

**MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE F. AND A.M. PROVINCE OF
ONTARIO AND JURISDICTION**

162ND ANNUAL GRAND COMMUNICATIONS

GRAND MASTERS ADDRESS



THE HONOURABLE HEADLEY G. LEWIS

WORKING TOGETHER TODAY, FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

AUGUST 11TH AND 12TH 2017



MW Grand Master's Report-2017

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Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, ALEX POOLE,
Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden, CURTIS WELCH,
Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden, ROBERT STYLIANOUDAKIS
Most Worshipful Past Grand Masters,
Grand Lodge Officers: Past and Present
Visiting Most Worshipful Grand Masters and Delegations
Grand Worthy Matron, Sis. JACQUELINE DIMIRA
Affiliated, Concordant and Adoptive Bodies
Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, Brothers and Sisters

Fraternal Greetings:

'Tell me and I forget, Teach Me and I may remember, Involve me and I learn.

I welcome you to this 162nd Annual Grand Communication of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, Province of Ontario and Jurisdiction.

May I extend a very special 150th Canada Birthday greetings to our Brothers and Sisters who have travelled far and wide to be with us on this auspicious occasion. It is my hope that your stay will be a worthwhile one that you will always remember.

Let us Pray.

O Heavenly Father, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, I beseech you to look down on your humble servant and the Brothers and Sisters gathered, for you to guide our words, actions and decisions.

Let the approach of this office be that of a Servant Leader. Ever keeping the well-being of this ancient and honourable order at the forefront.

I pray this in the name of our Lord and Saviour.....Amen...So Mote it Be, So Mote it be, So Mote it be.

Giving thanks to the Grand Architect Of the Universe for the manifold blessings he has bestowed upon me in the past year. In accordance with the Proclamation of this Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge and the provisions of Article 12(h) of the Constitution of this Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge. I respectfully submit to this Grand Lodge at its One Hundred and Sixty Second Annual Communication my report of stewardship as your M W Grand Master for the Masonic year 2016-2017.

Again, I greet you with deep humility and to extend my sincere gratitude to each for having the faith in me to lead this Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge. It was an honour and a privilege, I hope that I have earned the honor that will place me among those esteemed Brothers who have served this office before me. To those who have served with me, my Deputy Grand Master Alexander Poole, and the other elected and appointed officers, thanks for making this year manageable.

After my installation in August 2016, my first visitation was with the Grand Chapter, at that visit I proclaimed the Edict that allows non-blood line to be members of the Order of the Eastern Stars. I also promised the Grand Worthy Matron and the Members that I will do whatever is necessary so that we can start working together again.

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Today, I am very pleased that we are meeting with the Sisters and Brothers of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Chapter, we can make great contributions if we continue to work together. A house divided cannot prosper. Thank you for your continued support

During the Masonic year I followed the Book of Constitution, the Monitor and Protocol to execute my duties without any deviation-because as a leader I believe that the best way is by setting examples. Good governance and fiscal responsibility were exercised during this year.

In Appreciation

My sincere appreciation to all Brothers who attended the 161st Annual Grand Session held in Montreal, Quebec, where I was elected as your Grand Master for the Masonic year 2016-2017. I did not take your trust lightly when I accepted this position which is not non-entry level and embarked on this journey. It is my hope that at the end of this report it will be concluded that my best was good enough.

The elected slate of Officers fulfilled the various Grand Lodge functions diligently.

Deputy Grand Master: R.W. Bro. Alexander Poole has provided solid advice throughout the year. We worked as a team, supporting each other to ensure proper governance of this Grand Lodge.

Grand Senior Warden: R.W. Bro. Curtis Welch has performed his duties thoroughly. He was very involved in the hosting of the North East Regional Conference.

Grand Junior Warden: R.W. Bro. Robert Stylianoudakis has served us well in maintaining/upgrading our website and also conducted a very informative workshop at our Board of General Purposes-Mid Season Session.

Grand Secretary: R.W. Bro. Clayton Talbert and Grand Treasurer: R.W. Bro. Tyrone Edwards ensured that all administrative and financial requests of the Grand Lodge were performed in a timely manner. Your services are much appreciated.

To the District Deputy Grand Masters who have represented me and carried out all of the duties of this Grand Lodge, my sincere thanks to you Sirs for performing those duties so well.

Grand Lecturer, MW PGM Ken Roberts and his team of Assistant Lecturers continue to deserve our praise for dispensing Masonic education across our jurisdiction and also at our BDG/MSS. Thank you Sirs.

