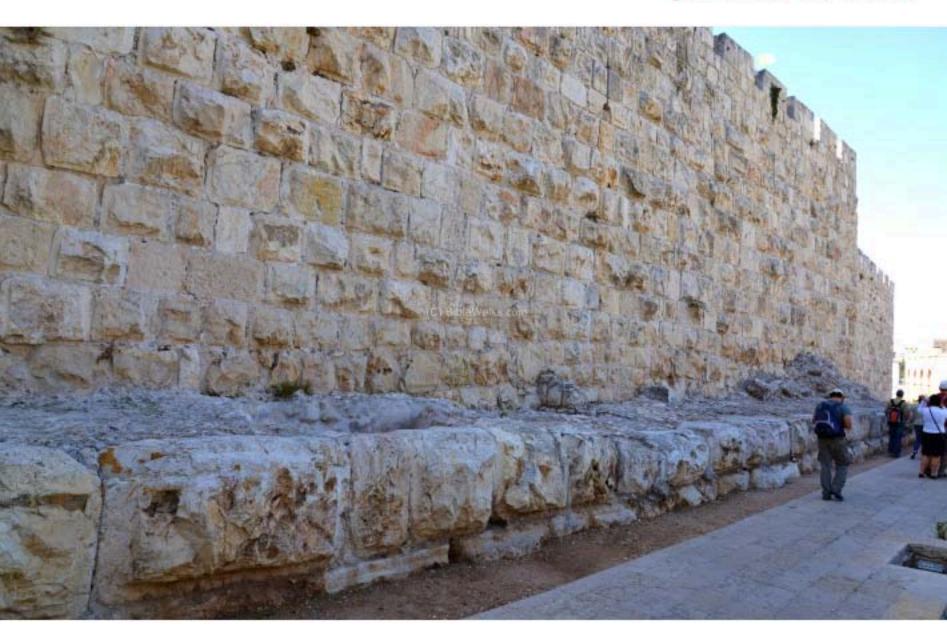
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A newsletter produced by the Acadia Commandery

June 2022, Vol 4. No 1







The Tancred Tower

Newsletter of the Acadia Commandery



VOLUME 4 No 1 JUNE 2022 SUMMER EDITION

The Tancred Tower is a newsletter of the Acadia Commandery of the Grand Priory of Canada. It is published semi-annually more or less. The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Order nor of its editor who are responsible for the unattributed content. We welcome submissions in English and/or French, and ask that you indicate if your correspondence is NOT for publication, otherwise, letters may be edited for length and content for this newsletter. Permission is granted to reproduce (print, photocopy or download) content (articles, reviews) from this newsletter or the Commandery's website or blog without prior permission for the above non-commercial purposes, on the condition that proper credit and attribution of the source is provided in all copies. It is the position of the Commandery that the copyright is held by the originating sources for material, and, that in general, it is the author's responsibility to govern his/her ability to use that content sourced from their primary sources.

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Editor's Note

I would like to encourage members to submit any newsworthy material, events, appointments, awards or honours received for *The Tancred Tower*.

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Message from the Commander



One of the more challenging duties of the Commander is to compose an interesting, visionary, inspirational and/or possibly engaging "Message from the Commander".

I shall begin with "interesting". The Grand Priory in Canada finally held its 58th Chapter

General physically in Niagara Falls after a drought of social gatherings since the Chapter General in Digby in 2019. From all accounts, it was a successful event. Representing the Acadia Commandery was Dame Penny Ericson DLJ, MScN and Jennifer Dobblesteyn PhD, OLJ from NB and Dame Dennice Leahey CM, DCLJ, CMLJ from NS. I was not able to attend as I could not abandon my sick horse during the time of the Chapter General (horse has since recovered). It was decided that the next physical Chapter General be hosted in Kingston, ON organized by the Ottawa Commandery in 2024. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) component had been split into its own event held virtually on Saturday, June 11, 2022. It was thought that it'd be better to have CG attendees focus on growth and development as opposed to slicing a portion of the CG for administrative tasks such as the AGM. At the AGM, it was announced that Dr. Ken Buchholz, CLJ was taking on the position as National Hospitaller.

