



November 11th
Remembrance Day



Lest We Forget

District Website www.smmasons.com



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NOVEMBER 2008

*R.W. Bro. A.T. Burns,
Editor*

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My Brethren All,

November is a poignant month for me.

In my youth I was a member of the Pipes and Drums of the Copper Cliff Highlanders (#765 Cadet Corps) from age 13 through most of my early adult years and into my 30's as an instructor.

November 11th was a working day, beginning actually on the evening of November 10th when we played a concert at the R.L. Beatty Legion Dinner. You didn't buy a ticket to the dinner back in those days because the First and Second War Veterans filled the place.

The 11th started bright and early with a parade through the streets of Copper Cliff to the Legion. We led the parade with the Legionnaires following, clad in Legion blues and greys, and the Cadet Corps, resplendent in their scarlet tunics; Lee Enfield's at the shoulder, with the white slash of the shoulder strap, belt and spats flashing in the morning light.

My memories are filled with images of proud and determined Veterans, backs stiffened, arms swinging in unison, colour party resolute in their duty. The young and the young-at-heart, bound by a single purpose; a job that must be done. It almost always rained or snowed on that day and the wind was brisk and bitter...but that meant nothing to the men that defended our freedom in foreign lands.

The day, and the moment; *the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month* were paramount.

After the service in Copper Cliff we would board a school bus and, with three other buses filled to capacity with Legion members in tow, proceed to visit every Legion in the Sudbury area as well as the Polish Combatants Hall.

We would parade the busloads into the Legion, play a 15-minute concert, the load up and do it all over again at the next Legion. In due course we returned to Copper Cliff at about 5:00 p.m.

Eventually, over the years, the ceremony moved indoors to accommodate the dwindling numbers of aging Veterans. We stopped parading through the streets; if Remembrance Day was during the week we would hold it in the Public School gymnasium, if on the weekend, at the Copper Cliff Legion Hall. Today Copper Cliff Legion is close to being closed and the Copper Cliff Highlanders are no more.

Now, on the 90th Anniversary of the end of the First World War, there are no First War Veterans to attend. John Babcock, who lives in Spokane, Wash., is the last surviving Canadian to have served in the 1914-18 war. The number of Second War Veterans is increasingly smaller.

We need to remember that between 1914 and 1918; more than 650,000 Canadians and Newfoundlanders joined the military to fight in the First World War, the "War to End All Wars." More than 170,000 were injured and more than 66,000 lost their lives.

We need to remember that we lost over 43,000 in the Second World War and over 53,000 were wounded.

We need to remember that since the Second World War our men and women continue to serve, and continue to be killed or wounded. *They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:*

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

We will remember them.

We will remember them

I will remember them. Will you remember them?

Let us **all** remember them on Wednesday November 5th, Veteran's Appreciation Evening at the Belrock Masonic Centre. I'm looking forward to sitting with you in Lodge and seeing you at all of this month's events but especially on the 5th.

Fraternally,

Rob Fleming, D.D.G.M. Sudbury-Manitoulin

Passed To The Grand Lodge Above



Bro. Dan Topo

Sudbury Lodge No. 658

Bro. Charles Cadieux

Doric Lodge No. 455

We Cherish their Memory In Our Hearts

Sick and Visiting

R.W. Bro. Jim Thomson

Bethel Lodge No. 699

Bro. Wally Davidson

Sudbury Lodge No. 658

Bro. Harvey McKenney

Sudbury Lodge No. 658

Bro. Nelson Ward

Doric Lodge No. 455

We wish them well and pray for their speedy recovery.



R.W. Bro. Robert J. Fleming District Deputy Grand Master – First Official Visit to Bethel Lodge No. 699



R.W. Bro. Robert J. Fleming conducted his first Official Visit of the Masonic year to Bethel Lodge No. 699 on Friday, October 10th 2008. Accompanying the District Deputy Grand Master was the Grand Steward, V.W. Bro. Harold Saville along with the Worshipful Masters from six lodges in the district. The highlight of the evening was the Passing of Bro. Korrie Findlay to the Fellowcraft or Second Degree of Freemasonry.

