 2016 was presented by Ishrani Jaikaran.

The Financial Reports of the Honourable Company of Freemen of the City of London of North America for the period April 2015 to March 31, 2016 presented to, and approved by the Court, be accepted and approved.

Proposed John Welch, Seconder Peter Reed **CARRIED**

Chair: Any further questions **CARRIED**

11. Committee Reports

Communications

No Report:

Events – Stephen Lautens

Appended hereto:

Membership - Peter Reed

Appended hereto:

London Clerk – Ashley Prime

No report

Charitable Trust – John Welch

Appendix hereto:

Omnibus motion proposed by the Chairs to have the reports adopted

Seconded by John Smith.

CARRIED

Chair: Any further questions

Any Questions? Yes.

Questions for the Charitable Trust:

1. Is it a significant amount that we give to the University?
Answer: \$5,000 which is matched by the University for a total of \$10,000
2. How many Scholars have we invested in so far?
Answer: Total of 5 Scholars
3. How long is the agreement with the University?
Agreement for 5 years, 1 year left.

12. Enquiries by Members

None

13. Approval of the actions by the Court during the year 2015/2016

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, 2016, 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 John Welch, serving as Chair.

The slate for 2016/2017 is recommended as follows:

Master:	Roger McMillan
Immediate Past Master:	Tom O'Carroll
Deputy Master and Treasurer:	Ishrani Jaikaran
Honorary Clerk:	Norman Morris

Wardens:

PM John Welch, PM Francis Sommerville,
PM Ken Foxcroft, Stephen Lautens, Peter
Reed, Michelle McCarthy.

Member Emeritus:

Captain Ray Gibson

Charitable Trust:

Chair:	John Welch
Treasurer:	Ken Foxcroft
Trustees:	Michèle McCarthy Gerard Ezinwoke

Ex Officio:

London Clerk:	Ashley Prime
City and Guildhall Liaison	Neil Purcell
US Liaison:	Peter Hermant

Chair, Nominating Committee

John Welch

All have agreed to serve.

Proposed John Bishop, seconder Jeffrey Lewis

CARRIED

The following was read by the Master – Tom O’Carroll

RESOLUTION

It is resolved that the Royal Bank of Canada, Royal Bank Plaza, Toronto be re-appointed as Bankers for the account of The Honourable Company of the Freemen of the City of London of North America and the charitable account of The Freemen of the City of London of North America.

Be it further resolved that for both the Operating account and Charitable Trust account, two authorized signatures are required on any cheques issued. This is effective as of the AGM held at the Royal Canadian Military Institute on the 19th April, 2016.

Amendments were made to this resolution as follows:

1. It is resolved that the Royal Bank of Canada, Royal Bank Plaza, Toronto be re-appointed as Bankers for the account of The Honourable Company of the Freemen of the City of London of North America and the charitable **trust**.

Proposed by: Michael Green, Seconded by: Michael Charles

2. It is resolved that the Royal Bank of Canada, Royal Bank Plaza, Toronto be re-appointed as Bankers for the account of The Honourable Company of the Freemen of the City of London of North America and the charitable **trust**. **Constitution altered to reflect two resolutions.**

Proposed by: John Welch, Seconded by: Ken Foxcroft

15. New Business

There was no new business

16. Termination

The meeting was terminated at 7:30 pm.

CARRIED

Proposer Hans Bathija, seconder Derek Robinson

Ishrani Jaikaran

Hon. Secretary

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 our 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*

Financial Report
April 19, 2016

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 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 Freeman.
3. 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

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.

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 retuning 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.

**Nominating Committee Report
2016-2017**

Executive:

Master
Deputy Master and Treasure
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



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

The Hon Clerks Report.

Meetings of the Court 2016-2017

Four meetings of the Court were held during this past year, each with a full Quorum and all previous minutes were approved.

1. May 25th 2016
2. June 29th 2016
3. September 21st
4. March 28th 2017

During the year the Hon. Clerk has opened up links with a number of Livery Companies and is in discussions with a Guest from London to be our speaker at the 2018 Dinner.

Norman P. J. Morris.
Hon Clerk of the Court.

