



**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 18th, 2018 - 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 38th Annual General Meeting held on April 19, 2017
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

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

Minutes of 38th Annual General Meeting

*The Library of the Royal Canadian Military Institute
426 University Avenue, Toronto, ON M5G 1S9*

April 19, 2017

1. Call to Order

In the absence of the Master, Roger McMillan, Past Master, Tom O'Carroll, acted as Chair and welcomed Freemen and their guests to this, the 38th 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. Norman Morris will act as secretary to the meeting.

3. Motion to approve the agenda

Proposer Ken Foxcroft, seconder Frances Sommerville. **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 Ken Foxcroft, seconded Frances Sommerville **CARRIED**

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

Proposer Tom O'Carroll, seconder John Bishop **CARRIED**

6. Approval of Minutes of the 37th Annual General Meeting held on April 19,2016

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

7. Matters arising

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

8. Master's Report – Roger McMillan

Submitted in absentia

9. Hon. Clerk's report – Norman Morris

Approved.

10. Treasurer's Report – Ishrani Jaikaran

The Honourable Treasurer's report and statements of Financial Position for the year ending March 31, 2017 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 2016 to March 31, 2017 presented to, and approved by the Court, be accepted and approved.

Proposed Tom O'Carroll, Seconder John Bishop

CARRIED

Chair: Any further questions

NONE

11. Committee Reports:

Communications

No Report:

Events – Stephen Lautens

Membership - Peter Reed

London Clerk – Ashley Prime

No report

Charitable Trust – John Welch

Omnibus motion proposed by the Chairs to have the reports adopted

Seconded by Ann Welch

CARRIED

Chair: Any questions?

PM Hugh Oddie commented that he was not in favour of raising the Quarterage further. This was noted by the Treasurer.

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.

Secunder Hans Bathija

CARRIED

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

The Nominating Committee. Tom O'Carroll serving as Chair.

The slate for 2017/2018 is recommended as follows:

Master: Ishrani Jaikaran

Immediate Past Master: Roger McMillan

Deputy Master and Honorary Clerk: Norman Morris

Treasurer: Dean Smith

Wardens:

PM Tom O'Carroll, PM Frances Sommerville,
PM Ken Foxcroft, Norman Morris, Peter
Reed, Hans Bathija, Michèle McCarthy,
Gerard Ezinwoke, PM John Welch

Member Emeritus: Captain Ray Gibson

Charitable Trust:

Chair: PM John Welch

Treasurer: PM Ken Foxcroft

Trustees: Michèle McCarthy

Gerard Ezinwoke

Ex Officio:

London Clerk:	Ashley Prime
City and Guildhall Liaison	PM Neil Purcell

All have agreed to serve.

The following was read by the Chair – 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, 2017.

Carried

15. New Business

There was no new business

16. Termination

The meeting was terminated at 6:28 pm.

CARRIED

Proposer Hugh Oddie, seconder John Bishop

Norman Morris

Hon. Secretary

MASTER'S REPORT 2018
Ms. Ishrani Jaikaran – Master

Welcome to the 39th Annual General Meeting of The Honourable Company being held at the Royal Canadian Military Institute. Thank you all for attending.

The Annual Dinner held last year on Friday, 5th May 2017 at the National Club was an enjoyable evening and well attended. An evening full of camaraderie and good fellowship and the traditional 'Loving Cup'.

Our Speaker was Mr. Kevin McGurgan, British Consul General and Director of Trade and Investment for the U.K. in Canada. Mr. McGurgan spoke very eloquently on his career in the Foreign Service and the many countries that he served in and his family connections with Canada. Mr. McGurgan was introduced by Master Roger McMillan and thanked by Past Master Tom O'Carroll.

Unfortunately our Founding Master, Patron and Life Member of our Court, Captain Raymond Gibson was unable to attend due to the illness of his son Glen. He was greatly missed.

In July of last year we held the 'Meet the Court and Greet New Members' event in the garden at The Old Mill. The weather co-operated and it was a beautiful evening enjoyed by all who attended. We greeted three new members, Mr. Derwin Mak, Ms. Brandy Dowdall and Mr. Jeffrey Lewis and I presented them with their certificates and pins. Earlier in the year I had welcomed Mr. Russ Russell-Rivoallan on a trip back to Canada from Paris. Later in the year he obtained his Freedom in London.