(Back L-R) W. Bro. Clive Stephenson W.M. Nickel Lodge – W. Bro. Willie Glehs W.M. National Lodge – W. Bro. Doug Ashick W.M. Sudbury Lodge – W. Bro. Robert Dutton W.M. Espanola Lodge.
(Front L-R) R.W. Bro. Robert J. Fleming – W. Bro. Michael Chorkawy W.M. Bethel Lodge – V.W. Bro. Harold Saville



(L-R) Bro. Nick Menican – Bro. Korrie Findlay
R.W. Bro. Jim Thomson



(Back L-R)
(Front L-R) V.W. Bro. H. Saville, Bro. Cam Gilpin – Bro. Nick Menican – Bro. Korrie Findlay – W. Bro. M. Chorkawy -



Three generations of Flemings attended the meeting.
(L-R) Bro. Stephen Fleming (Son of D.D.G.M.) –
R.W. Bro. R.J. Fleming D.D.G.M. Sudbury-Manitoulin –
W. Bro. Milt Fleming the District Secretary

**THE FAMILY OF FREEMASONRY
THE SCOTTISH RITE CONSISTS OF FOUR
DISTINCT AND SEPARATE
SOVEREIGN MASONIC BODIES**



**LEARN MORE ABOUT
SCOTTISH RITE FREEMASONRY
2 B 1 ASK 1**



Sudbury Lodge No. 658 Official Visit

On Monday, October 20th 2008 Sudbury Lodge received R.W. Bro. R.J. Fleming D.D.G.M. on his Official Visit.

The District Deputy was accompanied by R.W. Bro. J. David Bell, G.L. Chairman of Benevolence and Member of the Board and V.W. Bro. Harold Saville, Grand Steward.

It was a special evening for V.W. Bro. Doug Ashick the Worshipful Master as his son-in-law Mathew Faux was the candidate for initiation.



Visiting Worshipful Masters and Grand Lodge Officers
(Back L-R) W. Bro. M. Chorkawy W.M. Bethel Lodge – W. Bro. D. McIvor W.M. Algonquin Lodge – W. Bro. C. Stephenson W.M. Nickel Lodge – W. Bro. L. Redden Friendship Lodge
(Front L-R) R.W. Bro. R.J. Fleming D.D.G.M. – V.W. Bro. D. Ashick Worshipful Master – V.W. Bro. H. Saville Grand Steward – R.W. Bro. J.D. Bell, Member of Board of General Purposes

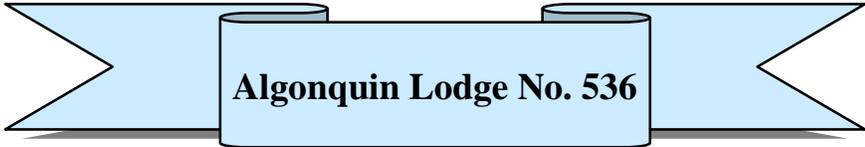


Worshipful Master and his Father welcome their son-in-law as newest member of their lodge.
(L-R) W. Bro. Wes Ashick – Bro. Mathew Faux – V.W. Bro. Doug Ashick, W.M.



CONGRATULATIONS & BEST WISHES

Congratulations Bro. Jeffery Peacock for being Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on Tuesday, September 16th 2009.



The District Deputy Grand Master and Grand Steward take a moment for a photo with W. Bro. Dick McIvor, Algonquin Lodge Worshipful Master.

Bro. James Greavette Jr. (Cousin) from Zetland Wilson Lodge No. 86 Windsor - Bro. Jeffery Peacock - W. Bro. Jack Peacock (Uncle) from Baseline Lodge No. 198 Spruce Grove Alberta – Bro. James Greavette Sr. from Zetland Wilson Lodge No. 86



W. Bro. Fraser Sypher W. M. of Tuscan Lodge No. 111 in Weymouth Nova Scotia has been a regular visitor to the Java Guild at Belrock over the summer months. V.W. Bro. John Gamble invited Fraser to visit Algonquin Lodge before returning home.



(Front L-R) V.W. Bro. Harold Saville – W. Bro. Dick McIvor W.M. – Bro. Jeff Peacock – R.W. Bro. Robert J. Fleming (Back L-R) Bro. James Greavette Jr. – W. Bro. Jack Peacock – Bro. James Greavette Sr.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

DISTRICT DIVINE SERVICE TO BE HELD AT 10:00 AM SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND 2008 AT THE UNITED CHURCH ON ROBINSON STREET LITTLE CURRENT. MASONS ARE TO WEAR BUSINESS SUIT AND REGALIA. FAMILIES ARE WELCOME.