FINANCIAL REPORT

APRIL 19,2017

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

Year Ending March 31, 2016

Operating Account:

The Company met its obligations to all its creditors through revenue generated by Quarterage and Events

In order to make The Company more financially sustainable it has been suggested The Company should plan to have at least one fundraiser during the year to enhance both the operating and charity accounts.

The Court has also recommended a modest increase in the Quarterage for 2017/2018.

Once the financial Statements for the year have completed a transition report will be prepared for the incoming Treasurer.

Ishrani Jaikaran

Honourable Treasurer

Report of Honourable Company of Freemen Events 2016-17

Following the Honourable Company's Annual General Meeting held April 19, 2016 at the Royal Canadian Military Institute, the first event was the Annual Dinner on May 6th. The special guest speaker was Major-General (Ret.) David Fraser, BA, MA, CD, MSM, MSC, CMM, who spoke on the topic of international security. Approximately 70 members and guests were present for the reception and dinner, and to see the 2016-17 Court installed. Wine with the dinner was generously sponsored by Tom O'Carroll, Ken Foxcroft, John Welch and John Bishop. Incoming Master Roger McMillan sponsored the traditional first drink at the reception. Complimentary beer was provided by John Sleeman.

The "Meet the Court" Garden Party was held on The National Club's rooftop on Wednesday, July 13, 2016, with about 30 members and guests in attendance for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

The annual Wine Tasting Fundraiser was also held at The National Club on Thursday, October 13, 2016. Wines were generously donated by Vinexx, one of Ontario's leading wine agencies, representing outstanding companies from around the world. Vinexx President Rolf Lutz personally guided us through the tasting. Our members also enjoyed hot and cold hors d'oeuvres and a selection of fine cheeses to complement the wine selections. Including the silent auction, with items generously donated by our members, the event raised almost \$2000.

One of our most anticipated annual events is the Whisky Tasting held at the Caledonian Pub. Approximately 20 members and guests attended this intimate evening dedicated to sampling fine single malts accompanied by a generous service of haggis.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Lautens
Events Chair

Honourable Company of Freemen of the City of London of North America Membership Report, April 2017

This has been a 'slow' year for membership applications with two new members, Roland Paxton and Robert Andrews, approved and two others waiting to be interviewed.

Otherwise, the focus has been on the purging of the membership list.

A minor change in process is the decision to mail membership certificates to those who are not able to pick them up. There is a large backlog of certificates for current members, which I will be mailing in the near future and all new members will be offered the opportunity to have their certificate presented by the Honourable Master or, to have it mailed. The application fee has been increased from \$150 to \$160 to cover the cost of this mailing.

Also, in recognition of general increases in costs, annual Quarterage was increased from \$85 to \$95.

The major undertaking for the year was the purging of the membership list. Through Ishrani's efforts and follow up on the collection of annual Quarterage, we have been able to identify a certain number who have chosen not to continue their membership and a few who had passed away. The result of this is a reduction of 20 names on the list. Our number of members currently stands at 89. My thanks to Ishrani for her hard work on this initiative.

Peter Reed
Membership Chairman

Report of the Charitable Trust of the Honourable Company of Freemen

The year was successful in that the charity fulfilled its mandate regarding the Freemen Scholarship with Western University. The 2016 scholar is enrolled in Film Studies and Global Development at King's College London and is delighted and excited to have the opportunity to do so with the assistance of the Company. I understand that Kings College was rated number one in the Film Studies discipline for 2015. A letter from this year's recipient can be found on the Company's web site.

This has completed our scholarship mandate with Western University and we are pleased with the results of our years of involvement with them. The scholars and Western have been most appreciative of our assistance and I would surmise would like us to continue our involvement. I am pleased to report The Charitable Trust is financially secure with in excess of \$13,000 in reserve. As such the Trustees will convene after the AGM to discuss what opportunities might be available and to ultimately make a recommendation to the Court regarding our future activities.

As part of our initiative to involve past scholars in Freemen activities we invited all previous recipients to attend the 2016 annual dinner as our guests. Two of them attended the dinner. All who met them were most favourably impressed with the quality of the scholars and with their enthusiasm for their study in London and for the opportunity to attend the dinner to learn more about the Honourable Company. An invitation has once again been extended to past scholars to attend the 2017 annual dinner. We also hope that a representative from Western University will attend the dinner this year as well.