To all other Grand Lodge Officers, although not mentioned by name, please know that your work was greatly appreciated and you have my everlasting gratitude.

I am very grateful for the assistance and support given to me by the Brothers and Sisters over this past year. Your help has been tremendous, guaranteeing that we would make our various commitments.

My sincere thanks to Grand Worthy Matron. Sister Jacqueline DiMira and the Sisters, for the cordial working relationship that we have initiated and are enjoying.

NECROLOGY

Even death is not to be feared by one who lived wisely...Buddha

Since our last annual communication, ten of our beloved brethren have gone to the Celestial Lodge. On August 11th,2017 at the Lodge of Sorrow Service, we memorialized and remembered the good deeds they performed while serving this Fraternity. Let's not miss the chance to tell our Brothers and Sisters how much we love them before they are not with us anymore. May their souls find eternal rest with God.

We should always remember the widows that are still with us.

Death is not extinguishing the light, it is only putting out the lamp because the dawn has come.

Rabindranath Tagore

Name	Lodge	Date of Transition
Bro. Leornardis Yee	Eureka No 20	July 19,2016
Bro. Reynald Phillips	King David No 30	November 11,2016
Bro. Leo Bethune	Eureka No 20	January 8,2017
Bro. Maudis Campbell	Elim No 29	January 9,2017
Bro. Gerald Ladd	St. John's No.9	February 13,2017
Bro. Phillbert Barrett	Mt. Moriah No.24	February 25,2017
Bro. Lionel Inniss	Mt. Moriah No 24	April 2,2017
Bro. Benjamin Jordan	Mt. Moriah No 24	May 24,2017
Bro.Charles Ward	Eureka No 20	May 28,2017
Bro.Harland Worthington Johnson	American Star No.4	July 7,2017

State of the Craft

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The theme for this year is, 'Working together today for a better tomorrow', recognizing the power of our fraternity.

At the Grand Masters Cabinet Retreat which was attended by most, held on September 10th , 2016 in Cobourg, Ontario, I advised the Cabinet members of my plans for the masonic year 2016-2017 and received their commitment.

This Administration adopted the following acronym:

'FLMCCC' Family Leadership Membership Community Communication Charity.

F -Family, our home family and Masonic family.

L -Leadership, preparing the Brothers of the Lodges to work towards taking on the roles of the various line officer -Worshipful Masters, Wardens and Deacons-Past Masters Council was initiated by each Lodge, the expectation is that the Past Masters will be mentors to all line officers and the Craft in general .

M -Membership, how to keep the current members, getting new members and regaining those Brothers that have been absent. Reclamation edict was issued for this purpose.

C-Community, continue to work in our communities as good example setter so that non-masonic will want to join us.

C-Communication, proper ways of communicating with our Brothers, friends and relatives inside and outside the lodge. Exercising proper ethics and etiquette.

C-Charity, is one of the DNA of Freemasons. Continue to give to those less fortunate and to Brothers and Sisters in need. Two charities were chosen; Prostate Cancer Research and Alzheimer's Research. Over \$4000.00 was raised, donations to the two charities will be dispersed during this Grand session.

Thanks to all those that participated, we do have an opportunity for improvement for more donations. It will be a missed opportunity if a family member or friend transitions due to one of these illnesses and we did not contribute.

Systems are now in place for this Grand Lodge to create; Ontario Prince Hall Masonic Foundation whereby all donations will be tax deductible-the funds will then be used for our annual charities.

The following entities are now part of the Ontario Prince Hall Masonic Network of registered Incorporated Charities and Not For Profit Community Organizations:

Ontario Prince Hall Masons Literacy Charity Inc,
Youth and Education Fund

Ontario Prince Hall Masonic Foundation

Prince Hall Community Non-Profit(Canada)Inc. Est December 2014

We have now started the process of rejecting mediocrity and complacency within our Lodges and instead choosing to set a new course: To rejuvenate and upgrade our lodges: address our continuing membership challenges to change, evolve and reshape our jurisdiction while at all times keeping our eyes fixed upon the steady and reassuring values of our kind and gentle Craft. The genius of Freemasonry lays its ability to transform itself through succeeding generations. While never straying from its core beliefs it generates itself anew making it meaningful and relevant to the present generation. As stakeholders of this institution we must all be held to the highest standard in providing excellence within the Masonic experience and I am deeply committed to achieving the goals and objectives that have been placed before us.

Changes:

Everything changes; transportation, homes, leaders and even families, even the Holy scriptures makes references to change, for if we do not change we stagnate.