DISTRICT MEETING WILL BE HELD 7:00 P.M. MONDAY NOVEMBER 3RD AT THE BELROCK MASONIC CENTRE. THE MASTERS & WARDENS ASSOCIATION MEETING WILL FOLLOW IMMEDIATELY.

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Nickel Lodge No. 427



Nickel Lodge No. 427 was well represented at the recent Rose Croix reunion in North Bay on Saturday, October 4th 2008.

Our District Deputy Grand Master R.W. Bro. Robert J. Fleming along with his son Bro. Stephen Fleming and three other members of the lodge were candidates.

Not to be outdone, two Past Masters and the Worshipful Master participated in the 17th degree cast.

(Back Row L-R) Bro. Stephen Fleming – R.W. Bro. Robert J. Fleming D.D.G.M. Sudbury-Manitoulin – Bro. Jody Caldwell
(Front Row L-R) W. Bro. Reijo Luoma – Bro. Tom King – W. Bro. Paavo Liukko – W. Bro. Ken Alexander – W. Bro. Clive Stephenson
Worshipful Master

Nickel Lodge held their annual Past Masters night on Wednesday, October 15th 2008 with W. Bro. Chris Kemp sitting in the Chair of King Solomon. The work included the Passing of Bro. Don Ross to the Second or Fellowcraft Degree.

Nickel Lodge No. 427 Past Masters



(Back L-R) W. Bro. M. Fleming District Secretary – R.W. Bro. J.D. Innes P.D.D.G.M. – W. Bro. G. Boyce – W. Bro. G. Newson – W. Bro. M. Dowling – W. Bro. K. Alexander (Middle Row L-R) W. Bro. R. Fontaine – V.W. Bro. R. Storie – W. Bro. A. Stonier – W. Bro. P. Liukko (Front L-R) W. Bro. R. Luoma – W. Bro. C. Kemp – Bro. D. Ross – W. Bro. C. Stephenson W.M. – W. Bro. D. Horace – V.W. Bro. J. Gilpin – R.W. Bro. R.J. Fleming D.D.G.M.



**Attention
All Masons
Masonic Veterans & Servicemen**



Lest We Forget

Nickel Lodge No. 427 invites all Masonic Veterans, Canadian Forces Personnel and Masons to a special evening at the Belrock Masonic Centre on Wednesday, November 5th when they host a District Veterans Night. Dinner at 6pm followed by Regular meeting/tribute in the Lodge Room.

Guest Speaker, W. Bro. Edward Pigeau, the First Vice President of the Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Command.

DINNER SEATING IS BY RESERVATION ONLY. No tickets will be sold at the door. Contacts for dinner reservation (sign-up sheet) are: W.Bro. Clive Stephenson @ (705) 969-4853 clivedeb@vianet.ca or W.Bro. Roy Eaton @ (705) 368-2148 roy.eaton@sympatico.ca

A Special Presentation Will Follow

Bro. Jessie Tait who has twice served in Afghanistan will present a short slide show in the banquet room of his "Tour of Duty" immediately following the meeting.

Coffee and desserts will be served.

Silver Lodge No. 486

Silver Lodge No. 486 in Haileybury celebrated their 100th Anniversary on Saturday, October 4th 2008. Brethren from Friendship Lodge No. 691 were on hand for the celebrations.



Officer and Members of Silver Lodge No. 486 gather for a photo with M.W. Bro. Allan J. Petrisor Grand Master

(L-R) W. Bro. Ray Barlow – V.W. Bro. Claire Bracken – M.W. Bro. Allan J. Petrisor Grand Master – W. Bro. Lyle Redden W.M. Friendship Lodge – R.W. Bro. J. David Bell M.O.B. – Bro. Rob Lipic S-M District Webmaster

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The Grand Honours

Are you curious about why Masons accord Grand Honours to our brethren. W. Bro. D.J. Garrett, Niagara Lodge No. 2 G.R.C. submitted this interpretation that was published in "The Newsletter of the Committee on Masonic Education – Fall 1988, Vol 8 No 2."

A new member of our Order might be quite confused when he first assists in giving Grand Honours. He might wonder at the significance of the several movements and be inquisitive as to their origin. He will soon discover that Grand Honours are accorded to four Masonic ranks: the Worshipful Master rank, three times; the Very Worshipful rank, five times; the Right Worshipful Master rank, seven times; and the Grand Master rank, nine times. These honours are given at installation and the times of visitation in an official capacity of officers of the rank.

