

Lodge Resources Committee
Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario

INVITES

York District Masons

TO A SESSION THAT HAS BEEN SOLELY DESIGNED FOR THE PURPOSE OF



“Sharing Ideas”

**Pre-Session
Information Package**

FEEDBACK SESSION OVERVIEW

During the 2008 – 2009 Masonic Year the Lodge Resources Committee of Grand Lodge held a workshop in your District that dealt with the roles & responsibilities of the Lodge Resources Chairmen of the District and the Lodge. In conjunction with this workshop the newly developed Lodge Resources Manual was rolled out to the Brethren that attended and a copy was provided to a designated representative of each lodge. Those lodges who were not present were provided their copy by the District Deputy Grand Master for 2008-2009.

The workshop reviewed the structure of the Lodge Resources Committee and outlined how it serves you and the constituent lodges. The scope and relevance of the manual were reviewed and many skills and techniques were provided to assist the attendees in successfully performing their role; all with the hope of achieving our collective goal of “Making Good Lodges Better.”

When we were last with you we stated that we would be returning to review with you the successes of your labours and most importantly to ask you to provide the Lodge Resources Committee with the constructive feedback that it requires so that we can better serve your lodge and its members. This pre-session package is being provided to you so that you may arrive well prepared and eager to provide feedback immediately.

We want to stress to you that this feedback session is all about YOU & YOUR LODGE. The session has been specifically designed to hear from you and the brethren. It is all about “Sharing Ideas”. The team’s role will be to foster a comfortable atmosphere for discussion and document the ideas and suggestions so that they can be reviewed and hopefully integrated into program delivery system.

TARGET AUDIENCE

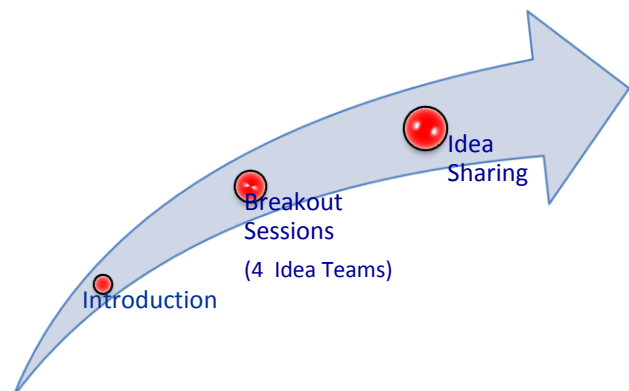
With **Group # 1**, we are specifically targeting Lodge Resources Chairmen both Lodge and District, Program Chairmen like Friend to Friend, Mentor, Brother 2 Brother or Officer Progression either Lodge and District, Worshipful Masters and Wardens. All other interested lodge officers and members are also more than welcome.

With Group # 2, we are trying something new, in that we are requesting that **all lodges** of the district invite a minimum of two new Masons (3 years or less) to attend and participate in the session so that we all can gain a greater appreciation for what today’s new Mason is looking for from his lodge.

SESSION AGENDA

The agenda will begin with a brief welcome and then we will get down to the business of Sharing Ideas.

Registration	8:30 am
Welcome/Introduction	9:00 am
Breakout Sessions (4 Idea Teams)	9:30 am
Coffee Break	10:30 am
Idea Sharing Discussion	10:45 am
Taking The Next Step	11:45 am
Special Feature – Cornerstone Lodge	Noon
Closing Remarks – Light Lunch	12:30 pm



BREAKOUT SESSIONS

The **Group # 1** participants will be separated into three (3) Idea Teams for the purposes of seeking feedback and ideas on one of three questions. Once together each team will appoint a recorder so that the team's ideas can be documented and then the team will appoint a spokesman who will be responsible for communicating the findings of the team to the reunited session group during the discussion period that follows.

Question: What are the hurdles that must be overcome when implementing the Lodge Resources Programs in your lodge?

Question: What techniques have you found to be successful in promoting the value added benefits of new programs in your lodge?

Question: What means do you use in measuring the results of your efforts?

Group # 2 participants will be placed into the fourth Idea Team for the purposes of seeking feedback and ideas on the two-part question below. Once together the team will appoint a recorder so that the team's ideas can be documented and then the team will appoint a spokesman who will be responsible for communicating the findings of the team to the reunited session group during the discussion period that follows.

Question: What types of activities and programs does your lodge have in place to encourage you to attend regularly and take an active role in your lodge? And, what other activities or programs would you like to see?

Note: The Idea Team's suggestions and recommendations will be submitted to the Lodge Resources Team conducting the feedback session so that an accurate record can be provided for future use.

IDEA SHARING DISCUSSION

This next phase will have each Idea Team spokesperson present the findings that we generated during the team's brainstorming session. Following the spokesperson's presentation, the reunited session group will have an opportunity to discuss the findings in an open forum. This will be repeated for each of the four Idea Team presentations.

The Lodge Resources Team will document any additional ideas and recommendations that arise out of the open forums.

TAKING THE NEXT STEP

The Lodge Resources Team will take the ideas and recommendations generated from the day's activities and distribute a consolidated version to all participants. Next, the team will submit these recommendations to the Lodge Resources Committee and consolidate them with the recommendations from the other three breakout sessions.

Following this consolidation, an intensive review is scheduled to be conducted to see what the Lodge Resources Committee can learn from the idea sharing process. Although the terms of reference for

this review have not yet been completely fleshed out, it is certainly anticipated that a report containing recommendations based on your feedback and ideas will be submitted to the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Management Committee for their comment.

As in the quarry, many hands make for light work. The raising of strong superstructures cannot be accomplished by only a few. Being an active participant and working together is what will make our lodges strong. Together we can strengthen an already vibrant Fraternity, which responds to the needs of its members in a positive and proactive manner.

We thank you in advance for the contributions that you will make as we move forward “Sharing Ideas”. It is through YOUR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION and our commitment to you to be ACTIVE LISTENERS that we can jointly meet the challenge of “Making Good Lodges Better”.

Lodge Resources Committee

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