



The Masonic and Military Order of Knights of the Red Cross of
Constantine, K.H.S. and St. John the Evangelist

GRAND IMPERIAL CONCLAVE OF CANADA

From the Office of the Grand Recorder

December 29, 2021

Worth Knights Companions:

I am directed by the Grand Sovereign to note the following guidelines with reference to in-person meetings of the Conclaves under the jurisdiction of the Grand Imperial Conclave of Canada.

The Grand Sovereign had previously directed that the Conclaves could open as at January 1, 2022 for in-person meetings, with adherence to all Federal, Provincial and local health guidelines, including the edicts of the Grand Lodge within that jurisdiction.

However, the situation has changed and with COVID variants taking hold across the nation it is expected that further restrictions by Local, Provincial and Federal Health agencies will soon be imposed upon all gatherings whether within or without households and for social and business. Also, some Masonic Temple Boards have made their own restrictions for the use of the building, and these must also be taken into account.

As conditions will vary across the country, the Grand Sovereign notes that the previous decree of January 1, 2022 can stand:

Providing - all meetings must strictly adhere to Local, Provincial and Federal Health authority restrictions as well as the edicts of your Grand Lodges.

Effective immediately **NO Ritual work** may be performed in the Conclave. Including conferring of Orders, the ceremony of Enthronement, or Consecration or Installation of Officers.

For the safety of the membership; **No** Knight Companion is permitted to attend an in-person meeting who has not been fully vaccinated and/or has received his booster shot.

He must agree to register with the person appointed to oversee attendance, stating his vaccination status, and contact information for contact tracing if necessary. Only those who have registered will be permitted to enter the building.

Masks and Social Distancing must of necessity be maintained at all times.

No more than the number permitted by the Health authorities will be allowed in the building.

Attendees should remain in the designated seats they have been directed to, while meeting is in session, except coming into or leaving the building or to use the washroom facilities, in order to avoid social contact.

No food or drink before, after or during the meeting.

It is to be noted, that the results of the survey that the Grand Sovereign requested during the fall were generally not in favour of attending an in-person meeting until at least March of 2022, the Grand Sovereign does recognize that some Provinces have been open for meetings for sometime and wishes the Conclaves within those areas to make their own decisions as to of and when they will open.

However, at the date of writing it is highly unlikely that any Conclave could or would open for in-person meetings due to the high numbers of positive COVID cases being reported and the some health authorities have noted that while there is large numbers being reported the numbers are likely to be much higher in fact due to the difficulty of PCR testing. The system is in danger of being overwhelmed. We must take responsibility for our own safety and look after each other during this latest surge.

Let us stay safe as we can and look forward to better times ahead when we can meet, greet each other as we have been taught and enjoy the pleasures of being together again..

Yours in Faith, Unity and Zeal

Eric L. Shaw

Eric L. Shaw, G.C.C.
Grand Recorder

Charles E. E. Rutt

Charles E. Rutt, G.C.C.
Grand Sovereign