The Grand Honours are also accorded to a Brother who has achieved his 50th anniversary as a Mason.

Mackey's Encyclopaedia claims this practice dates back to Greek and Roman times and has come to us through the operative craft. Of course, ancient cultures were more ritualistic than we are and carried the practice to much wider usage.

The Grand Bulletin of Alberta in it's May 1973 issue explains the practice in this way:

The privilege has been adopted by the Masonic Order and various Grand Officers are accorded courtesies as laid down in the constitution.

Freemasonry has put into these courtesies certain symbolism:

1. *Slapping the thighs – a primitive gesture of joy, enthusiasm and thanksgiving*
2. *Crossing the arms over the breast in the formation of the Cross of St. Andrew and is a sign of respect and honour*
3. *Clapping the hands above the head to form a right angle triangle, the fourth part of a circle, which does not need to be explained to a Mason*
4. *Clapping the hands. A sign of enthusiasm and appreciation*

Thus, with Grand Honours we say to a visitor:



*We welcome you with joy.
We receive you with respect and honour.
We greet you on the square.
We appreciate your presence.*

Around the District

By V.W. Bro. John E. Gamble

Sunday

Nov. 2nd – **DISTRICT DIVINE SERVICE 10:00 am**
United Church on Robinson Street Little Current

Monday

Nov. 3rd – District Meeting 7:00 pm Belrock Masonic Centre. Masters & Wardens meeting immediately following district meeting.

Tuesday

Nov. 4th – National Lodge Memorial Service & Ladies Night

Wednesday

Nov. 5th – Nickel Lodge No. 427 hosts Veteran's appreciation dinner and Remembrance Day service

**Note: Espanola Lodge meeting cancelled so they can attend the Nickel Lodge meeting*

Saturday

Nov. 8th – Royal Arch Masons Chapter of Instruction 1:00 pm at Espanola Lodge

Tuesday

Nov. 11th – Remembrance Day
Participate in Remembrance Day Services



Wear your Masonic Regalia

Nov. 11th – Doric Lodge proving Third Degree

Wednesday

Nov. 12th – Friendship Lodge Masonic Education

Thursday

Nov. 13th – Gore Bay Lodge D.D.G.M. Official Visit Dinner at 6:00 pm
Algoma Chapter O.E.S.

Friday

Nov. 14th – Bethel Lodge Step Up Night

Saturday

Nov. 15th – York Rite College – Cryptic Rite

Monday

Nov. 17th – Sudbury Lodge Masonic Education

Tuesday

Nov. 18th – Algonquin Lodge Past Master's Night
Espanola Chapter RAM

Wednesday

Nov. 19th – Nickel Lodge Emerg. Meeting
Friendship Lodge annual visit Second Degree

Thursday

Nov. 20th – Tuscan Chapter MEM

Thursday

Nov. 27th – Mavar Preceptory Knights Templar
Templar Orders

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FREEMASONRY IN OUR COMMUNITY

Bob Fontaine rakes in accolades

THE SUDBURY STAR – August 2008

Bob Fontaine of Fontaine & Associates, who has worked in his field for 33 years, was named Outstanding Volunteer by his governing association - the Canadian Association of Chartered Insolvency and Restructuring Professionals.



As well, he has been named a Fellow with Chartered Insolvency and Restructuring Professional Association, a lifetime appointment.

Fontaine is one of only 18 people who share the trustee-like distinction. Finally, Fontaine, who received a Paul Harris Fellowship from Rotary International back in 1995, saw his fellowship upgraded to “sustaining” the next highest level.

W. Bro. Robert J. Fontaine

The Paul Harris Fellowship is Rotary’s highest honour.

“It was a hell of a month, I have to say,” said Fontaine. “It’s kind of satisfying to be recognized by your peers, your association and people you with in the community. It was a wonderful, wonderful August.”



Fontaine’s Outstanding Volunteer award, it should be noted, was the first awarded by his association. It will be an annual award.

Fontaine is currently on the Salvation Army’s local advisory board, co vice-chairman of the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation board, on the Laurentian University board of governors, and is a founding member of the Sudbury Food Bank and board.



W. Bro. Robert J. Fontaine was Worshipful Master of Nickel Lodge No. 427 G.R.C. in 1991. He embodies the meaning of Brotherly Love Relief and Truth in his daily conduct and in him we have found the Ideal of a Freemason. We congratulate you Worshipful Sir, well done.

