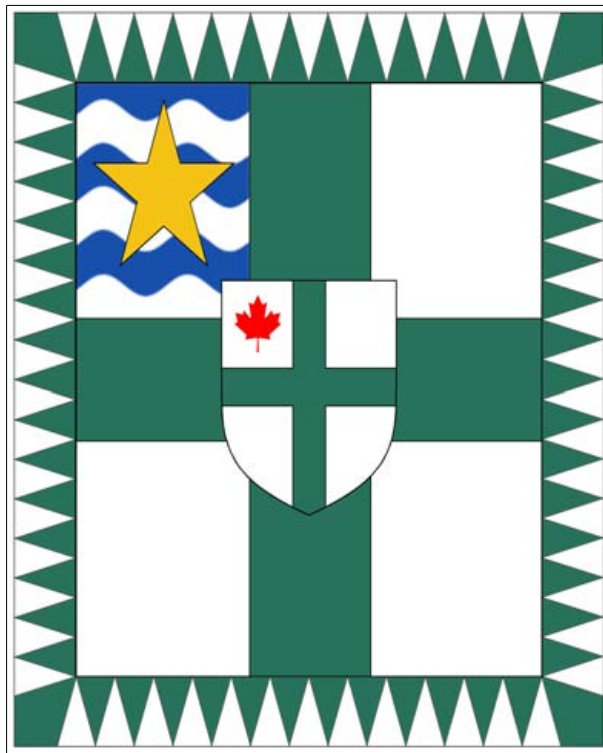


The History of the Acadia Commandery



Chev. Brian T. Newbold, KCLJ, GOMLJ, D.Sc
Past Commander
Acadia Commandery

The Military and Hospitaller Order
of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem

2004

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by

Chevalier Brian T. Newbold,
KCLJ, GOMLJ, D.Sc.
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Preface

Long ago during my stay at Université Laval in Quebec City for my doctoral studies my thesis advisor told me that "research is digging no matter what subject is chosen for study". This has certainly been the case for the present work.

History has been one of my life-long passions, and was my best subject in school. Therefore, it is perhaps not surprising that my attention was drawn to the history of the Acadia Commandery of the Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem as early as 1982, the year in which I became a member of the Order and of the Commandery. Later on, I realized that the writing of the history of the Acadia Commandery had been suggested twice before, during the 1980s, and then again in 1990 : "An update of the history of the Acadia Commandery should be the object of a special project. It would involve mostly updating since 1984".(1). Since I had been collecting historical information on the Commandery from about 1987, and was now Historian, I decided to take up the challenge. I knew that the biggest part of the task would be the research to obtain enough information on which to base a worthwhile and credible work. It was soon evident that the endeavour might take a long time, and such proved to be true !

Preliminary consultation using pertinent documents quickly showed that it was not merely a question of "mostly updating since 1984", but rather the writing of a history commencing with the

beginning of the Commandery. I also discovered that some information was missing, and likely to remain so. Remembering the fortifying Churchillian advice "Never Despair" and the wise edict "Nothing ventured, nothing gained", I opted to press on regardless...

It has been the practice that Commandery files be transferred from one Commander to the next at the time of change of command, and this worked reasonably well until 1991 when the files went missing ! They were to disappear for all of six years, but happily turned up in 1997. In the meantime, as Commander, I had, of necessity, built up a set of files from scratch; so when the regular files were found the two sets were combined, duplications eliminated, and the whole used to create the Commandery Archives. Since 1997, the Archives have been lodged in our home, and this has given rise to two benefits : direct access to documents, and the creation of a means for detecting holes in the records.

In order to plug some gaps in the Commandery Archives, two visits were made to the Chancery of the Grand Priory in the year 2000, and ten hours spent in careful scrutiny of the files there. This brought forth some interesting information on the early years (1975-1980) of the Acadian Commandery. In addition, contacts with former Commanders and senior members of the Commandery, as well as Officers of the Grand Priory, luckily produced further useful input. Finally, several successful appeals for

information were made via Acadia Commandery Newsletters.

Without the availability of detailed Archives the writing of a satisfactory History would not have been possible. Commandery sources consulted were : Minutes of Annual General and other Meetings, Reports to Council and Chapters-General, Newsletters, Reports on Annual Dinners, Descriptions of Investitures, and Historian Reports. The official Grand Priory of Canada publications : News, Vols. 1-7 (1980-1987); and The St. Lazarus Gazette, Vols. 1-18, (1987-2004) also proved to be most useful.

The main objective of the putting together of the Commandery story was to provide, in one place, a permanent record of events and happenings. Another goal was to finish this book in time for its distribution to members attending the upcoming Annual General Meeting in Summerside, P.E.I., and thus have its launching coincide with the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the Acadia Commandery.