On 1st November we held the Fall Fund raiser in the beautiful library at the Royal Canadian Military Institute. Professor Fadi Dawood PhD., Senior Fellow NATO Association, PhD in Middle Eastern Affairs SOAS, University of London, spoke on the subject 'Colonizers and the Colonized: How the British Manufactured Warrior Race Identities'. The talk was thought provoking. Hors d'oeuvres were served. It was an interesting evening enjoyed by the majority of attendees. A raffle was held to support our Charitable Trust. The prize was a sailing cruise around the Islands with a picnic lunch for four people generously donated by Mr. Peter Reed our membership chair. It was won by Ms. Brandy Dowdall. We welcomed an additional two new members, Mr. Keith Jones and Mr. Norman Godfrey and I presented them with their certificates and pins.

In December a casual lunch pre-Christmas was held at the Queen and Beaver Public House on Elm Street and there were about fifteen people. It was a family occasion and very enjoyable.

In February 2018 we held our usual Whisky Tasting at the Caledonian Pub which boasts 360 different whiskies. This event as always was fully booked. Three very different whiskies were paired with the 'haggis' themed meal.

On 8th March 2018, the British Canadian Chamber of Trade and Commerce held a function to celebrate International Women's Day at Artworld Fine Art Gallery, a beautiful space in the West End of Toronto. The function was a huge success and was held as a fundraiser in conjunction with The Honourable Company and the Wounded Warriors. The event was well attended. It

was a lovely evening of fun, networking, good food and welcoming new members. Proceeds from the event were divided between The Honourable Company and the Wounded Warriors.

As with all of our events a big thank you goes to our Events Chair Mr. Hans Bathija who has introduced some new and interesting events.

I would also like to thank Mr. Norman Morris for his stellar support in the role of Honourable Clerk and Deputy Master during the time it has been my privilege to be addressed as Master of the Honourable Company.

I wish to thank Mr. Dean Smith who as the Honorary Treasurer has managed the Company's finances for this financial year. Dean has also worked diligently with Mr. Peter Reed our Membership Chair in the ongoing process of payment of dues.

Mr. Peter Reed, Membership Chair, has for the past three years taken ownership in the ongoing process of updating our membership list and has worked with the Honourable Treasurer to keep payment of dues updated. He has done a superb job. Members need to be constantly reminded of dues payments which takes time and effort. Peter is also involved in processing the application forms for new members.

Past Master John Welch has chaired the Company's Trust for the past three years. This decision which was made in 2015-16, under the tenure of Master at the time, Tom O'Carroll, to have one person continually chair the Charity, has proved to be an excellent decision in continuity and John has been a first-rate Chair. Our relationship with Western University came to an end during this current year while I was Master and John together with his Trustee members, Ken Foxcroft, Michèle McCarthy and Gerard Eziwoke sourced a new University. With my full support and that of the Court we have affiliated ourselves with the Department of Fashion and Arts at George Brown University. This relationship is looking very positive as they have a connection with the University Arts London. I won't go into too much detail as I am sure John will do that in his report.

I am also appreciative for Ashley Prime continuing to represent The Honourable Company in London. Ashley attends all the Freedom ceremonies of new members and acts as a liaison between us and the City of London.

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

Past Master Neil Purcell has been, for many years, our contact with the Chamberlain's Office to process the Freedom for new members. Neil has done an exemplary job for the Honourable Company and has gone above and beyond the call of duty in many cases. He has maintained our contact with the Chamberlain's office and hence the City of London. This year he asked me to take over the Freedom applications. I am very honoured that he trusts me to carry on this duty in the way that he has done so very competently. I will do my very best to live up to his tremendous legacy and dedication to the Honourable Company.

I made a commitment when I became Master to continue to raise our profile both in the City of London and in North America. To that end when I was in London last June I went to the Guild

Hall and met with the Reverend Canon David Parrott, Guild Vicar and Chaplain to the City of London and other bodies. He will be our Speaker at our Annual Dinner. I also visited various members of Livery Companies and the Chamberlain's Office.

The website has been updated with a Mission and Vision Statement and the Charitable page has been updated to reflect George Brown University as our present recipient of our scholarship. We have also started a Twitter account and through this have had an inquiry from a Liveryman in the U.S.A.

A conversation has been started regarding forming a committee to look into material being stored in boxes, getting them archived and looking into whether it would be possible to get these into the National Archives.