From a "visionary" perspective, the Acadia Commandery has established a casual initiative, the military commission. I had numerous fascinating and interesting conversations with LCol David Jones CD, OLJ on how to develop active/retired military personnel interest in membership with the Commandery. As a result of these conversations, our initial sortie into the military community was to insert an advertisement into the Royal Canadian Legion's annual publication entitled "Military Service Recognition Book" in NB and "Veteran Service Recognition Book" in NS. The anticipated

publication will be distributed sometime this coming September. Jones suggested that we start with this baby step of visibility in that community in these important publications. Hopefully, we shall see some positive impact with our reaching out to the community in this way. I wish to also thank Chev Robbie Sprules KCLJ(J) for crafting the graphics.

Now, the "inspirational" part. This is a hard one and one that is very difficult to raise. However, I will take a kick at the can. I believe that we, the Order, in particular, our Commandery can make positive impacts in our communities in the Maritimes. In order to accomplish this, we need two key ingredients: a) people (members); b) money. To effect positive change, we need to start with little steps, such as identifying Acts of Kindness by individuals whether members or non-members to recognize their contribution to society. We can build on this to increase our footprint in the general public's consciousness and look towards other opportunities to help and thereby, further increase our visibility which will translate into more members allowing us to do more to benefit communities. I believe that we can do this. We have done some over the years, but the adage "we can do more" remains in my mind continually. I believe in the Commandery and in the Order in general as I believe it is the perfect vehicle to effect positive change and support in our communities. This also falls well within my credo "Nemo, vir est qui mudum, non reddat meliorem" which translates into "What man is a man who does not make the world better?"

I would argue that any composition possessing the attributes of "interesting" and "visionary" and "inspirational", would by default be an "engaging" composition as well! I trust that this message does.

In conclusion, the Order does offer three different avenues of focus for potential members: a hospitaller one, an ecumenical one and a military one, each or combination there of may suit one's particular interests or orientation.

Chev. David M. Cvet KLJ(J) Commander, Acadia Commandery





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The Story behind the Commanderies' Banners

During the 1979 Chapter General hosted in Halifax, it was the suggested that Commanderies should have their own banners. that time, At the Chancellor of Acadia Commandery. Chev. Robert Pichette KCLJ prepared a number of



banner sketches which were than discussed during the September Commandery meeting. The members were in favour of using the green cross with a gold star to indicate Acadia combined with blue and white wavy field in the upper left quarter to represent the Maritimes. It was then agreed that further work would be done on the matter.

It 1981, the Grand Priory authorized the purchase of two banners for each Commandery, as well as proper pikes, surmounted by a Maple Leaf ornament. By April 1982, the Commandery banners and the personal banner of the Grand Prior had been acquired, all of which were consecrated at a special ceremony held during the upcoming Chapter General. The Commandery banners were obtained in duplicate, one set to be held by the Grand Priory and the other to be in the possession of the Commanderies.

The Commandery banners bore the green cross of the Order on white, with the Arms of the Grand Priory of Canada in the centre of the cross. In a canton (corner) the particular emblem of each Commandery was shown. For Acadia, this emblem was made up of six wavy bars, blue and white, representing the waves around the four Atlantic provinces constituting the Acadia Commandery. Superimposed was a gold star, the ancient symbol of the Acadians referring to the virgin, Stella Maris, or "Star of the sea". Current Acadia Commandery members will readily recognize that this is the same banner design as the one in use today.

The new Commandery banner was dedicated on October 16th, 1982 during an impressive Service in the Edwin Jacob Memorial Chapel on the University of New Brunswick campus in Fredericton. In 1990, the then Commander Supt. Clare Dent, KCLJ, GOMLJ, kindly donated a shotgun case that neatly enclosed the Commandery banner and accompanying poles, thus greatly facilitating transportation. However, the author vividly remembers the times, when as Commander, he carried the shotgun case and contents with him to Chapters General and was always the object of many suspicious stares, and especially in airports Fortunately, this problem was solved when it was decided that poles would be supplied by local Chapter General organizers, meaning that the banner could in future be easily carried in a briefcase.