While every effort was made to produce as complete an account as possible, some inadvertent errors of commission or omission may have occurred. Corrections and other input from readers would be welcome.

Brian Newbold
Moncton, N.B.
September 22, 2004

1. Introduction

To facilitate the reader, some explanation is in order regarding the presentation. It should be noted that a lot of detailed information has been given via a series of ten Appendices, located at the back of the work. Reference numbers are shown in parentheses. To simplify the text, post-nominal letters of members are limited to those relating to the Order of Saint Lazarus, except for the current members list which shows all ranks and known decorations.

The problem of material selection was rather like that encountered when preparing a course curriculum where the decision as to what to leave out is usually difficult, but dictated to some extent by space limitations. The choice here, was, of course, subjective.

2. The Commandery Challenge

From the very beginning it was realized that the efficient operation of the Acadian Commandery would be a daunting challenge given the small number of members and its enormous territory made up of four Canadian provinces. Nevertheless, several fruitful projects were carried out during the first six years (1975-1981).

At the April 11th, 1981 Annual General Meeting, there was a productive panel discussion on the purpose and future role of the Commandery which led to the following consensus: "1) our group must have a focus, 2) It should have one or more regional projects, 3) The efforts to date have been small but valid, 4) The Commandery is not a service club, rather a brotherhood, 5) Worthwhile efforts

will be demanding in time and in abilities, 6) We should recognize that the Commandery is capable of drawing upon extensive resources in the larger community, and 7) Any funds raised locally will probably be matched from the Grand Priory".(2).

It was agreed that a discussion paper would be prepared. This resulted in the formation of a Committee on Special Activities whose report was presented by its Chairman Chev. Patrick Duncan, KLJ in 1982. One of the conclusions was that in view of the geographical and numerical realities of the Acadian Commandery, any project must be small and clearly identifiable with the ancient purposes of the Order. This led directly to agreement that the Commandery would concentrate its future charitable work on the San Pablo leper colony in Peru.

The realities of the unique situation of the Acadia Commandery were emphasized from time to time over the years. Thus, in the 1985 Annual Commandery Report it was mentioned that "the geographical distribution of its members hinders progress."(3). In 1989, it was noted that "Other Commanderies have geography and numbers to work with, we do not, but most have some activities - charitable fund-raising efforts." (4).

In the same year, the Annual Commandery Report(5) refers to the problems of holding(hosting) meetings on a regular basis as : geography(four provinces), time, travel, and expense.However, in spite of these obstacles the Acadia Commandery has always found

a way to push forward with successful projects and related activities, thanks to its sustained perseverance and dogged determination.

3. The Origins of the Acadia Commandery and the Name

Having been in existence now for over 900 years, there is no doubt that the Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem is one of the most ancient chivalric and hospitaller Orders. Its history is intimately connected with that of Nouvelle France, and consequently with that of Canada. King Louis XIV, le Roi Soleil, created a number of Chevaliers de Saint-Lazare for valuable services rendered, one of them being the Duc de Lévis. With the fall of New France in 1763 the activities of the Order of Saint Lazarus in North America came to an abrupt end. However, after an absence of almost two hundred years the Order returned to Canada in 1962. (6).

The number of members of the Order in Canada steadily grew, however, by 1969 only seven were located outside of the provinces of Ontario and Quebec. Three of them were residents of the Atlantic provinces, two in Nova Scotia (Chev. John MacPherson, GCLJ, and RAdm. Desmond Piers, KCLJ, MMLJ), and one in New Brunswick (Lt. Col. George Stanley, GCLJ). In 1970, the Grand Priory of Canada decided that commanderies would be established in Ottawa, Montreal, Toronto, and Quebec City, with others to be added later; the requirement for the formation of a commandery being only 10 members at that time.

One of the quests of the author was to try to determine the exact date of the founding of the Acadia Commandery, but this proved to be a difficult task, little information being available. Fortunately, there were a few clues that helped to solve the mystery. Firstly, Archival research showed that in correspondence in 1975 the Acadia Commandery was referred to as 'one of our newer commanderies'. Later on, it was noted that on page 46 of the 1977 book " A Short History of the Grand Priory of Canada" (written by Chev. George Stanley, GCLJ then Chairman of the Grand Priory Historical Commission), there is the following paragraph : " The policy of establishing local Commanderies was extended until, by 1974, there were Commanderies in the Maritimes(the Acadian Commandery), in Quebec(the Quebec and Montreal Commanderies), in Ontario(the Ottawa and Toronto Commanderies) and in Western Canada(the Western Commandery)." (7). This meant that the Acadian Commandery had been established sometime between 1970 and 1974.