**JAVA GUILD AT BELROCK
EVERY TUESDAY**

**COME FOR COFFEE –
STAY FOR LUNCH**

YOUR PICTURES ARE NEEDED FOR THE NEWSLETTER

The Sudbury-Manitoulin District newsletter needs pictures and articles about your Lodge, Masonic Family or Community. The editor will cheerfully add your name as guest columnist or photographer to the article.

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Concordant News & Views

Tuscan Chapter No. 95 R.A.M.



(Front L-R) Comp. Peter Ramsey - Bro. Kip Hawley - R. Ex. Comp. Dan Raycroft - Bro. Lucien Chrétien - R. Ex. Comp. Keith Jordan
(Back L-R) Comp. Brian Bigelow - Comp. Allan Farquharson - V. Ex. Comp. Willie Glehs - Comp. Eric Moore

Mavar Preceptory No. 65

On Thursday, October 23rd 2008 Companions Brian Bigelow, Robert Gordon, Mike Muzia, and Ben Mullen received the Malta Orders under the direction of Em. Kt. Sir Gordon V.G. McEwen.



(Back Row L-R) Comp. Robert Gordon - Em. Kt. Gord McEwen - Comp. Mike Muzia
(Front L-R) R. Em. Kt. Denis Amendola - Em. Kt. Albert Stonier - Comp. Brian Bigelow - Comp. Ben Mullen



Congratulations:

W. Bro. Kipton Hawley and Bro. Lucien Chrétien from National Lodge No. 588 who received the Most Excellent Master Degree on Thursday, October 16th 2008 under the direction of Ex. Comp. Stan Fenton, Second Principal.



Em. Kt. Brian Millar District Secretary - R. Em. Kt. Wm. Denis Amendola, Provincial Grand Prior

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Concordant News & Views

Espanola Chapter No. 257 R.A.M.

Espanola Chapter held a Royal Arch degree on Tuesday, October 21st 2008. Companions Richard Meisner and Mark Hutchinson completed their researches and were successful in achieving the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch.



R. Ex. Comp. Dan Raycroft, Grand Superintendent District 14 Royal Arch Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario presents bursaries to Ex. Comp. Bruce Gordon for his grandson Colin Cooke and another to V. Ex. Comp. James Angus for Patrick Boudreau the son of Ex. Comp. Robert Boudreau. The bursaries are to assist with the post secondary education costs each recipient has.



The Degree of Royal Arch Mason is founded upon the destruction of the first and the building of the second Temple. The ceremonies of the Degree have an interesting and graphic historical setting, and a profound and reverential moral significance. The Royal Arch Degree is the complement of the Master Mason Degree, the unfolding into a second volume of the history of that which was lost to its final recovery. Without the Royal Arch, the Master Mason Degree is like a song half sung, a tale partly told, or a promise unfulfilled.

It has been said that "The Royal Arch stands as the rainbow of promise in the Ritual; it stands as the promise of resurrection; of that which was lost and that which shall be recovered."

Our membership consists only of those who have been regularly initiated, passed and raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in a just and duly constituted Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons who are properly vouched for, in good standing in their respective Lodges and in the community in which they reside



Scribe "E" V. Ex. Comp. Henry Handsley preparing the meeting minutes takes a moment from his busy schedule for a quick photo by R. Ex. Comp J.E. Gamble

Royal Arch Masonry

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Concordant News & Views

SCOTTISH RITE – SUDBURY LODGE OF PERFECTION

Sudbury Valley



Sudbury Lodge of Perfection held their annual election and Installation of Officers on Friday, October 17th 2008. Congratulations to Ill. Bro. Barry Tooley the new T.P.G.M. and the Officers for the ensuing year.

Illustrious Brethren from the Sudbury Lodge of Perfection travelled to North Bay on Saturday, October 4th 2008 to perform the 17th degree Knight of the East and West on one of the largest Classes in recent years.



(Rear L-R) G. Campbell – R. Lipic – R. Runciman – J.D. Bell – J. Thomson – A. Stonier – P. Liukko
(Front L-R) R.J. Fleming – C. Stephenson – B. Tooley – R. Luoma – G. Trotter – E. Bradley – W. Chung

17th Degree Knights of the East and West
(L-R) P. Liukko – C. Stephenson – A. Burns – R. Jaworski – J. Wier – R. Donaldson – R. Lewis – B. Tooley – R. Luoma – Brian Fielding



It was one of the largest classes for the North Bay Chapter of Rose Croix when 22 candidates received their **18° Knight Rose Croix** on Saturday, October 4th 2008. R.W. Bro. Robert J. Fleming S-M D.D.G.M. and his son Bro. Stephen Fleming were part of this historic Class.



