



Sudbury-Manitoulin District Newsletter

*Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of Canada
in the Province of Ontario*



The Gauge of Providence

September 2025 Edition

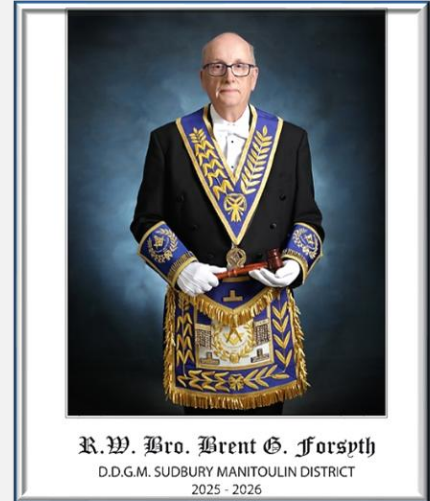
District Editor Bro. Don Barton

THE DISTRICT AT A GLANCE

A Message from the District Deputy Grand Master

Brethren,

The beginning of a new Masonic year is always exciting as we anticipate renewing friendships and working together on projects, personal developments, meeting new candidates and Brothers to the craft. It would seem that the craft is on the brink of renewed interest in Freemasonry as many lodges across our jurisdiction are reporting that applications for membership are on the rise. We are apart of something that is important and has been for over 300 years and as many organizations experience the flows of societies challenges, we stand firm in providing that safe haven, that so many before us have sought for personal development, social interaction and societal betterment. Let us approach this year with a renewed and excited spirit to make our Lodges even more vibrant, meaningful and beacons to our communities enabling Freemasonry to be viewed as the leaders we know it to be.



R.W. Bro. Brent G. Forsyth
D.D.G.M. SUDBURY MANITOULIN DISTRICT
2025 - 2026

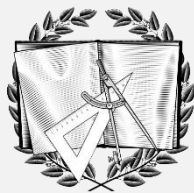
I want to thank the members of Sudbury-Manitoulin District for the honour of serving as your District Deputy Grand Master for 2025-26. It is indeed humbling and exciting to have the opportunity to serve this district, as I have come to realize, is one of the most welcoming, engaging and mentoring centric across the jurisdiction of A.F.&A.M. in the Province of Ontario. I have witnessed this both personally and viewed it in every lodge and look forward to serving in whatever way you may require of me.

I also, want to thank the chairmen of the various committees who have so willingly volunteered to serve the district as well. We can look forward to building on the traditions that so many have worked for over the years and present an even brighter reputation as we move forward.

Brethren, I'm sure because of you, that this will be another great year, so I thank you in advance and look forward to seeing you in Lodge soon.

R.W. Brent G Forsyth

DDGM – Sudbury-Manitoulin



Those Passed to the Grand Lodge Above

“O Lord, support us all the day of this troublous life; until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, the fever of this is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in Thy mercy, grant us safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at last. Amen.”

W. Bro Greenville Green of Doric Lodge - A masonic funeral service will be held on September 13th at the Royal Canadian Legion in Little Current at 11am

W. Bro Gerry Tuffy of Espanola Lodge - A masonic funeral service will be held September 13th at the Espanola Lodge at 3pm

W. Bro Bob Akkanen of Bethel and Espanola Lodge – No masonic service will be provided

Bro. Serge Trottier of Bethel Lodge – Details on a potential service are to be determined

We will forever cherish their memories in our hearts

Those in Ill and Distressed Circumstances

Bro. Dick McIvers in the loss of his mother Ethel McIvor

Bro. Glen in the loss of his spouse Pat Maltby (Funeral will be held at Christ the King church at 10am on September 6th, reception to follow)

Bro. Mike Chorkawy in the loss of his brother-in-law

Bro. Dick Stewart who is at Health Sciences North for hip surgery



The Lodges

Nickel Lodge No. 427 - will be meeting on Wednesday, September 3rd. The work of the evening will be the Passing of Bro. John Jacobs. There will be a Festive board at 18:30. There is also a General-Purpose meeting in September 17th at 7:00.

Espanola Lodge No. 527 – will be meeting on Wednesday, September 3rd at 19:30. Espanola Lodge will be holding an investiture of a Grand Lodge Officer at this time.

City of Lakes Lodge No. 536– will be meeting on Tuesday, September 9th. The work of the evening will be the Raising of Bro. Chad Gillis. There will also be a General -Purpose meeting a week prior on September 2nd at 18:30.

Doric Lodge No. 455 – will be meeting on Tuesday, September 9th at 19:30. There was a General-Purpose meeting held on August 30th. There will be a raising of a brother this evening.

Friendship Lodge No. 691 – will be meeting on Wednesday September 10th, at 19:30. The work of the evening will be the investiture of the Grand Steward V.W. Bro. Dan Rowe. Repast will occur at 18:30. There will also be the balloting of two potential candidates (pending a favourable report).

Bethel Lodge No. 699 – will be meeting on Friday September 12th. Bethel will be hosting their reciprocal BBQ with Sturgeon Falls at this meeting. This meeting is casual dress. There is a General-Purpose meeting being held on Friday the 5th at 19:00.

The District Charity

Alzheimer Society Sudbury-Manitoulin North Bay & Districts

Dementia is currently in the top ten leading causes of death worldwide with a “hidden pandemic growing – a rise in dementia cases. It will take a concerted effort on various fronts to tackle dementia effectively. But we cannot underestimate the importance of science and health communication and investing in dementia research.