Then, luck played a positive hand ! In 2003, while sifting through the Commandery Archives in search of something else, the author came across a rare copy of the very first issue (Spring 1975) of the Acadian Commandery Newsletter. It contained under the sub-heading Commandery Established, the following "The four Atlantic provinces were constituted as the Acadian Commandery in the autumn of 1974 by the executive of the Grand Priory of Canada." (8). Thus, this truly serendipitous discovery shows that

the Commandery was founded between September and December 1974. Recent consultations have revealed that in the 1970s the national executive met in October, which indicates that the Acadian Commandery was created in October 1974.

However, in the first issue of the Commandery Newsletter it is also stated that "the only commandery of the Order ever to exist in the new world was the Commandery of Acadia, established early in the 17th century, but...(it) remained dormant." (8). So, the plot thickens - it appears that our Commandery is a lot older than we perhaps ever imagined !

The Commandery Name

The first issue of the Newsletter gave the rationale for the choice of the Commandery name : "The name, Acadian Commandery or Commandery of Acadia was chosen, instead of one such as eastern or Atlantic, because of the historic connection the Order of St. Lazarus has had with eastern Canada." The Newsletter went on to say : "It is only fitting, therefore, that we should revive a name so reminiscent of the order's earliest associations with Canada." (8).

From 1974 until as recently as 1988 the name "Acadian Commandery" was used. In 1989, the change to "Acadia Commandery" suddenly took place and that version has been regularly employed ever since. Interestingly, the name "Acadia Commandery" appears in Appendix H of the Minutes of the 1984 Chapter-General - perhaps that is linked to the change that occurred four years later...

As for the French-language version, one finds that "Commanderie de l'Acadie" was originally chosen(8) and consistently used thereafter. However, "Commanderie d'Acadie" also appears from time to time. Both of these versions are quite acceptable.

4) The Acadia Commandery Banner

During the 1979 Chapter-General in Halifax, it was suggested that the Commanderies should have their own banners. Shortly afterwards, Chev. Robert Pichette, KCLJ, then Chancellor of the Acadian Commandery, prepared a number of banner sketches which were discussed at the September Commandery Meeting. The members present favoured the use of the green cross with a gold star to indicate Acadia and a 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.(9).

In 1981, the Grand Priory authorized the purchase of two banners for each Commandery, as well as proper pikes(poles), surmounted by a Maple Leaf ornament.(10). 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 up-coming 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.(11).

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 Acadian Commandery. Superimposed was a gold star, the ancient symbol of the Acadians referring to the Virgin, Stella Maris, or "Star of the Sea".(11). 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 Armorer 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.

5) Acadia Commandery Meetings

The first Annual General Meeting of the Acadian Commandery took place on June 9th, 1975 at 4:00 p.m. at the Headquarters of the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires, 1472 Hollis Street in Halifax. (8). Nominations for officers were made and elections were conducted for : Chancellor(president), Vice-Chancellor(vice-president, "should be resident in a province other than that of the Chancellor"), Secretary(manager), Receiver (treasurer), Herald(responsible for keeping members informed), Commission chairmen(Medical, Ecumenical, Canadian Unity). The terms of office were for one year, and members in all categories were entitled to vote. Elections to the offices of Chancellor and Secretary were subject to ratification by the Grand Priory. At this first Meeting, there were discussions on possible activities in the areas of Ecumenism, Medicine, and Canadian Unity with a view to launching some projects over the period 1975-1976.

A complete listing of the Acadia Commandery Annual General Meetings, including year, date, and place, is given in Appendix I. Sixteen of the 29 Meetings(55%) were held in Halifax, with the others spread over a number of centers : Moncton(5), Charlottetown(2), one each for St. John's, Annapolis Royal, Louisbourg, Fredericton, Kensington, and Summerside(2004). Of the Meetings in Halifax, 9 took place in Keith Hall, thanks to the kind

hospitality offered by Chev. Bruce Oland, KCLJ. Indeed, by 1983, meeting in Keith Hall had become a tradition of the Acadia Commandery. (12). The other 7 AGMs were held in the Boardroom of the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires Headquarters, located in Black & Binney House; whose Commandants always accorded the necessary and much appreciated permission. The Commandery has been most fortunate to have received such sustained and valuable cooperation.

An example of a memorable Annual General Meeting is the one that took place on September 14th, 1979. It was held in the handsome apartments of the Governor, located in the Chateau St-Louis which forms part of the historic Fortress Louisbourg. What better in view of the fact that the Order of Saint Lazarus was, for many years, under the protection of the kings of France, and that Fortress Louisbourg was built during the reign of King Louis XIV, who often recognized the importance of the Order. The Meeting was followed by a delicious 17th century meal at Restaurant L'Épée royale.