As Brothers of our noble craft rather than exerting our efforts to live in the past we must focus our energies on building upon new possibilities. Those who say "The old ways are the best" must rethink these words, **THEY ARE NOT WORKING!** The saying "If isn't broke don't fix it" only works for machinery, and at the rate membership is decreasing, it's broke.

Freemasonry, like our country, our constitution, families and religion will always keep their core values, ideas and ideals but we must change to meet the future.

We now have the opportunities to move Freemasonry into the future, to make these necessary changes.

We ought to make Freemasonry more desirable for the young men looking for fellowship, the only way we can do this, is through change to meet the needs of these young men.

The RW District Deputy Grand Masters conveyed all of our initiatives to the various lodges in their districts. On behalf of this Grand Body, I want to convey thanks and appreciation to Brother Norbert Shepherd and his wife Lorna for the splendid way in which they hosted us at the cabinet retreat at their home in Coburg.

All is well within our Prince Hall Masonic, Peace and Harmony prevails throughout the Family. Good relationships exist among the Appendant, Concordant and Adoptive Bodies. Projects are planned so that there will not be conflicts of dates for various activities. More work still needs to be done, not only to continue our legacy but also to grow the same and to promote the Prince Hall Brand.

Various edicts and directives were issued for the betterment of the Craft. I have listened to Masters and Past Grand Masters and made adjustments as deemed necessary.

I have made my official visits to all the Lodges and Appendant Bodies throughout the Jurisdiction (See Appendix(A)). On all occasions and visits, I was well received and offered all courtesies. Thanks to the Brothers who accompanied me on visitations within Canada and overseas.

Fraternal Relations

The Masonic Family extends beyond the borders of Ontario and Jurisdiction. Accordingly, it was my privilege to attend the installation of RW Bro. Errol Alberga, District Grand Master, District Grand Lodge of Jamaica (SC) in Kingston Jamaica on February 6-10, 2017. Accordingly, future invitation has been extended to all Brothers of this Grand Lodge: thanks to the Brothers who accompanied me..

Our Grand Lodge/Grand Chapter hosted the **North East Regional 1 Conference(PHA)** March 31st - April 1st, 2017 in Toronto, Ontario. My sincere thanks to the Sisters of the Order of the Eastern Stars, without whose dedication we would not be able host the Conference. Various topics were discussed that gave all participants the opportunity to share ideas and suggestions.: Charity, Update of the website, Update Prince Hall Stamp and a White Paper on Sickle Cell Anemia (Appendix B) which was accepted by the nine Grand Lodges. Sickle Cell Anemia will be the main Charity for the Grand Lodges.

I attended the **98th Conference of Grand Masters(PHA)** held **May 17-21, 2017** at Dallas/Addison Marriott Quorum in Dallas, Texas. The Conference was hosted by MW GM Wilbert M. Curtis of the MW PH G Lodge of Texas. National issues were discussed with great participation, find ways to partner with the American/Canadian Red cross and identifying ways to maintain harmony within the Jurisdictions. Grand Lodges now have the opportunity to partner with the Marriott chain of hotels. Other topics that will suit our Jurisdiction will be implemented in a timely manner.

I attended the 136th Annual United Supreme Council Sessions (Northern Jurisdiction) was held in Detroit, Michigan, May 26th -May 30th, 2017. The creation work was a masterpiece, very impressive; I congratulate the new Grand Inspector General-GIG. Jeffrey Foster.

I attended Jubilee Day Service on June 4th 2017-**AENOMS** Shrine AbuTalib Temple No.205.

Peace and harmony prevails between this Grand Lodge and the Affiliated, Concordant and Adoptive Rite bodies. The membership of these houses are decreasing, I encourage the members to return to their respective lodges and promote the benefits of joining these bodies, however we have to ensure that our work in the blue lodges are practiced as per all Masonic Principles

Anniversaries

- October 2nd 2016 -Brunch 10th Anniversary of Mutual recognition with the GRC
 MW PGM Don Mumby was very instrumental in the mutual recognition
- April 8th 2017 -Banquet-25th Anniversary of Mutual recognition with the Grand Lodge of Quebec.
 MW PG Masters Ken Aldridge and Norman Auclair were very instrumental in this mutual recognition.
 -Canada's 150th Birthday
 -100 years-Battle of Vimy Ridge
- August 8th 2017 -90th Birthday MW Bro CA Downes PGM
 -Tercentenary-Freemasonry-United Grand Lodge of England...