In 1996, the Principal Armorist of the Grand Priory of Canada carried out a careful inspection of all Commandery banners to find out if any changes were needed for registration with the Canadian Heraldic Authority. The Acadia Commandery banner was pronounced excellent and heraldically one of the best. No greater tribute could be paid to the fine work that went into its design.

The article sourced from "The History of the Acadia Commandery". Chev. Brian T. Newbold, KCLJ, GOMLJ. 2004.

Additional Note from the Commander

The infamous shotgun case had been in use for the transport of the banner and poles for several years but was eventually retired in favour of a snowboard case. This provided more room to store banner bases, additional flag poles, and additional flags (Canada Flag and NS Flag) and admittedly, garnished less attention from the "public"! At some point, when Acadia Commandery will have events in NB, the Commandery will expand the collection to include flag pole, stand and NB flag. The Commandery will do the same for PEI in the future.



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Emerald Gala & AGM

Save the date! October 1, 2022 is the scheduled date for an in-person Acadia Commandery Annual General Meeting following a luncheon. This will be followed by a fundraising dinner the Emerald Gala. The location for the event will be the Annapolis Basin Conference Centre (ABCC). For those travelling, one can book a room at the ABCC or make other lodging arrangements in the area.

Please email <u>acadia@stlazarus.ca</u> to convey your intention of attending the luncheon and meeting. This will help with the planning of food and beverage for the meeting.

The Emerald Gala is a major fundraising event for the Atalanta Hospice Society, which has taken on a "quest" to raise \$5.5 million to construct the Fundy Hospice. The members of the Acadia Commandery will be there in a show of support for this important local project. The Gala will be an elegant evening of dining, silent auction, live auction and live dance band. Our planning committee is busy working on reaching out to corporate sponsors as well as local businesses to supply items for the auctions and prizes for our unique Emerald Gift Trees.

We are so excited to announce Cindy Day will be

our emcee and headliner for the event. Cindy didn't hesitate when we asked her if she would be willing to support us in our cause stating, "Hospice care is so lacking in our region. If you think I could help raise awareness and/or money, then I am in. I will put the date in my calendar now."



She thanked us for reaching out to her. For those of you who don't know Cindy, formerly from CTV News Atlantic, she is now an online meteorologist consultant.

Emerald Gala Committee Jolene Buchholz, Chair

Special Announcement

I am pleased and privileged to announce that Dr. Ken Buchholz, MD, CCFP, FCFP, CLJ has taken on the position as Hospitaller of the Grand Priory in Canada, as of the AGM held virtually June 11, 2022 replacing Dr. Robert Boyko (who retired from the position). By virtue of this position, he also sits on the



national Board of Governors. We look forward to working with Ken on future projects facilitating the Order's hospitaller mission.

Military Mission

The Order's mission is comprised of three parts: a) Hospitaller; b) Ecumenical and what is often not mentioned, c) Military. The Order has had military roles in its long history, and therefore, felt that we should initiate a small token of appreciation to our military personnel and members, both active and retired. It was determined that a good step to appreciate their service, while elevating our visibility within the military community was to support the Royal Canadian Legion's annual publication, the "Veteran Service Recognition Book" (NS, PEI), "Military Service Recognition Book" (NB). Look for the advert in the next issues, a version published in each of the three Maritime provinces early this fall.





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Links to Ancient History

Research on possible links of the Order of Saint Lazarus to the 5th century, continues today through academic and amateur historical research. Given that record keeping throughout history may not be absolute due to natural/man-made calamities, it is very difficult to prove absolutely the time line of the origin of the Order. Regardless, it is interesting reading, and does convey the possibility of an even older institution than is considered today.

There is a proposed link between the leprosarium of Order Saint the of Lazarus and earlier establishments to care for victims of leprosy in the Holy Land conveyed in a Papal Bull *Inter assidua* Dominici, submitted by Pope Pius IV in 1565 stated that "the hospital of poor lepers of Saint Lazarus (was) made known by that most holy man Basil the Great (330 – 379 AD) and even by Damasus I, of blessed memory, Roman Pontiff, our predecessor (pontificate 366 – 384 AD), and by the times of the emperors Julian the Apostate (reign 355 - 360 AD) and Valentinian (reign 364 - 375 AD)...". Other pieces of evidence were found in the works by the 14th chronicler Nikephoros Kallistos Xanthospoulos describing the establishment of a leprosarium circa 450 AD, outside the walls of Jerusalem during the reign of Emperor Theodosios II (reign 408 – 450 AD).