In addition to the Annual General Meetings, the Commandery held ten other meetings in various places between 1977 and 1996: Halifax(6), Toronto, Sackville, Fredericton, and Moncton(Appendix I). Some of the Meetings in Halifax were planning sessions for Chapters-General(1979,1988), with luncheons in "The Cellars" of Keith Hall.

The latest "other meeting", held in the Wardroom at CFB Stadacona, Halifax, in 1996, was somewhat different in that it was regional in nature. The objective of this new initiative was to

foster more frequent contact between Commandery members. (13). The Meeting attracted a good attendance of members and guests from the area. There were two invited speakers. Chev. Kent Sweeney, KCLJ, CMLJ gave an interesting talk on the Spafford Children's Center in Jerusalem, which he had recently visited. He noted that the Center had a client base of 34,202, and catered to women and children without regard to race or creed. Chev. Sweeney also aptly stated that "Our first venture into Jerusalem emphasized the Military aspect of our Order; today, it seems appropriate that one thousand years later, we return in the other guise of our Order, that of Hospitaller." The second speaker was Mr. Charles R. Maier, the Athabaska Herald from the Canadian Heraldic Authority, Rideau Hall, Ottawa, who addressed the group on the theme "Symbolism". In an absorbing presentation, he showed that human beings operate almost entirely within a 'framework' of symbols'; and pointed out that "Symbolism pre-dates widespread literacy, and was meant to be immediately understood by all levels of society." The arrangements for this event were in the capable hands of Chev. Clare Dent, KCLJ, GOMLJ.

6) Acadia Commandery Annual Dinners

Prior to 1982, the Commandery practice was to sometimes hold luncheons in association with business meetings. Later, it became the tradition to organize formal Annual Commandery Dinners. Between 1982 and 2004 there have been seventeen such events, three of which were attended by Grand Priors. A complete listing of these showing years, dates, and places, is given in Appendix II.

The 1982 Dinner is particularly noteworthy because it took place at Government House in Fredericton and was hosted by the Lieutenant-Governor the Honourable George Stanley, GCLJ and the Honourable Mrs. Ruth Stanley, DCLJ. It was later reported that "the warmth of the welcome, and the graciousness and elegant informality of the evening will remain a treasured memory for all those who were fortunate enough to attend." (14).

The 1990 candlelight Dinner, held in Restaurant L'Ordre du Bon Temps on the Université de Moncton campus in Moncton, had two unusual features. It took place in a Dining room dominated by a large picture showing the splendor of a sumptuous 17th century banquet in Nouvelle France, which whetted the appetite of everyone. Then, the meal served had a menu entirely made up of typically Acadian dishes, thus lending a truly francophone ambiance to the most memorable evening.

For many years, it has been Acadia Commandery policy to have invited speakers at the Annual Dinners. So far, there have been thirteen such speakers from a variety of spheres. Their names, together with affiliations and topics are shown in Appendix III.

Twelve of the Dinners were split evenly between Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, another four were held on Prince Edward Island, and the remaining one in Newfoundland. The first speaker was Sister Bernadette Fournier, who stressed the importance of the sustained financial assistance given by the Acadia Commandery in aid of the San Pablo leper colony. Four of the guest speakers, two

of whom were medical doctors, addressed the members on themes in the field of Palliative Care.

The audio-visual presentation of the First Order of Saint Lazarus National Palliative Care Lecture that was played after the 1996 Dinner was kindly provided by the Chancery of the Grand Priory of Canada. The Lecture, entitled "Palliative Care in Canada : From Exile into the Promised Land" had been given by Dr. Ina Cummings, Director of Palliative Care at the Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre, Halifax. It took place in Victoria Hall, Ottawa on November 24th, 1995 and included moving introductory remarks by Her Excellency Diana Fowler-LeBlanc.(15). After the showing, those present participated in a lively discussion on the Lecture and completed a seven-point Commandery questionnaire. This resulted in valuable input and suggestions which were duly reported to the Chancery.

The 2003 Commandery Dinner was different in that there were two speakers, both of whom were from the Atlantic School of Theology. Ecumenical topics were covered, including a description of the programs of study offered by the School, and its unique role, as well as life there from a student perspective. Both speakers emphasized the great importance of the Order of Saint Lazarus Ecumenical Bursary.

7. Acadia Commandery Investitures

At the time of the establishment of the Acadia Commandery (1974), the rule was that investitures could not be conducted by

Commanderies excepting in the rarest circumstances. The first Acadia Commandery Investiture was held on November 22nd, 1980 and took place in the beautiful Chapel on the campus of Mount Allison University in Sackville, N.B. This was the first Commandery investiture ever authorized by the Grand Priory of Canada. During the ceremony, Rev. Clément Cormier, CSC, CC, CChLJ was invested as a Senior Chaplain of the Order. Dr. Charles Scobie served as Pastor Loci. The attendees included the Mount Allison University President Dr. G.R. McLean.