I wish to express my thanks to my fellow trustees, Ken Foxcroft Treasurer, and to Michele McCarthy and Gerard Ezinwoke for their efforts on behalf of the Charitable Trust during the previous year. I am pleased to report all wish to commit for an additional year.

PM John Welch
Chair

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

Recommended Nomination Slate for 2017/2018

Master:	Ishrani Jaikaran
Deputy Master and Honourable Clerk:	Norman Morris
Treasurer:	Dean Smith
Immediate Past Master:	PM Roger McMillan
Wardens of the Court:	PM Ken Foxcroft, Michele McCarthy Peter Reed PM Frances Sommerville PM John Welch PM Tom O' Carroll Hans Bathija Gerard Ezinwoke
Member Emeritus:	PM Captain G. Raymond Gibson
Ex Officio:	PM Neil Purcell Ashley Prime London Clerk

Charitable Foundation

Chair:	PM John Welch
Treasurer:	PM Ken Foxcroft
Trustee:	Michele McCarthy
Trustee:	Gerard Ezinwoke

Nominating Committee

Chair:	PM Roger McMillan
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PM Tom O'Carroll
Chair, Nominating Committee



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

Master's Report presented at the Annual Dinner, May 5th, 2017

It is good to see so many stalwart supporters of the Honourable Company here tonight. I have attended many of these dinners and each of them have delighted and entertained me as I am sure it has with many of you.

It has been another good year for the Honourable Company and we have been able to fulfill our promises to Western University for their scholarship programme which we support through The Trust we established last year as an “independent body” to comply with CRA requirements. It is being dutifully run by Ken Foxcroft and John Welch.

I can assure you that the affairs of the Court are in good order, no small thanks to Ishrani, Stephan, Michelle, John Welch again, Tom O’Carroll, and Norman Morris.

As I observe the activities of the Court and the coming and going of tasks needed to done to make the events run smoothly and to hand over the daily dealings of the Honourable Company to the next Court, I am reminded of a phrase.....”Non solis nobis”.... Not for ourselves alone.

That defines the care and diligence brought to all tasks that the members of the Court and past members of the court bring to their endeavours.

This past year as so many others has gone by so quickly as to challenge the time continuum. I think that adage that time speeds up as one increases in age is more than just theory.

The events of the past year are fully explained in our AGM reports which will be posted on our website but in summary, we have had a number of enjoyable social events which allow our members to interact. I particularly enjoyed the Whiskey nosing at the Caledon Inn and the new members meetings at the National Club

despite the fact that I forgot my medals and had to taxi them to the event and despite the fact that no new members were in attendance. The Wine tasting was again a big hit thanks to Stephan Lautens.

We have a long history and that is something that we should always put in perspective and be proud of and we need honestly to do a better job of communicating that history to attract new members.

We have provided scholarship assistance to deserving students through the aforementioned Trust to Western University pursuant to our established tradition.

It is with great pride that I report we haven't lost any of our members this year which is surprising giving the tumultuous times we have endured over the past year. I understand that Twitter had a record year. I wonder why.

It is important to always think and plan for the continuity of our Court. The year's events just don't happen and we seem to be constantly thanking the same people.

But it would be remiss of me if I were not to thank the outgoing court for their continued efforts and support during the past year. You will also note in your programme, those Company members who contributed to making this evening very enjoyable while defraying significant costs to the Company. Gentlemen please accept our heartfelt thank you.

I would also like to thank Stephen Lautens and Ishrani Jaikaran for their work in organizing and supporting this evening's event.

In a few moments, I will be handing the responsibilities of the Master over to Ishrani Jaikaran who has certainly earned the appointment with her work in events and treasury.

The rest of the Court are no slouches either and I am sure they will all actively support Ishrani through the next year.

It has been an honour and a privilege to be your Master this past year. I will note that Tom O'Carroll worked just as hard as Past Master this past year and I look forward to working equally as hard.

Thank you all.