World

On November 8th 2016, the United States of America elected a new President-Donald J Trump. The unsettled political climate in the Middle East has created a flood of refugees entering Europe and north America. We continue to pray for Peace.

Hurricane Matthew category 5 formed on Sept 28th ,2016 and dissipated on October 9th,2016. It brought worldwide destruction and catastrophic loss of life during its journey across the Western Atlantic, including parts of Haiti, Dominican Republic, the Lucayan Archipelago, the southern US and the Canadian Maritimes.

Ice glaciers are moving, our winters are longer and the summers are shorter. Unsettling, unusual weather throughout the world-climate change is real – we need to do what we can to preserve our planet.

Lives lost on London bridge by hit/run driver and wild stabbings. Paris bomber,suicide bomber in Turkey. Suicide bomber in Manchester killing twenty-two teenagers, lives lost in the apartment fire in London, England, tsunami on Greenland West coast

Flooding in Gatineau, Quebec where 2000 people were evacuated

Though we cannot help them, the distance being so great, yet we may sympathize with them in times of trouble, and mingle a tear of sorrow with them-do as we are expected to do-weep with those that weep.

France elected a new President Monsieur Emmanuel Macron who has appointed Edouard Philippe as France's new prime minister.

In States and countries ,sometimes in tranquility, then wars and tumults, rich today, poor tomorrow; this shows that there is not an independent mortal on earth, but dependent upon one another, from the King to the Pauper

Conclusion

The value of a man should be seen in what he gives and not what he is able to receive. We need to stay focused, attend lectures, workshops and have fun.

In closing, I wish to extend my sincere gratitude thanking the Brothers of this Grand Lodge, and the confidence they have reposed in me by electing me to this office. Thanks to my Family and friends masons and non-Masons during this very hectic and trying year..

Remembering, the level of success can only be achieved by the dedication of its membership. We must have the full cooperation and support of the entire membership to make our dreams a reality.

Next, I offer my highest commendation to those Masonic brothers who supported not only me but more importantly, the programmes and plans of our Grand Lodge. You are the wisdom, the strength and the support of this body. It is you who carry on the tenets of our Masonic fraternity. You are the Bridge that connects our past to our future.

I have received solicited and unsolicited advice from Master Masons to MW Grand Masters ,special thanks, in the end all final decision were made by me.

Lastly, a challenge to those of you members who are not truly masons yet but only members of this Masonic fraternity. A challenge to now be the best masons that you can be. It's not too late. This challenge is to honour your obligations to God, your families, your communities and this Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge and its tenets. Let us remember that Prince Hall and thirteen other Brothers of colour placed themselves in harm's way, not just for membership in a fraternity but for what they saw as an opportunity to better the predicament of a race of people, not just themselves but those they knew who did not share the same freedoms as they did. Throughout the history of our Prince Hall fraternity, many have followed in the esteemed footsteps of these very special Brothers, all for the betterment of our people. To equate yourselves with them, you need to commit yourselves to the much larger goals of our fraternity; goals greater than your own personal goals. I took this non-entry level position in this Grand Lodge not for self but my love of Freemasonry. This Grand Lodge has moved from ways of mediocrity to a higher level and there is more work to be done, I leave the future of this fraternity in the hands of the Craft and they will so decide..

I want to end my address with the following poem because I believe it expresses my thoughts and feelings about being a mason.

THE CRAFTSMEN

Oh Yes! We are all craftsmen, and very proud to be.
We wear our pins and rings for everyone to see.
But let us pose the question-Even though the thought may sting,
Would you know me for a Mason, if you did not see my ring?
Free men show the tenets of our ancient Hallowed Creed
Not by coats or fingers but our words and deeds.
There is one thing to remember, if I've learned my lesson well.
My deeds are more convincing than my finger or lapel.

Fraternally and Sincerely,

*M. W. Bro. Headley Lewis,
Grand Master,*

July 10th 2017.

Recommendations

The following Brothers to be styled:

Most Worshipful Past Grand Master: MW PGM Bro. Donald Mumby-GRC... Honorary MWPGM.