To date, there have been 11 Commandery Investitures. A complete listing is found in Appendix IV. Several examples of particularly memorable occasions are briefly described here.

At the 1982 Investiture, held on October 16th on the Fredericton campus of the University of New Brunswick, two Commandery members were promoted, namely : Patrick Duncan and Della Stanley. Son Excellence Mgr. Edgar Godin, Évêque de Bathurst, was present, as was the Honourable George Stanley, GCLJ Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick. Chevs. John MacPherson, GCLJ and Robert Pichette, KCLJ, Chancellor of the Acadian Commandery, acted as Marshals.

A Special Investiture was held on November 12th, 1985 in the Chapel of King's College, one of Canada's oldest universities, in Halifax. The ceremony was conducted by Chev. John MacPherson, GCLJ, who had been delegated by the Grand Prior, assisted by Commander Bruce Oland, KCLJ. Four postulants (Hon. Alfred Landry,

Michael Reppa, Kent Sweeney, and Rev. Ian Wishart) were formally invested and received into the Order of Saint Lazarus. The Pastor Loci was His Grace the Most Reverend James Hayes, GCLJ(E), Archbishop of Halifax. Chev. Robert Pichette, KCLJ and Supt. Clare Dent, KCLJ served as Marshals. Sir Paul Fitzgerald, Knight of the Holy Sepulchre, was the organist. Dr. John Godfrey, the King's College President, attended. Following the Investiture, Commodore Bruce Oland, KCLJ and Mrs. Ruth Oland entertained members, spouses, and guests at their home "The Anchor".

The Special Investiture that took place in the historic Kirk of St. James in Charlottetown, P.E.I. on October 24th, 1992 was conducted by His Excellency the Grand Prior Col. Jean-Claude Dubuc, GCLJ, GCMLJ. The Pastor Loci was the Minister Rev. John Cameron. Two postulants (Donald Deacon and Florence Deacon) were invested and admitted to the Order, and one member (Marion MacLeod) was promoted. Guests of honour were the Hon. Lloyd MacPhail, former Lieutenant-Governor of Prince Edward Island, and the Hon. Mrs. Helen MacPhail. Dr. and Mrs. Gustave Gingras of Monticello, P.E.I., were special guests of the Grand Prior. This event received excellent coverage in the local newspaper.

On September 25th, 1993 another Commandery Investiture, again presided over by the Grand Prior H.E. Col. Jean-Claude Dubuc, GCLJ, GCMLJ, was held at the Hotel Newfoundland in St. John's. During the ceremony, the Hon. Gordon Winter, OC, former Lieutenant-Governor of Newfoundland, and the Hon. Millicent Winter were

admitted to the Order as Honorary Knight and Dame, respectively. The Commander Brian Newbold, KLJ acted as Marshal.

The year 1997 was truly remarkable because it saw two Commandery Investitures within 24 hours in two different provinces, each one being conducted by the newly elected Grand Prior His Excellency Col. George Trusler, GCLJ, CMLJ, who was carrying out his first official duties in that capacity. This was surely a record. The October 18th Investiture was held in the historic Chapel of St. Peter's Cathedral in Charlottetown, with thirty members and guests present. Two postulants (Douglas Doncaster and the Hon. Weston MacAleer) were admitted, two members (Bernard Poirier and Armand Wigglesworth) were promoted, and another (Kent Sweeney) was decorated. The Pastor Loci was Rev. Peter Harris. The Hon. Mr. Justice Kenneth MacKay, KCLJ acted as Marshal and was assisted by Chev. Edmond Landry, KCLJ. The Hon. Marion Reiff, former Lieutenant-Governor of Prince Edward Island was on hand as a Special Guest.

The October 19th, 1997 Commandery Investiture, and accompanying Vigil, took place in historic St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church - The Kirk, in St. John's, Newfoundland. In attendance, besides the Grand Prior H.E. Col. George Trusler, GCLJ, CMLJ, were the Chaplain Rev. Ian Wishart, CChLJ, MMLJ, and the Deputy Commander (Newfoundland) John O'Mara, CLJ, MMLJ. Mr. Glenn Keefe played the organ, and Col. Anthony MacAskill, KLJ, MMLJ acted as Marshal. During the ceremony, six postulants (Edwin Drover, William Frost,

Arthur May, Douglas Sheppard, Robert Sinclair, and Lewis Stoyles) were invested and admitted to the Order; and four members (Anthony MacAskill, John O'Mara, John Perlin, and Rev. Ian Wishart) received the MMLJ decoration. (16). Another Newfoundland member, Capt. Pearce E. King, KLJ, MMLJ was unable to attend due to illness and died a few days later; the medal was presented posthumously to his widow.