With the tremendous support of the 'Court' for which I am very grateful we have continued to bring to our members a variety of events, to work with other Loyal Societies and review and strengthen the Company's financial position. A lot has happened this year and as such we are still closing a few things and once that is done I will be sending out a communique in the form of the Company Comment.

Once again, 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, let me say how very honoured I feel to have been chosen to be Master of the Honourable Company. This has definitely been one of the highlights of my life and one that I will remember fondly. I am confident that the Company will be safe in the hands of your Master Elect, Mr. Norman Morris. I will be happy and honoured to assist "The Honourable Company" going forward and thank all those who assisted me in the past year.

Respectfully submitted by

Ms. Ishrani Jaikaran, Master

Annual General Meeting 2018
The Hon. Clerk's Report

I am pleased to be able to say that we had 6 very productive Court Meetings where much was achieved.

Details of which will be covered in the Master's Report.

In addition there was a Strategy Meeting in October to clarify our Vision & Mission Statement. During my period as Clerk to the Court I increased contact with my fellow Clerks in London and have received the 2018 Master & Clerks Pocket Guide.

Norman P.J. Morris
Clerk.

Treasurer's Report to AGM

First please accept my apologies for not being here tonight. Unfortunately, at this time I am boarding a plane (for work purposes) and, as such, am unable to attend in person.

- 1) To the best of my knowledge all expenses were paid and that there are no outstanding payables.
- 2) There has been a decrease in the number of paying members. The reasons for this I will leave to the Membership Chair. The associated decrease in quarterage revenue, this represents 52 paid up members. 18 prior year members did not respond to their quarterage notice.
- 3) Other general on-going revenue sources (initiation fees, etc.).
- 4) I believe there are a few outstanding receivables from the Whiskey tasting event and the November 1, fundraiser. I am following up on these with the Events Chair.
- 5) The net income from special events amounted to \$2,816.
- 6) We cannot continue to lose money. We should, at a minimum, break even at the operational level.
- 7) The inability to cover our operational costs has led the Court to increase the quarterage from \$95 to \$125 (with exceptions for members age 70 and older whose quarterage will increase to \$100). We do not yet know the exact increase as we do not know how many members will qualify for the age 70 discount.
- 8) Even with the increase in quarterage revenue that will not close 100% the gap. As such, we need to look at lowering our operational costs and increasing membership.
- 9) Our three biggest operational expenditures are (i) director's insurance, (ii) web hosting and (iii) the maintenance and storage of jewels.
- 10) With respect to the jewels etc., we are undertaking a needs analysis and determining what possible other arrangements may be made in order to reduce these costs.
- 11) With respect to webhosting, the Court has requested bids in an effort to (i) update and improve the website itself and (ii) reduce annual costs.
- 12) With respect to the director's insurance I am following up with the insurance broker to determine what our coverage is and what scope there is to reduce costs.

EVENTS REPORT

Hans Bathija – Events Chair

The 38th Annual Dinner was held on May 5th at The National Club with special guest Kevin McGurgan, HM Consul-General and Director-General for UK Trade and Investment in Toronto.

The event was well attended. Mr. McGurgan provided the Government overview on Brexit and covered his career as a diplomat working in many countries around the world.

On June 13th 2017 the annual Meet the Court Garden Party was held at The Old Mill Toronto. The new Court was met by the Honourable Company on a lovely summer evening.

On November 1st at our Annual Fall Fundraiser, a stimulating talk was held at the RCMI by Dr. Fadi Dawood on Warrior Races of the British Empire. One certainly left with more questions than answers!

On December 11th, Statutes of Westminster Day, a Christmas Celebration was held at the Queen & Beaver Pub with typical English fare. A festive time was held by all.

On February 13th, our ever popular Whisky Tasting was held in honour of Robbie Burns Day at The Caledonian. Attendees were once again treated to a lovely Scottish fare paired with three rare and special whiskies. David Wolff once again led us through the tastings and kept us enthralled with his detailed knowledge of whisky.

On February 15th, the Honourable Company was invited by the RCMI to attend their Military History Night talk by Dr. Lynn McDonald in honour of Florence Nightingale, the 2nd woman to have been granted an Honorary Freedom of the City. It was a treat to hear the tale of such an esteemed Freeman!

On March 8th, in honour of International Women's Day, we partnered with the BCCTC and ArtWorld Fine Art Gallery to raise funds for Wounded Warriors. This unique event was well attended and raised the profile of the Honourable Company. A fantastic time was had by all! Special thanks to the organizing committee for their hard work.