The lion's share of the work on research on the history of the Order over the years is by Chev. Charles Savona-Ventura. The above is an extract from his white paper entitled "A Hospitalis infirmorum Sancti Lazari de Jerusalem before the *First Crusade*. For interest, the source for the papal bull originates from the Bullae Papae Pii IV Inter assidua Dominici... dated 4th May 1565. Transcribed in L. Cherubini and A.M. Cerubino. Magnum Bullarium Romanum, Pio Quarto usque ad Innocentium X. P. Borde, L. Arnaud & C.I. Rigaud, Lyon, 1673, pp.136-150.

Chev. David M. Cvet, KLJ(J)
"History Geek"

Acadia Commandery Portal Overhaul

I wish to re-iterate that the Acadia Commandery has its own portal on the national site. You can reach it by going to https://www.stlazarus.ca/acadia A portal is essentially, a mini-website within a much larger website. The Acadia Commandery's portal contains interesting and useful information on the Commandery, its history, organization, the works it has conducted in the Maritimes, past Commanders, donation page and much more.

We invite you to visit and explore the portal whether you are a Member of the Order/Acadia Commandery or from some other international jurisdiction and wish to take full advantage of the material presented.



The image above depicts the home page of the portal, while the image below depicts the standard structure of all of the underlying pages.





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Coat of Arms, Heraldry 103

In the November 2021 issue of *The Tancred Tower*, Heraldry 102 looked into the armorial bearings of those armigerous members (remember the meaning of "armigerous"?) of the Acadia Commandery and indicated an



online resource available on The Public Register of Arms, Flags and Badges of Canada located at https://www.gg.ca/en/heraldry/public-register which offers excellent background information on the arms with respect to the symbolism that forged the design of their respective armorial bearings. We will examine the various attributes and characteristics which make up one's armorial bearings.



We will begin with examining the arms¹ of our current Grand Master, HE Francisco de Borbon Graf von Hardenberg depicted on the left. His own arms is situated top right (sinister) and bottom left (dexter). Given his position as Grand Master, he has the privilege

of combining the arms of the Order with his personal arms having undergone the action of "quartering". In the language of heraldry "blazon", the GM's arms would read "Quarterly, 1&4, Azure bordered Gules, three fleur-de-lis Or, 2&3, Argent, a boar's head couped Sable armed Argent and langued Gules". The top most crown, situated on the mantling is known as an Eastern crown. The crown situated directly on top of the arms (shield) appears to be that of a Duke's coronet.

We now will examine the armorial bearings of the Order's first Grand Master, those of Gérard le Fondateur de Martigues. Not much is known regarding his patronymic and arms, however, it is thought that he was a member of the Saint Didier family².

The arms on the right are the family arms of Saint Didier³. It is unclear if and when the arms were formally recorded due to scant information available. The blazon for the arms would be: "Azure, a lion rampant Argent", where "Azure" means the



tincture of blue, "Argent" means the tincture of white. The lion rampant describes one of many heraldic positions that a lion may have. The crest is comprised of a 15th century tournament frog-mouth helm affixed with a plum of ostrich feathers, Azure and Argent.



The arms depicted on the left are those of the previous Grand Master, HE Don Carlos Gereda de Borbon. The Eastern crown appearing at the top of the mantling and situated on top of the shield is the coronet of a Marquess, reflecting the position of the previous GM.

The previous GM's personal arms were also quartered with the arms of the Order. Interestingly, the arms illustrates the concept of impalement, which is a combination or marshaling of two coats of arms side by side on one shield. In addition to this, there is an escutcheon (a small shield) overlaying the underlying pair of arms. The marshaling of arms often represented the union of the husband and wife, where both individuals were armigerous. The escutcheon denotes the next generation where the son who inherited the original marshaled arms, marries someone who is also armigerous are depicted as the third set of arms on the armorial bearings.

The next edition of Heraldry, we'll continue to explore the components and their attributes which make up typical armorial bearings.