8. Chapters-General hosted by the Acadia Commandery

Over the years, the Acadia Commandery has had the honour of hosting three Chapters-General.

In 1977, the Commandery accepted an invitation from the Grand Priory to hold the 1979 Chapter-General, and a Steering Committee was soon struck to handle the organization. The Chapter-General was held at the Hotel Nova Scotian in Halifax from May 17th to 20th. At this Meeting, there were important discussions on Unity within the Order on both international and national levels. There was an attendance of 100 and the event was self-financed, all those concerned being well pleased. The Organizing Committee was made up of the following members : Patrick Duncan, John MacPherson (Chairman), Bruce Oland, Robert Pichette, George Piercey, Della Stanley and Ruth Stanley.

The next Chapter-General hosted by the Commandery took place again in Halifax from May 13th to 15th, 1988 and was well attended. The Gala Dinner and Ball were hosted by the Government of Nova Scotia at the Holiday Inn in Dartmouth. A highlight of the

evening was Chev. Robert Fichette's lively impersonation of the Marquis de Chabert, one of the Order's earliest members in Nouvelle France. An exquisite album containing numerous photographs taken during the activities is a proud part of the Acadia Commandery Archives. The Organizing Committee consisted of : Brian Cuthbertson, Clare Dent(Chairman), Patrick Duncan, Reginald Hunt, John MacPherson, Bruce Oland, Robert Fichette, George Piercey, Desmond Piers, Harry Porter, and Della Stanley.

The 1995 Chapter-General was held at the Hotel Newfoundland in St. John's, from May 25th to 27th. The registration was 150 and the event generated a surplus in excess of \$12,000. All meetings, including meals and other events were held at the Hotel, which was so close to the three churches used that there was no need for transportation, which resulted in a major saving in costs. The success achieved was a tribute to the hard work put in by the small Organizing Committee, composed of : Ronald Bourne, Kevin Hutchings, Pearce King, Anthony MacAskill, John O'Mara, John Perlin (Chairman), and Rev. Ian Wishart. Fine assistance was received from the Chancery of the Grand Priory. One of the important decisions at this Chapter-General was the approval of the Canadian support for the Spafford Children's Centre, located in the Holy City of Jerusalem. Immediately after the Meeting, a group of about thirty members and spouses toured St-Pierre et Miquelon and were delighted with their exposure to the unique French culture there.

9. Commandery Ecumenical Activities

From the outset the Acadia Commandery has had a strong interest in Ecumenism and soon became involved in a number of activities in that area. In 1975, the National Ecumenical Commission(NEC) of the Grand Priory conducted an Essay Contest in schools of theology throughout Canada, including the Atlantic School of Theology(AST) in Halifax; and via the Commandery, provided some financial assistance to the AST for said purpose. The First prize was \$500 and the competition entries were judged by leading Canadian theologians.

In 1976, the Commandery asked the NEC to provide further funds for the AST and this resulted in a \$1000 grant. One year later, the NEC donated an additional \$500 to the AST for the purchase of badly needed reference books. It was felt that the Atlantic School of Theology was an institution particularly suited to the objectives of the Order in promoting Ecumenism. It is a unique inter-denominational training school for clergy for the Church of England, the United Church, and the Roman Catholic Church.

Later on, the National Ecumenical Commission launched a funding program to establish Order of Saint Lazarus Ecumenical Bursaries all across Canada. In 1995, one of these awards was set up at the AST by means of a \$10,000 donation. The Commandery Representative on the selection Jury for this Bursary was the late Major Donald Deacon, OLJ who served on that body from 1995 until 2003. The current Representative is Mrs. Dennice Leahey, CLJ.

In 1998, the Atlantic School of Theology submitted an interesting new project aimed at providing its ecumenical courses in theology, history, ministry, pastoral care, field education, and art and architecture for the churches on the World Wide Web. Because of the limited Commandery funds and the wide scope envisaged, the project was referred to the Grand Priory for possible financial assistance. (17).

Ecumenical Church Services have been an important part of Commandery Investitures and also of some Annual Meetings. A few examples are briefly noted here. An early religious event was the fine Service which took place in St. Mary's Church in Halifax, on September 30th, 1978. Another was the impressive Service held in the Chapel of Fortress Louisbourg on September 14th, 1979, which was conducted by Rev. Roland-E. Soucie, CSC and the Chancellor Robert Pichette, KCLJ. It included a number of Readings, several Prayers for former Knights of Saint Lazarus associated with Louisbourg, and The Lord's Prayer.

