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GRAND CHAPTER OF NEW BRUNSWICK



ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

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April 18, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We hope you are well during these trying times.

Your WGP, Brother Ronald Keith, and I have been in discussions with the Grand Council and have consulted with the Jurisprudence Committee regarding how we, the Grand Jurisdiction of New Brunswick, should proceed with the Grand Chapter Sessions scheduled July 8 – 11, 2020 in Fredericton, NB.

The Government of Canada and the Government of New Brunswick, our Prime Minister and Premier along with the Chief Medical Officers of Health, have stated that we will not be going back to "normal" anytime soon. The Prime Minister has also stated, "We will have to be vigilant for a year." And they have been discussing maintaining social distancing until there is a vaccine available.

With heavy hearts and the best interest of our members, the Grand Council have made the decision, unanimously, with the blessings of our MWGM Sister Marianne Shenefelt to cancel the July 2020 Sessions in its entirety.

The Grand Officers will remain in their respective stations until the Election and Installation at the Grand Chapter Sessions July 2021.

Grand Chapter Session "Cherish These Moments Together" will be held at the Fredericton Inn, July 8 – 10, 2021. We look forward to celebrating our session together.

As details unfold, further information will be forth coming in the near future. All monies paid by members and visitors for Grand Session 2020 will be reimbursed.

As per the letter from me dated March 19, 2020, number 4 and 5 are rescinded. The following mandates are still in effect with number 4, 5 and 6 being NEW:

1. Subordinate chapter meetings are suspended as of midnight March 19, 2020 and remain in effect until further notice.
2. The current officers must remain in office until their successors are elected and installed.
3. All Secretaries and Treasurers will continue to pay bills during this period.

4. (NEW) Election of Officers for subordinate Chapters will take place March 2021.
5. (NEW) Installation of Officers for subordinate Chapters will take place April 2021.
6. (NEW) Subordinate Chapters will not host official visits 2020 of the WGM and WGP and Grand Family.

When we do start our meetings again it may take time for members to feel comfortable with group venues. We need to take the time to heal during these drastic times and the well-being of our membership will always be our priority.

I again would like to request that we all reach out to people by phone, by email or other social media avenues. It is important for our mental well-being during this difficult time that we stay connected.

Until we meet again, "May the Lord watch between me and thee while we are absent, one from the other."

Stay safe and huge hugs,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is for Charlotte Jansen-Bateman, and the signature on the right is for Ronald Keith Bateman. Both signatures are written in a cursive, flowing style. Below the signatures, the names and titles are printed in a standard font.

Charlotte Jansen-Bateman WGM

Ronald Keith Bateman WGP