^{1.} Chev. Dr Bernard Juby, KLJ-J, CMLJ, Hon. F.H.S. "Ordo Sancti Lazari - A Continuation". 2022.

^{2.} Chev. Charles Savona-Ventura. "*Grandmasters*, *Administrators & Protectors*". p7. 2012

^{3.} ibid. p7.





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Member Profile: Lois A. Stevenson, DLJ

Dame Lois Stevenson, DLJ, earned a MBA from Dalhousie University and an M.Phil from the University of Bath in England. A once-upon-a time professor at Acadia University, St. Mary's University and Mount Saint Vincent University,



she later spent a number of years in the Canadian government holding executive-level federal positions in charge of directorates responsible for entrepreneurship, small business, innovation, and economic framework policies and initiatives. She also spent four years on assignment in Cairo, Egypt with the Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) where she managed a SME Policy Development Project. Since 2010, she is an independent researcher and consultant, performing work for international organizations, such as the ILO, the OECD, ESCAP, the African Development Bank, and the European Union with primary emphasis on the Middle East and North Africa and Southeast Asia, but also projects in Latin America and the Caribbean, and Eurasia region.

Lois was recruited to join the Order of St. Lazarus (OSLJ) in 2016 by the Commander of the Acadia Commandery. Inspired by the history and purpose of the Order to support the sick, and particularly the hospice aspect, she eagerly joined and was invested as an Officer in 2018. She has been a member of the Acadia Commandery since 2016, and currently serves as its Treasurer. Along with David Cvet and three other members of the Acadia Commandery (and local business leaders), she was a founding director of the Atalanta Hospice Society (AHS) in 2017 with the vision to establish a residential hospice facility in Southwest Nova Scotia. In the early days, the hospice project benefited considerably from the learning experience of

hospice projects in other parts of Canada that were pioneered by members of the OSLJ.

Lois was a member of the Planning Committee for the highly successful OSLJ Chapter General hosted by the Acadia Commandery in Digby in May 2019. She was also invited by the OSLJ Board to participate in the Rejuvenation strategic planning process and later to co-chair the ad-hoc Governance Working Group that spearheaded bylaw changes to streamline the national organization and ensure its compliance with the Canada Not-For-Profit Act. She was elected for a one-year term on the OSLJ Board of Governors (2020-2021), and served as chair of the Board's first Audit Committee, and a member of the newly-formed Governance Committee.

In 2022, Lois was promoted to Dame of the OSLJ, of which she is most humbled, but also proud. In the meantime, she has continued to be very active with the work of the AHS local hospice project. Besides being Secretary-Treasurer (2017-2022), she played an instrumental role with a small team in developing the application for charitable status from the Canada Revenue Agency. The application was finally submitted in February 14, 2022, and to our great delight, approved in early June 2022!!! This will make all the difference in the world to the fundraising efforts of the hospice project and hopefully enable the AHS to advance the rest of the architectural design and construction work to make the project a reality, sooner than later.

Membership Update for 2022

I'd like to welcome Mr. John J.S. Lee, OLJ to the Order who was invested into the Order at the Chapter General in Niagara Falls. He had an opportunity to meet a few of the Acadia Commandery members at that event. He is an Innovation Engineer (UofW) and is



active in the 78th Fraser Highlander and the Order of St. Joachim.



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Good Works of Acadia Commandery

Red Cross Humanitarian Appeal for Ukraine (March 2022, NB, NS)

A "call to arms" was made to the members and

Friends of the Acadia Commandery on Friday, March 11, 2022 for contributions towards the



Red Cross Humanitarian Appeal for the Ukraine/Russia conflict. The current situation is poised to becoming Europe's greatest refugee crisis this century. The Canadian Red Cross had initiated a humanitarian crisis appeal and through the generousity of Friends and Members of the Acadia Commandery, by the end of Sunday, March 13, we were able to raise \$1,000. This was matched by funds from Acadia Commandery allowing the Commandery to contribute \$2,000 to the Red Cross Humanitarian Appeal. The Commander wishes to extend a collective thank you to those who contributed to this worthy cause.