A two-day Ecumenical Retreat was organized in Halifax in October 1978, as a special religious activity. An example of a much more recent event was the inspiring Religious Service, which formed part of the Annual Commandery activities, that took place in the Canadian Martyrs Church in Halifax on October 15th, 2000. It was conducted by the Deputy Chaplain Rev. Dr. Marc Smith, CSC, ChLJ.

10. Commandery Medical Activities

The involvement of the Acadia Commandery in medical activities can be neatly divided into three time zones, each related to focus. From 1975 to 1981, the Commandery supported a number of causes with modest donations. Then in 1982, it was decided that charitable efforts would be concentrated on the giving of financial aid to the Peruvian leper colony of San Pablo; a funding endeavour that was to last for 13 years. In 1995, the focus of charitable donations was switched to the field of palliative care, in accord with the new interest in that area of the Order of Saint Lazarus in Canada, and has remained so up to the present.

The story of the Acadia Commandery support for projects related to medicine is one of sustained giving over a period of almost 30 years, and deserves adequate treatment.

Medical activities prior to 1982

In 1976, the Commandery, via a \$100 donation, sponsored 14 students from the Coady International Institute in Antigonish, N.S. for a one-day tour of the Leprosy Centre of "L'Institut Armand Frappier" in Montreal. The Institut carried out research into the causes and cures of leprosy and trained medical personnel. The Coady Institute requested continuing support from the Commandery for such trips so that students from affected developing countries could be sensitized to the problems of leprosy. (18). After an initial approach, the

Medical Commission of the Grand Priory responded by providing further annual \$100 amounts for this purpose from 1977 to 1981.

In 1977, it was brought to the attention of the Commandery that the Atlantic Resource Centre for the Hearing Handicapped, in Amherst, N.S. had an urgent need for technical equipment such as tape-recorders and overhead projectors. At that time, 490 students were enrolled at the Centre, and there were a number of field workers serving throughout the Atlantic provinces. In view of the need, the Commandery reserved \$260 for the purchase of a tape-recorder for the Centre. In 1980, a further \$200 was donated to the Centre. At the November 22nd, 1980 Commandery Meeting, Dr. Peter Owsley, Director of the Centre, described the institution and how it educated deaf-blind children who were mainly victims of rubella. He also pointed out that the Centre directed a teacher training programme in collaboration with Université de Moncton.

In the same year, a \$1400 grant was awarded by the Grand Priory of Canada in support of an excellent book entitled " A Short History of Leprosy in New Brunswick in the Nineteenth Century", by Miss Laurie Stanley. (19). An additional \$200, from the same source, was obtained for its translation into French. Later on, a grant of \$1400 in aid of publication of the book was made available by the Jackman Foundation of Toronto. The Commandery contributed to a new Special Leprosy Research Fund set up by the Order of Saint Lazarus in Canada in 1980, the objective of

which was to receive a donation of \$30 per member.

In 1981, the Commandery was informed of the remarkable missionary work among lepers of the Sisters of the Hospitaller Order of Saint Joseph, located in Vallée-Lourdes, near Bathurst, N.B. This Order had been actively involved in the care of lepers in Canada and Peru for over a century. Sister Louise Légère, a centenarian, was a member of this Order and worked with lepers for 65 years; and six other sisters, the youngest of whom was born in 1902, had also nursed lepers in New Brunswick or Peru for many years. To recognize this exceptional devotion, the Commandery recommended to the Grand Priory that a Silver or Bronze medal be awarded to Sister Louise and that Certificates of merit be issued to the other six nuns. (2). In due course, these requests were approved and all seven deserving sisters received medals during a moving ceremony in Vallée-Lourdes in 1982, with Commandery members in attendance.

The Period 1982 to 1995

After having supported various projects via limited funding over the past six years, there were discussions at Meetings of the Commandery to determine the most suitable course of action with regard to future charitable efforts. These deliberations resulted in a decision to focus on one project clearly identifiable with the ancient purposes of the Order of Saint Lazarus.

A proposal for the diminution of contagion among lepers in the Peruvian leper colony of San Pablo was considered. This

colony was administered by the Sisters of the Hospitaller Order of Saint Joseph through their leprosarium in Iquitos. Because of the Sisters, the San Pablo colony had an historic link with the Lazaretto located in Tracadie, N.B. The proposal indicated that the drug Rimactin was effective in preventing the spread of leprosy among family members, and that a sum of \$300 per year would be sufficient to supply it. It was agreed that in future the Commandery would concentrate its charitable giving on the San Pablo colony, and that an income-producing fund, involving a levy, would be created to finance this worthy project.