Please donate today, make your donations to the Masonic Foundation of Ontario

Indicate the DDGM Project Number 2552.

All monies received by the Masonic Foundation of Ontario go directly to Alzheimer Society Sudbury-Manitoulin North Bay & Districts.

Donations can be made by cheque or e-transfer at donations@tmfo.ca

For more information contact the Masonic Foundation Representative

V.W. Bro. Keith Varey

(705) 207-9797

kvarey@vianet.ca

Alzheimer Society
ONTARIO

**Sudbury
Manitoulin,
North Bay & Districts**



Ontario Masons

Happenings in the District

From Grand Lodge Communication in July this year our DDGM was proud to be able to share this picture of R.W. Bro. Kevin Haner and himself who were invested as the District Deputy Grand Masters for Niagara District A and Sudbury-Manitoulin District respectively.

Kevin was sponsored by R.W. Bro. Brent Forsyth over 20 years ago when he first joined Freemasonry at Ivy Lodge No 115. In a "It's a small" world moment, Kevin's family hails from Manitoulin Island where he spent several summers growing up in the Mindemoya area and has family with membership at Doric Lodge in the past as well. Wishing R.W. Bro. Kevin Haner all the best in the year to come.



ON JUNE 21, R.W. BRO. PATRICK GILLESPIE AND R.W. BRO DAVID BELL WENT TO THE GRAND LODGE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA COMMUNICATION IN KELOWNA WHERE DAVID'S SON, NOW R.W. BRO ROBERT BELL WAS INVESTED AS THE DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER FOR DISTRICT 4 NORTH (PRINCE GEORGE AREA)





Friday, October 3, 2025

**NORTHERN LIGHTS CRAFTERS
INFORMATION & CELEBRATION
EVENING**

**Have fun with us, while together we
help our Shriner Children**

Hooray!! Some of the Ladies of the Sudbury Shrine Club have formed a unit of the Ladies of the Oriental Shrine of North America, Bokhara Court, No. 22. We are proud and happy to wear our White Fezzes in support of our philanthropy for the Shriners Hospital for Children in Montreal, as well as local charities we wish to assist.

We invite you to attend our first event on Friday, October 3 at 5 p.m. at the Sudbury Shrine Club. Please invite any ladies you may know who are looking to help our Shriner children have access to the latest and much needed medical equipment at our Canadian Shriners Hospital for Children in Montreal.

Please bring your spouse or partner as their support is much appreciated and welcomed. Our evening includes dinner. Tickets are \$25 per person. Please RSVP by Tuesday, September 23.



Please RSVP to:

Lady Joan Campbell @ (705) 507-2913 or at

Campbelljo833@gmail.com; or to

Lady Lise McElree at (705) 626-5867 or at mcelrel@hotmail.com

**LEARN ABOUT THE NEW
NORTHERN ONTARIO LADY
SHRINERS UNIT**

**LET'S HAVE SOME SORORAL FUN
WHILE FUNDRAISING FOR
EQUIPMENT FOR THE SHRINERS
HOSPITAL IN MONTREAL**

Sudbury-Manitoulin District

Presents

A reception and banquet in honour of our District
Deputy Grand Master

Right Worshipful Brother Brent Forsyth

September 19th, 2025

Belrock Masonic Centre

Social at 6pm ~ Dinner at 7:00pm

\$30 per person

Notify your Lodge Secretary regarding attendance
please



Ontario Masons



please join us at our

Divine Service

FOR THE SUDBURY-MANITOULIN DISTRICT

A . F & A . M .

sunday, october 5th, 2025

little current united church

10 AM

5 robinson street,
little current, on



Ontario Masons

A Letter from the Editor

Brethren,

I must express that it is a great honour to be able to have been invited to be a chairman for the Sudbury-Manitoulin District in the role of Editor of the District Newsletter. I spent several days examining the previous design styles of our newsletter, even going as far back as 2014. My predecessors brought a unique touch and style to the newsletter which I want to uphold, as well as return some of the aspects that I think were good. I, furthermore, took it upon myself to look beyond our district and investigate what is working in other districts. One of my main goals with the newsletter is to generate excitement within our district, as well as within our community.

As you have no doubt seen, this version of the newsletter is quite different, but still has a feeling of familiarity to it. I am open for feedback, as well as areas of improvement of course. I will add to this by saying; I wish to have thorough reporting of the ongoings of the district, and this goes beyond the Craft and into concordant bodies. It is as such, I would like to request that each lodge in the district (preferably not the secretary) provide a “point-man” to send me monthly “updates” of the happens in said lodge. For example: pictures, events, degree work, community engagement, dinners, etc. Having one person from each lodge would be of great benefit, as it narrows the channels I would have to go through.

As a final sign-off, I would request two very important things. First of which being, all brethren wishing to have something added to the newsletter must send it to me no later than 5 days before the end of the month. Anything past this date will be added to the following month. Secondly, please keep the majority of correspondence with me through email, as it is September I am returning to school as well as working in the evening, so phone calls may not get through to me at the best times. I look forward to the many exciting events in the district!

Yours sincerely, and fraternally,

Bro. Don Barton, Bethel Lodge #699



Ontario Masons