The following Brothers to be styled Honorary Member:

RW Bro. Lemuel Lindo PDM, OD (District Grand Lodge of Jamaica (S C)

RW Bro. Courtney Palmer, MD P Depute DGM (District Grand Lodge of Jamaica (S C)

RW Bro. Errol Stewart, PDDGM -GRC

RW Bro. George Hinds, PDDGM-GRC

The following Brothers to be styled Honorary Member Emeritus:

RW Bro. Charles B. Phills, PGSW

VW Bro. Charles Ward- Past Grand Registrar (posthumously)

RW Bro. Sheldon Bailey-PDDGM

VW Bro. Albert Willis. Past Grand Marshall

1. Bro. C. Knight... Assistant Grand Chaplain
2. MW PGM Rev Benjamín Stewart Day (Our first MW GM)-July each year
3. We continue our Membership in- North East Regional Conference of Grand Masters(PHA)-Region 1 and The Conference Of Grand Masters(PHA)
4. Grand Youth Talent Show be held the second weekend in July prior to our Annual Grand Communication or any suitable date before the second weekend in August
5. Grand Webmaster role to 'IT/Social Media" Committee: Reports and Grand Lodge forms to be accessed by each lodge-reduce paper.

Proclamation and Official Acts

Non- Blood Line can join the OES

OTLARP-On The Level Again Reclamation Plan

Police Record-check

162nd Annual Grand Communication

Entered Apprentices and Fellow Craft can attend at the MW GM visitation

Appendix "A" MW GM Itinerary

DATE	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
2016		
August 4 th – 6 th	161 st Annual Grand Communication	Montreal, Quebec
August 8 th	Official visit to the 127 th Annual Grand Chapter Communication-OES	Toronto, Ontario
September 10 th	Grand Master's Retreat	Coburg, Ontario
September 11 th	Celebrated Prince Hall day	Ottawa, Ontario
September 24 th -25 th	AASR Scottish Rite-Council Of Deliberation	Toronto, Ontario
October 2 nd	10 th Anniversary of Mutual Recognition with the GRC	Toronto, Ontario
October 5 th	Visited Loge Lorraine with MW GM James Ross GL of Quebec	Gatineau, Quebec
October 13 th	Visit to Solomon Lodge No.26. Brothers from GRC and GL of Quebec	Ottawa, Ontario
October 22 nd	Official visit with American Star No 1 and St. John's No.9	Chatham, Ontario
October 23 rd	Planning Meeting for NERC-1	Toronto, Ontario
October 29 th	Y & Education Charity Banquet	Toronto, Ontario
November 5 th	Naomi Chapter No.5 Festival of Nations	Toronto, Ontario
November 9 th	Visited Ionic No.526 GRC guest of RW DDGM Bro Robert Clarke	Ottawa, Ontario
November 12 th	12 th Official Visit; MT Moriah No 24, King David No.30 and Solomon Lodge No 26	Montreal, Quebec
November 26 th	Festival of Saint Andrews-District Grand Lodge of Jamaica(SC)	Kingston, Jamaica
December 7 th	Corner Stone Lodge No.25-GRC-Toronto Don Valley District	Toronto, Ontario
December 9 th -11 th	MW PHGL of Massachusetts-Grand Communication	Boston, Mass
December 13 th -15 th	MW PHGL of Washington, D.C- Grand Communication	Washington, DC
2017		
January 15 th	NERC-1 Planning Meeting	Toronto, Ontario
February 2 nd -7 th	District Grand Lodge of Jamaica(SC)-Installation DGM Errol Alberga	Kingston, Jamaica
March 11 th	Official visit: Mt Olive Lodge No 1, Eureka Lodge No.20, Utopia No.27, Elim Lodge No.29, Jericho Lodge No.32:	Toronto, Ontario
March 12 th	NERC-1 Planning Meeting	Toronto, Ontario
March 18 th	45 th Board of General Purposes Midseason/Workshop	Toronto, Ontario
March 31 st -April 1 st	Hosted the North East Regional Conference of Grand Masters(PHA)	Toronto, Ontario
April 8 th	25 th Anniversary of Mutual Recognition-Grand Lodge of Quebec	Montreal, Quebec
April 22 nd	Visited Eureka Lodge No.20	Toronto, Ontario
April 23 rd	MW PH GL of Michigan-Grand Communication	Grand Rapids, Michigan
April 26 th	MW PHG Lodge of the Caribbean-Grand Communication	Christ Church, Barbados

DATE	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
2017		
May 17 th	Conference of Grand Masters(PHA)	Dallas, Texas
May 26 th	Grand Lodge of Quebec-Grand Communication	Montreal, Quebec
May 28 th	134th Annual Session United Supreme Council(NJ) PHA	Detroit, Michigan
June 7 th -9 th	MW PHG Lodge of state of New York	Rochester, New York
June 18 th	St. Johns Day Service	Montreal, Quebec
June 24 th	Golden Rule Lodge No.5- 161st Annual Raising at Owl's Head Mountain	Eastern Township. Quebec