

### **Grand Council COVID-19 Restrictions – 17 October 2020**

During the Grand Council deliberations this morning it was decided, and it is the direction of the Grand 1<sup>st</sup> Principal that formal In-Chapter Meetings and degree work of the Royal Arch Masons of Alberta continue to be restricted until January 2021.

In view of this the Grand Council recognizes that there is a need to permit Chapters to conduct education, business, elections, etc. and therefore approves the following:

Zoom meetings are approved for Masonic Education purposes and may be conducted openly to include Royal Arch, Craft Lodge, and perhaps even the general public; dependant upon the content of the education.

Zoom meetings are approved for all Royal Arch Members in the form of a Business Meeting for the purpose of conducting Chapter business, accepting Petitions for Exaltation, passing of accounts, approving budgets, and socializing with members from other Chapters. Collars and sashes may be worn at the discretion of the individual Chapter hosting the Zoom meeting. Minutes and a Register of attendees must be produced

Zoom meetings are approved for Royal Arch Members of a specific Chapter only for the purposes of the Election of Officers, Chapter voting on Notices of Motion, and Balloting on Petitions for Exaltation. Zoom balloting may be used to conduct the ballot. It should be noted that the host of the Zoom meeting would not be able to vote, so should there be a Grand Chapter officer in attendance, they could be identified as host, enabling the Chapter member to ballot. . Minutes and a Register of attendees must be produced

It should be noted that Chapter Zoom meetings are limited to Chapter members only and should not be conducted where family members or persons outside the fraternity would obtain our secrets. Please Guard the West Gate Companions.