On March 10th, in honour of Commonwealth Day, and on April 7th, in honour of Tartan Day, a lunch was held on each day with the HonCo's esteemed Founder, PM Ray Gibson at Heritage Fish and Chips. It was an honour to hear Ray's stories of the founding of our Company and his time in aviation and government.

Thanks to all for supporting the events and to the Master for her full support.

The Honourable Company of Freemen of the City of London of North America
Membership Report April 7 2018

At the time of writing the status of our membership count stands at 92, however, this includes 18 who have not paid their 2017 quarterage. Therefore, we stand at 74 members in good standing. This 74 includes 14 who are honourary or life members, not paying quarterage, so our total of paying members stands at 60. The notice for payment of 2018 quarterage will include a final request for payment of 2017 from the 18 who are in arrears.

In the past year we have welcomed 9 new members and have received resignations from 7. These numbers are included in the above total. Application forms have recently been requested and sent to 4 potential new members.

As a result of increasing costs and stagnant or decreasing membership, the Court has unanimously agreed that quarterage be increased to \$125 but by way of mitigation, similarly to other comparable organizations, the Court has introduced a seniors' rate of \$100. These new rates are effective with this year's quarterage.

It is clear that we must increase membership in order to maintain the viability of the Honourable Company. To this end our incoming Master, together with Tom O'Carroll, has undertaken to focus efforts on attracting new members.

Peter Reed
Membership Chairman

The Charitable Trust

We concluded our successful scholarship association with Western University. The final scholar Mark Ren is attending CASS Business School in London and we have received an email update from him that can be found on the Company's web site. We wish Mark success in his academic endeavors.

In concluding our association with Western the Court directed the Trustees to canvass Toronto based colleges and universities to ascertain their interest in working with the Company. We discovered that George Brown College had an ongoing relationship with the University of the Arts in London and they were particularly keen on our approach to them.

After some discussion The Charitable Trust of The Honourable Company of Freemen of the City of London in association with George Brown College faculty of the fashion Arts has created a scholarship for a qualifying student to study towards a degree in fashion at the University of the Arts, London England. The Charitable Trust has committed to a 3- year scholarship extendable for a further 2 years.

This scholarship is a renewal of our ongoing commitment to provide funding to qualified scholars to study in London. We are particularly pleased with our association with George Brown College as it speaks to the historic connections with the Worshipful Livery Companies in London dating back to medieval times, the City of London, and the Honourable Company of Freemen in North America. A number of Livery companies have fashion related origins and it is our objective to establish a working relationship with one or more in this student exchange.

Gauging by the reaction George Brown College is especially pleased with our donation. The Master and the Trustees were treated to an exclusive tour of the Casa Loma campus where we were shown the jewellery and fashion design facility. Amongst the GBC attendees were Cindy Gouveia the President of the GBC foundation, Rosa Fracassa the Acting chair of the School of Fashion and Paul McClure Professor at GBC School of Jewellery. It was particularly interesting as we witnessed students actively engaged in their discipline. Following the tour, we presented the College with a cheque for \$15,000 in a small ceremony.

In order to fulfil our commitment, and hopefully extend it, we will work with the George Brown to organize and hold a fundraiser highlighting the jewellery and fashion aspects of the college sometime in 2019. I hope the members of the Honourable Company will support this fundraising as it will be a great event to celebrate our charitable activities and to introduce potential new members to the Company.

John Welch
Chair, The Charitable Trust

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

Recommended Nomination Slate and Court Responsibilities for 2018-2019

Master	Norman P.J. Morris
Deputy Master & Treasurer	Dean Smith
Honourable Clerk	Michèle McCarthy
Immediate Past Master	Ishrani Jaikaran
Wardens of Court	PM Ishrani Jaikaran, PM Roger McMillan, PM Tom O'Carroll, PM Frances Sommerville, PM John Welch, PM Ken Foxcroft, Michèle McCarthy, Peter Reed, Hans Bathija, Gerard Ezinwoke
Member Emeritus	Past Master Captain G. Raymond Gibson
Ex Officio	City and Guildhall Liaison: Past Master Neil Purcell London Clerk: Ashley Prime
Charitable Foundation:	
Chair	Past Master John Welch
Treasurer	Past Master Ken Foxcroft
Trustee	Immediate Past Master Ishrani Jaikaran
Trustee	Michele McCarthy
Trustee	Gerard Ezinwoke
Nominating Committee:	
Chair	Past Master Roger McMillan