



Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Saskatchewan

17 April 2021

Greetings Companions All:

It has been almost 13 months since the first health lockdown measures took effect.

I trust that by now you have all been made aware of the Grand Master of Saskatchewan's most recent statement (attached at the end of this document) about Masonic meetings. The key part of it reads: ***"Therefore, effective April 19, 2021, all in-person Lodge meetings within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan are to cease until further notice."***

The decision was made that the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Saskatchewan would follow the guidelines for meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic as set by the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan. To wit, **there are to be no in-person meetings (Mark Master Mason Lodge, Most Excellent Master Lodge, or Royal Arch Chapter) of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Saskatchewan until such time as the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan gives notice that in-person meetings of such bodies is considered safe to resume and the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Saskatchewan gives direction that those in-person meetings are permitted.**

It is my hope that those Chapters that have been meeting via another fashion (Zoom seems the most common, but there are other platforms available) will continue to do so. How many times have we heard during this time that we miss the in-person nature of our convocations and that we have a new appreciation for them? These virtual meetings are not intended to take the place of those in-person meetings, but we hope that they will provide a source of comfort and contact for our Companions during this continually difficult time. Continue to find that personal contact that works without it being in-person – a phone call, an email, a text message, a physical letter. You know your Chapter's companions and will continue to look out for them.

Above all, continue to be diligent in your adherence to the health guidelines. We know that this virus and its variants are spread by humans, so humans need to take the necessary measure to prevent its spread. If we do this, we can look forward to holding in-person meetings and resuming other aspects of our lives sooner rather than later. Wouldn't it be nice to have a "normal" fall? Let's do what we can to make that happen. As circumstances warrant, the Grand Chapter will advise you.

Fraternally,

Patrick

M Ex Comp Patrick Davis
Grand 1st Principal
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Saskatchewan

Copy of the April 16, 2021 letter from the Grand Master:



THE GRAND LODGE OF SASKATCHEWAN

Office of the Grand Secretary

Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons

To be the Fraternal Organization of choice for men in the Province of Saskatchewan

April 16, 2021

Brethren:

I hope everyone and your families are safe. The COVID-19 situation continues to evolve, and a third wave appears to have hit Saskatchewan. The arrival of COVID variants has increased the risk to families and friends. The Saskatchewan Health Authority has issued health orders effective April 13, 2021 that household bubbles are limited to immediate households. No guest or other gathering is allowed at this time. It is also strongly recommended to avoid unnecessary travel. Technically we are still allowed to meet in our lodge buildings as long as we do not exceed 30 people. However, variant cases continue to rise daily in several areas in Saskatchewan and this is a real concern of mine. The safety of our members and families is first and foremost in my mind.

Therefore, effective April 19, 2021, all in-person Lodge meetings within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan are to cease until further notice.

I am hoping that this pause in activities will only need to be in effect for a couple of weeks. I ask everyone to be patient and get vaccinated as soon as you are able to for your own safety and all of us. Let us do our part and “Stick it to COVID.”

Stay safe and happy.

Fraternally,

MW Bro. Dan Olmsted

Grand Master,
Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan, A.F. & A.M.

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