

B 2 B FaciliFacts

Presented by the Brother 2 Brother Team of Grand Lodge

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The B2B Tool Kit – Resource Manual “Let’s Look A Little Closer At ...”

This is a continuation of the topic on “Coping With Change” which we began in the January 2008 issue. Change is constantly with us in our daily lives and how we cope with this challenge is paramount to our well being, both inside and outside the lodge room.

Lodge Management: Coping With Change

5.4.5 Invent OPTIONS for Mutual Gain:

It may seem that there is no way to split the pie that leaves both parties satisfied. Often the solution appears to be an either/or choice that is either markedly favourable to one side or the other. As valuable as it is to have options, people involved in negotiation rarely sense the need for them. There are four major obstacles that inhibit the inventing of an abundance of options:

- Premature judgement - inventing options does not come naturally.
- Searching for the single answer - in most people's minds, inventing alternatives simply is not part of the negotiating process.
- The assumption of a fixed pie - each side sees the situation as essentially "either/or", either I get what is in dispute, or the other party does.
- Thinking that "solving their problem is their problem" - each side is concerned with only its own immediate interests.

Inventing creative options is about dealing with the facts, to do so it is necessary to:

- Separate the act of inventing the options from the act of judging them, since judgment hinders imagination.
- Broaden the options on the table, rather than looking for a single answer.
- Search for mutual gains - shared interests help to produce agreement.
- Invent ways to make the decisions of each party easy - confront each side with a choice that is as painless as possible.



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On February 15th 2008 we will celebrate the 43rd Anniversary of the first raising of the Maple Leaf, Canada’s National Flag.



The maple leaf has been viewed as the emblem of Canada since the early 1830s. Our distinctive lapel pin with the red Canadian Maple Leaf and the gold square and compasses was authorized to be worn by all Masons in this Grand Jurisdiction in 1994.



5.4.6 Insist on Using Objective CRITERIA:

The more standards of fairness, efficiency or merit are brought to bear on the problem, the more likely that a final course of action will be produced that is wise and fair. Approaching agreement through discussion of objective criteria also reduces the number of commitments that each side must make and then unmake as they move toward agreement. In positional bargaining, each party spends much of the time defending its position and attacking the other side's position. The use of objective criteria tends to employ time more effectively talking about possible solutions. Objective criteria need to be independent of each side's will and, to assure a wise agreement, should also be logical and practical.

When change appears necessary and differences in how to address the issue exist, the preceding methodology should be employed. To assist in reaching the proper conclusions, the following process should be considered:

- Identify the issue.
- Assemble the pertinent information from available sources, such as the Constitution and Lodge By-laws, experience and expert knowledge of members, tradition and history to form a basis from which to begin, review of past records, and consult with other lodges and data sources within the Craft.
- Review the assembled facts with representatives of the membership.
- Establish a Committee to devise a plan to bring about the appropriate change, chaired by a member possessing mediation skills. Committee members should be selected for their abilities in relation to the issue, and to represent the interests of the membership.
- Have Committee proposals and recommended action reviewed by representatives of the membership.
- Implement the agreed change, and review progress and results with the membership on a regular basis.

5.4.7 Summary

Changes are occurring daily all around us. We cannot drag our feet in an attempt to stop the changes. We must adapt to those changes so that we will survive. Freemasonry is like life itself, because it is comprised of individuals who each contribute to its strength.

Freemasonry, therefore, must also change to keep up with the evolution of society. In this manner, not only will Freemasonry survive in the 21st century, it will flourish. The key is to recognize that Freemasonry cannot stand still in this fast-paced world. It must be at the forefront of change, not in the areas that are inviolable, but in Lodge Management.

Back Issues of the B2B FACILIFACTS

Back issues of this publication are available upon request. They include Volume 1, Issues 1 thru 3; Volume 2, Issues 1 thru 11. Simply submit your request to the B2B Team Leader, V.W.Bro. Iain Wates and they will be electronically forwarded to you. E-mail address: idwates@sympatico.ca

The Next Issue !

A must read for the Three Principal Officers, particularly Bro. Senior Warden !

