

H.E. The Reverend Dame

Nola Crewe

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Dear Sir Ron . . .

Please forgive my delay in getting this to you in response to your letter of 28 July 2017.

NOMINATION

It is an honour to learn that my name has been put forward in nomination for the position of Grand Prior of Canada. With the greatest humility, I advise you that I am willing and eager to accept all the responsibilities this position entails: and I am delighted to have my name stand.

QUALIFICATIONS

I was vested in 2004 - in the first Investiture in Toronto. From that point forward I have served on a variety of committees, chaired the preparations for the 2010 International Meeting in Toronto, was Chancellor for two years and then Prior III of St James Priory for three years. I am currently the Grand Chancellor. I have attended almost every Investiture in Canada: Windsor, Ottawa and Edmonton and intend to continue to do so.

In 2008 I went to my first International meeting in Fiuggi, Italy to gain greater understanding of what would be required for the 2010 meeting in Toronto. Italy brought me to a whole new level of understanding of the organization to which we belong. Since then I have attended meetings in England, Denmark, Bulgaria, Portugal, Jordan, Israel, Germany, Greece, Finland, Estonia, Croatia, Scotland and at the United Nations in New York, as well as the two Retreats in Portugal and Denmark.

Internationally I am a member of the Venues Committee and serve as secretary. I have been awarded a medal, *Honoris Causa*, by the Ecumenical Patriarch of Greece for activities in service to the Order in Greece.

Attendance at these meetings is crucial to Canada's voice being heard. I currently budget approximately \$10,000 each year, and have the means to continue to do so, to ensure my continued attendance at Templar functions.

International meetings include reports from each of the Grand Priorities of their membership and activities. These reports are amazing in the breadth and depth of our participation in the broader world. But we do not share it adequately. Transparency cannot be overvalued: whether it is finances, intentions or accomplishments. That said, there are matters that cannot be discussed at any particular time: but goal should be to share as much as we can. For there is much in which to take pride.

VISION & LEADERSHIP STYLE

My vision for the Canadian Priority is to truly be represented from sea to sea. Our membership needs to have a greater understanding of that which we are a part and how they can participate more fully at all levels at home and abroad. We need to look to an aggressive process of following up on all indications of interest and an intentional outreach, such as that outlined by GP-USA in Portugal. A new website is needed that is easy to find and filled with information that will grab the viewer's attention.

My vision includes engaging our membership in collaborative efforts between priorities and different regions based on the individual's interests: which range from fund raising for the Holy Land, Hockey Knights in Canada, well drilling, wounded warriors, sheltered women; the United Nations, our own history, public service, social events and so much more.

My leadership style is one of collaboration, encouragement, openness and example. I believe it to be the responsibility of all leaders, at whatever level, to mentor talent and support those considering entering into new roles of responsibility. It is an area in which I believe the Canadian Templars can do a better job: but also an area where we can become an example to others. Canada, being a vast nation, must take advantage of new modes of communication to enable us to develop a true affinity for national and international activities.

For example, a commitment to mentor not merely those in one's own priority, but to contribute to the advancement of all. I would like to see a system whereby there would be regular Skype meetings between the members of different Priorities. For example, all Chancellors could share their activities: successes, failures and plans so that they could benefit from the experience and ideas of others filling the same role (or those who have held that role in the past). The same would hold true for the Treasurer, Fund Raiser, Social Convenor, etc.

Another area where we could benefit from sharing our talents is in programming. Video taping a service for the Martyrs or a speaker on some historical issue or a report on an International event, could be shared online or used as a starting point for discussion or as an addition to a business meeting in another Priory.

Finally, or perhaps foremost, retention of members is a very real challenge. In business, when an employee leaves the firm, there is an exit interview to find out why. This is done because a lost employee means a lost search, interviews, the investment in training, lost contacts and an awareness that all may not be well. Like lost employees, lost members are a real loss to an organization. Our members put a great deal of thought and energy into enlisting potential candidates for membership. We clearly have an initial appeal, but in some priories there is less than a 50% retention rate of active members. Research shows that it is more effective to revitalize interest in the Templars of a formerly active member, than in finding new ones as replacement. Both are needed but we need to put together a process to train our Priors and Membership Chairs (or whoever the appropriate people may be) to reverse this drain of people who at one time saw our Order as a place to invest their time, energies and monies.

A new improved website is essential. While Chancellor of St James, with Sir Stephen Lautens, we created a website that excited our membership and enabled them to have full contact information and pictures of their colleagues. Toronto is once again creating a website in which to take pride. Nationally, we need to be taking advantage of the many innovations the internet offers if we are to attract and retain the high quality of membership that the Order deserves.

RESUME

EDUCATION

University of Toronto, Innis College - recipient of the Atkinson Award	1972 - 1976 Hon. B.A.
University of Toronto, Graduate School	1976 - 1977 M.A. History
University of Toronto, Law School - licence maintained	1983 - 1987 LL.B/J.D.
University of Toronto, Wycliffe College	2003 - 2007 M.Div.

EMPLOYMENT

Having dropped out of High School after grade ten, I have worked in a variety of positions ranging from the menial to senior management. Positions have included picking tomatoes; bank clerk; studying and taking advantage of a variety of opportunities to train, secretary, first female wedding photographer in Toronto, Saturday Night production manager, lobbyist for Consumers' Gas (supporting the continuance of offshore drilling), lawyer and

managing partner; President of the Registrar of Imported Vehicles (our law firm having won a federal contract to establish a system enabling vehicles not manufactured to Canadian standards to be modified, inspected and registered for licensing); School Trustee and Chair of the Toronto Board of Education.

Since 2007 I have been a Multi-Faith Chaplain at Mt Sinai Hospital. My time is divided between the Intensive Care Unit and the Women & Infants Department (Mt Sinai being a high risk pregnancy centre). I sit on a variety of committees, including, the Adult Critical Care Team; Acute Resuscitation; ICU Redevelopment; Women & Infants' Health Centre of Excellence; Perinatal Bereavement; and I chair the ICU-End of Life Committee and am a team member responding to both the Neonatal and ICU Emergency Medical Care Codes.

I have also served since 2010 as the part-time Rector of St Monica's Anglican Church with a pastoral associate reporting to me. This is a missional church: seeking to serve the marginalized of our society and to reach out into an area that is unserved by the Anglican Church.

PERSONAL

Husband - Sir Harold Nelson, KC - died in 2012;

Five children (eldest daughter died in 2001) and son, Sir Derbyshire Crewe is a Knight
nine grandchildren: the eldest, Dame Savannah, is a Templar
and one great-grand-daughter.

INTERESTS & MEMBERSHIPS

- Royal Ontario Museum
- Mensa Canada
- Canadian and Ontario Bar Associations
- Ontario Genealogical Society (Kent, Essex and Toronto branches)
- Past Chair of the Scottish Studies Society
- Castle Studies Group

I would be delighted to discuss any subject or anything I have written herein with any Templar, anywhere, anytime. My contact information is at the top of the page.

Blessings

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