The Supreme Council 33° of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of Canada governs the Chapters of Rose Croix conferring the 15th to 18th degrees inclusive.

The 15th and 16th degrees relate to the rebuilding of the Second Temple of Zerubbabel. The 17th degree is an approach to, and the 18th degree a recognition of the Christian ethics in universal terms, thus assisting in the building, in our hearts, of the Third Temple, not made with hands. The 18th degree is supplemented by the beautiful Maundy Thursday and Easter ceremonies.

The 15th and 18th degrees are obligatory and include:

- 15° Knight of the East or Sword
- 16° Prince of Jerusalem
- 17° Knight of the East and West
- 18° Knight Rose Croix

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Concordant News & Views

THE ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS OF ONTARIO CRYPTIC RITE



(Rear L-R) R. DeFreitas – P. Liukko – A Sweetman
(Front L-R) G.V.G. McEwen – M. Millard – A. Lloyd – B. Cunningham – J.E. Gamble

Congratulations to Comp. Alan Lloyd of Sudbury and Comp. Randy DeFreitas of North Bay for receiving their Super Excellent Master Degree during the Grand Council Annual Field Day on October 18th 2008 in Thornhill.

M. Ill. Comp. Bryan Cunningham, Grand Master of the Royal and Select Masters of Ontario who is also from Sudbury congratulated all the candidates for their preferment in Freemasonry.



M.Ill. Comp. Bro. Bryan Cunningham – Grand Master of the Royal and Select Masters of Ontario accepted a cheque from Adoniram Council No. 2 of Toronto for the Cryptic Rite Charitable. He then presented the cheque to M. Ill. Comp. Thomas Janes, Foundation Secretary Treasurer.



For his generous donation to the Cryptic Rite Charitable Foundation, T. Ill. Comp. Al Sweetman receives a Collar and Jewel as a special thank you from the Cryptic Rite Charitable Foundation.

The Cryptic Rite Charitable Foundation of Ontario Inc. in 1982 is a public foundation registered with the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency. The foundations objectives are to receive, maintain, control and use donations exclusively for charitable purposes in Ontario. Its donations and investment income are used to fund research into neurological disease, particularly Alzheimer's and Parkinson disease. The Foundation's Vision is to help find a medical solution to cure Alzheimer's and Parkinson diseases. The Foundation has funded \$100,000 to the University of Toronto research and has pledged an additional \$125,000 to the University for further research into Alzheimer's research projects.



You could be the
one match that saves a life.

one match
stem cell and marrow network



The OneMatch Stem Cell and Marrow Network

At any given time, hundreds of Canadians are counting on Canadian Blood Services to find them a matching stem cell donor. For most of these people, a stem cell transplant is their only hope of recovery from a serious illness.

You may be able to help. Volunteering to donate stem cells through the OneMatch Stem Cell and Marrow Network is easy. All it takes is a little bit of your time, a simple test and a willingness to donate bone marrow or peripheral blood stem cells to any patient in need of a transplant. More than 220,000 Canadians have already made this generous commitment. Many people are alive today thanks to these individuals and to the millions of potential donors on other registries around the world.

What are stem cells?

Stem cells have been in the news a lot over the past few years. For the purposes of OneMatch, stem cells are immature cells that can become either red blood cells (which carry oxygen), white blood cells (which fight infection) or platelets (which help to stop bleeding). Bone marrow is a rich source of stem cells but stem cells can also be found in umbilical cord blood and our circulating blood. So a donor may be asked to donate either the stem cells from bone marrow or peripheral blood stem cells depending on which product the patient requires.

What is bone marrow?

Bone marrow is the tissue found in the soft centre of your bones. Bone marrow contains stem cells that grow into blood cells, including red cells, white cells and platelets. When bone marrow becomes diseased (as in aplastic anemia), one form of treatment is to destroy the patient's diseased marrow and replace it with the marrow of a healthy, matching donor.

What are peripheral blood stem cells?