Good things DO NOT just happen - ***you must make them happen***. This requires planning and your plan should try to predict the unpredictable, so that, as Worshipful Master, you are prepared to cope successfully with any eventuality.

Planning is a key management responsibility.

Watch For This Timely Topic:

***Successful Planning For The Masonic Year
(For the Worship Master)***

Jurisdiction News

LEARNING TO LISTEN - LISTENING TO LEARN

Insight and Outlook for the Future of Freemasonry

Masonry in Ontario is changing, slowly perhaps, as befits our tradition, but surely. The quiet evolution began with the initiative of the Committee on Masonic Education (2003), 'Let's talk Masonry: Symbolism and Philosophy' in 'Masonic Nights at the Round Table' where it is OK to ask *WHY?* - *the most important question in Freemasonry*. In 2004 a small group of young Masons was brought together to discuss the meaning of Freemasonry in the life of a young man at the beginning of the 21st century. Two main topics were explored: 'What has Freemasonry to offer young men to-day?' and 'What can young men contribute to Freemasonry?' Out of this exercise in personal introspection, came a model for 'Lodges of Discussion', during which free and open dialogue provide potential learning opportunities when younger and older Brethren together share their experience and aspiration: 'Discuss, Question, Think, Learn, Grow' Excited and motivated by the joy of learning through reading, studying, and discussing the deeper meaning and esoteric profundity of Speculative Masonry, several groups have been formed around the jurisdiction to explore a wide variety of topics, some with their own web sites for posting papers and exchanging ideas.

Raymond S. J. Daniels, Deputy Grand Master
February 6th, 2008

"Now it's your turn !"

This new section of the B2B Facilifacts remains available to you the reader and we encourage you to express your views on such subjects that may arise in this publication.



LODGE ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

The inclusion of these randomly chosen lodge activities, in this periodical, is solely for the purpose of providing the membership at large with some examples of ways to better involve their lodge members. With the hope that someone in your lodge might say ... **"We should try something like that."**

From ...

Dufferin Lodge No. 291 – Hamilton "C" District ... held an evening with retired undercover RCMP drug officer, Carl MacLeod. Hear about his secret life that has been unmasked with the publication of the book, "A Master of Deception: Working Undercover for the RCMP". What a unique way of learning about this side of life and expanding your personal knowledge.

Granite Lodge No. 446 – Western District ... an Open House was held for invited guests, with members meeting prospective candidates. The event included a lecture on the history of the Order and the Lodge, with a tour of the Temple facilities and an explanation of some displays.

Bancroft Lodge No. 482 – Prince Edward District ... thank you to Bro. Nelson Boehme for the donation of a Masonic watch that was raffled off after lodge. The monies raised were donated to the Bancroft Area Kids In Need program. We also wish to remind everyone of The Coffee Club held every Friday, from 10 am to 2 pm, in the lodge banquet room. Masons, family and friends are welcome.

Dufferin Lodge No. 338 – Niagara "A" District ... just recently a very special event occurred, where WBro. Art Etling and the Welland & Port Colborne Shriners Degree Team conferred a 3rd Degree on a "Lewis", Bro. Jeff Etling. Truly a proud moment for Father and Son.

Oakridge Lodge No. 708 – London West District ... brethren are reminded of the need for volunteer visitors for the London Masonic Districts Medical Outreach Program, where out of town Masons can be treated to a visit from like minded men, while receiving treatment in the local hospitals.

Brant Lodge No. 663 – Hamilton "A" District ... everyone is reminded that the "Brant Koffee Klub" opens Sunday mornings at 10 am. It is a great time to meet and brush up on ritual work or just catch up on the local gossip. All are welcome.

Chukuni Lodge No. 660 – Western District ... A great evening of enlightenment recently occurred when Brother Michael Barnes, an Author, Educator and Historian presented a talk on Northern Ontario, its mining history and development. The evening began with a dinner at a local restaurant and then an Emergent meeting to hear the presentation. These speaking events are a real treat, very enjoyable and most educational. It vividly shows that stimulating the mind outside of the ritual and our teaching's can be very rewarding.