Quest for Fundy Hospice (Sep 2021, NS)

The highlight of 2021 was the 250km awareness and fundraising campaign which was the kickoff for

the Quest for
Fundy
Hospice. The
Grand Priory
in Canada
showed their
support with
a generous
donation,



and members and Friends of the Order came together through volunteering to make this event a great success. With the help of the volunteers, and the 12th century knight on horseback, the knight ride was able to raise nearly \$25,000!

Bringing family/friends in virtually (Jul 2020, NS)

The Commandery underwrote the costs associated with the "proof-of-concept" unit comprised of iPads, goose-necked floor stands, wiring and ease of use

setup. These units were installed / at Tideview Terrace in Digby, NS (a home for special care) July in The 2020. objective for



these units is to allow the staff to setup the Zoom/Skype/Facetime session with the patient's family/friends and position the tablet close to the patient without the need for the patient to operate the devices. These also frees up the staff to focus on their tasks of the day by not having to be physically with the patient holding the device for their access.

Emeg tan tleaooltieg (We are home where we belong) (Mar 2020, NB)

This is the mantra of the *Elsipogtog* First Nation Elders with respect to the elderly requiring health

care services in New Brunswick. Dr. Jennifer Dobbelsteyn OLJ, Principal Researcher and her consulting



group was awarded \$1.2 million grant from the Public Health Agency of Canada in late 2019 to conduct a community-driven study to determine and identify the needs and requirements needed to enable First Nation Elders to live independently at home as they age. Dr. Jennifer Dobbelsteyn is also Deputy Hospitaller for the Commandery.



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Caring for Caregivers in First Nations Communities: A Reconciliation Initiative

A Collaboration Between The Order of Saint Lazarus, Petro-Canada Caremakers Foundation, and Elsipogtog First Nation



This project originated from an idea raised by Order of Saint Lazarus leadership. A need was identified for support for caregivers providing end-of-life care in First Nations Communities. Subsequently, a national grant designed to provide funding for such a project was found: Petro-Canada Caremakers Foundation National Grant for 300,000.

A planning committee (Vice Chancellor, National Hospitaller, Almoner) to oversee the development of the application for funding. Penny Ericson and I were asked to lead this project.

The missions/visions OSLJ and Petro-Canada Caremakers Foundation share a common interest: caring for caregivers. In 2021, the first National recognizing Reconciliation Day between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples was Reconciliation is about marked. healing relationships-not just talking about doing this, but practicing reconciliation. This project is an example of practicing reconciliation. It will address several calls to action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report.

The Grand Prior focused on our mission recently in a recent address in The Gazette. She spoke about the importance of caring for caregivers stating, "Our support of those caregivers through the Home Caregivers Support Program and A Caregivers Guide has never been more important. That work does make a positive difference and it matters." (Dame Jane Anema, Grand Prior)

This collaboration is built on what each collaborator brings to the table: the Order Saint Lazarus Canada has educational tools and a

commitment to caring for caregivers; Petro-Canada Caremakers Foundation has the funding and the knowledge surrounding caregivers in Canada; and *Elsipogtog* First Nation, *Elsipogtog*, New Brunswick has knowledge of their own people, knowledge of the needs within the community re end-of-life care and support, and knowledge about the best way to meet identified needs.

- 1. The key focus areas aligning with Petro-Canada's Caremakers Foundation objectives are: Both national organizations are aiming to make a difference for Caregivers.
- 2. Both recognize that Caregivers from all cultures within Canada need to be supported through education, including Indigenous peoples.
- 3. Both want to make a meaningful difference to families who are providing crucial care for their loved ones.



The project began with conceptual development. We then selected a First Nations partner, and decided that this would be a pilot

project under the Acadia Commandery. Meetings with community members have been held to discuss needs of caregivers who provide care at the end of life to family/friends. Planning is underway to assess how OSLJ Canada resource tools can be used to help Indigenous caregivers. Currently, we are drafting the application in preparation for submission, as soon as the application process opens. The application is continually being edited by committee members to insure completeness. This grant will be used to cover the entire cost of this project, therefore there will be no cost to the OSLJ.

Dr. Jennifer L. Dobbelsteyn, OLJ Deputy Hospitaller, NB Acadia Commandery