Peripheral blood stem cells (PBSC) are stem cells that circulate in the blood. Normally there are too few of these cells to be beneficial to transplant purposes. However, if a healthy donor is given injections of a granulocyte colony stimulating factor (G-CSF), the number of stem cells in the blood increase dramatically, becoming a useful source of stem cells for transplant purposes.

How are donors matched to patients?

Surprisingly, the blood group (A, B, O, AB) of an individual is of no importance in matching a donor to a patient. Instead, a test is used to identify proteins called "antigens" that are found on the surface of white blood cells. When a person joins OneMatch his or her antigens are identified, and this information is added to a national database.

Whenever a transplant physician requires a volunteer donor for a patient, Canadian Blood Services is able to search its donor database for a match. Because of our membership in Bone Marrow Donors Worldwide, we also have access to typing information from more than 11 million donors on registries in other countries.

Who can join OneMatch?

Canadian Blood Services has established eligibility criteria to ensure that stem cell donation is a safe procedure for both donors and recipients.

To join OneMatch, you must be aged 17 to 50, healthy, and willing to donate stem cells to anyone in need. Health problems that could make you ineligible include some heart conditions, cancer, blood diseases, and insulin-dependent diabetes.

Is the ethnicity or age of a donor important?

The markers used to match donors to patients occur with different frequencies in different ethnic groups. For this reason, a person's best chance of finding a matching donor is within his or her own ethnic group. Therefore, donors from as many ethnic communities as possible are needed to develop a database with a broad ethnic representation that reflects the needs of all patients.

As well, since younger donors are associated with better long-term survival rates for patients, OneMatch is also targeting younger donors to join.

What happens once I join OneMatch?

Once you're fully informed and have decided to join OneMatch, arrangements will be made to have you tested. Your typing results will be added to our database and will remain confidential, used solely for the purposes of helping find matching donors for patients. Only a small number of people on the database will actually have the opportunity to donate stem cells. If you are selected as a match, we will contact you to confirm your willingness to proceed and discuss the next steps. So, please remember to let us know if you move or if your health status changes in a way that might affect your eligibility to donate.

How are stem cells donated?

If you are donating bone marrow, you are admitted to the hospital the day of the collection. While lying on your stomach under general or regional anesthesia, a needle is inserted into the pelvic bones at both sides of your lower back. Only a small portion (three to five per cent) of your total bone marrow is removed and will be replaced by your body within weeks. The procedure takes approximately one to two hours. You are usually discharged later that day or the following day.

In a stimulated PBSC donation, you're given a drug that increases the quantity of stem cells circulating in the bloodstream. The stem cells are then collected through a process called apheresis. A needle is inserted into your arm, neck or thigh and your blood is passed through a centrifuge, which separates the stem cells from the blood. The blood is returned to you through another needle.

What does it feel like to donate bone marrow?

The actual collection procedure itself is performed under anesthesia. Short-term side effects after the procedure usually include fatigue and soreness at the donation site. The soreness has been compared to the sensation you might experience following hard exercise or a fall on the ice.

What does it feel like to donate peripheral blood stem cells?

The apheresis procedure is commonly used in a variety of situations. Canadian Blood Services' plasma donors may undergo apheresis up to 52 times a year while platelet donors may donate 26 times a year. Short-term side effects from using the drug (G-CSF) to stimulate the production of stem cells may include mild to moderate bone pain, muscle pain, headaches or flu-like symptoms. These symptoms normally disappear 24 to 48 hours after making a donation.

How would the patient receive my stem cells?

The stem cells are placed in transfusion bags and taken by medical courier back to the patient who may be in Canada, or in another country. The patient will have already undergone high levels of chemotherapy and radiation to eliminate all of his or her diseased cells. He donated stem cells are transfused to the recipient. If all goes well, the stem cells will start to produce normal, healthy blood cells after several weeks.

Does it help if I donate blood?

Donating blood is something you can do to help, whether or not you decide to join OneMatch. Stem cell recipients often need a large quantity of blood before and after they receive a transplant.



You could be the
one match that saves a life.

one match
stem cell and marrow network



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Gala for Hope

*Please join us for a night of dinner,
dancing and silent auction all in
support of breast cancer research*

Friday, November 14, 2008
Cocktails at 6:00pm, Dinner at 7:00pm
BRYSTON'S *On The Park*,
5 Creighton Road, Copper Cliff
\$60 per person / \$480 table of 8

For ticket and information contact:
Julia McDonald 670-1234 ext. 3713