At the October 16th, 1982 Meeting of the Commandery, in Fredericton, a San Pablo Fund was launched by the Hospitaller Chev. Martin-J. Légère, KLJ, and the members were invited to contribute to it. (14). They did so generously. On the same occasion, Sister Sarah Maillet, Assistant Provincial Head of the Sisters Hospitaller Order of Saint Joseph, by means of slides and personal recollections gave a wonderfully evocative description of the challenge and rewards of service in Peru. (14). In 1983, a donation of \$300 was sent to the Sisters Order, to be followed in 1985 by a further \$500. Successful appeals were made to the Commandery members from time to time in order to maintain the Fund, such that another \$1000 was provided for the Sisters Order in 1987.

Sister Bernadette Fournier attended the October 20th, 1990 Commandery Meeting in Moncton and gave a detailed update on the mission work of the Sisters Order in San Pablo, including precise information on how the much-appreciated donations had been used. On November 8th of the same year, the author visited the Residence of the Sisters Order in Vallée-Lourdes and gave an illustrated talk on "L'Ordre de Saint-Lazare : son histoire, son rôle, et ses contributions dans le domaine de la médecine et ailleurs", which was followed by a lively discussion.

In 1991, an Annual Special Levy of \$25 per Commandery member for charitable purposes was put into operation, the contributions received to be held on deposit in the special account at the Chancery. This fund-raising strategy was quite successful and made it possible to provide more donations for the San Pablo project. On June 23rd, 1992 Chevs Bernard Poirier, KLJ, OMLJ and Brian Newbold, KCLJ, GOMLJ journeyed to Vallée-Lourdes to present a \$700 cheque to Sister Estelle Mazerolle, Provincial Head of the Sisters Order. On November 15th, 1993 Chevs Edmond Landry, KCLJ, CMLJ and Bernard Poirier, KLJ, OMLJ also paid a visit to the Sisters Residence to present another donation of \$700. They were informed that thanks to these gifts a great deal of good had been done.

In 1995, since the Commandery was about to embark on another long-term medical project, it was decided that assistance to the San Pablo colony would be brought to an end with one

more donation. The author met with Sister Anne-Marie Savoie the new Provincial Head of the Order, in Vallée-Lourdes on December 2nd, to explain the situation and then made a final gift of \$600. Thus, ended a thirteen-year funding association during which the Acadia Commandery had provided \$3,800 for a most deserving cause. These well-spent funds had supplied the lepers with wide variety of greatly needed items including an essential drug, other medical products, food, boots, clothing, garden tools, seeds for planting, and even a boat for fishing.

It is perhaps appropriate to pause here and say a few words about other Medical projects before going on to relate more recent funding activities. In 1989, Chev. Charles McGuire, KLJ presented a paper before the Commandery Executive which concerned AIDS as a possible charitable fund-raising objective, but later the theme was changed to the need for production of community television programs meeting the various objectives of the Order of Saint Lazarus. In view of the wider scope of this field of interest and the limited resources of the Commandery, the proposal was submitted to the Grand Priory for consideration.

In 1994, following an appeal from the Grand Priory, the Commandery adopted the Spafford Children's Centre in Jerusalem as a supportable project. Between 1994 and 1995, individual members and friends donated more than \$3,500 to that

good cause. In 1999, Rev. Dr. Marc Smith, CSC, ChLJ apprised the Commandery of the plight of some leper colonies in a remote district in China and indicated that even small sums of money would be of help. Subsequently, some donations were received from members and forwarded to the Jesuit Missions Leprosy Centre in China.

Palliative Care Giving from 1995 to today

In 1995, the Grand Priory invited all Commanderies to investigate the potential of the field of palliative care as an appropriate cause for charitable funding. So, the Acadia Commandery set about determining the needs in each of the four Atlantic provinces. Meanwhile, funds from the annual levy accumulated in the account at the Chancery. The first objective was to be able to donate \$1000 to a worthy palliative care project in one province as soon as enough money was available. It was understood that similar donations were to be made in each of the other three provinces in turn, ideally at a rate of one per year. When the giving circuit had been completed, another series of contributions was to begin on the basis of the same rotation of provinces. This strategy was duly exercised and has worked out well to the present day.

On 1996, following a request for assistance, \$1000 was set aside for the Haematology, Oncology, and Bone-Marrow Transplant Unit of the Victoria General Hospital in Halifax, which later became the Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre. The donation

was actually made in 1997, and used for the purchase of furnishings for the Recovery Room/Solarium in the Palliative Care Unit. On October 20th, Supt. Clare Dent, KCLJ, GOMLJ, who had carried out the initial approaches, presented the cheque to Mrs. Nancy Margeson, Director of corporate and community giving at the Centre. A commemorative plaque showing the source of the gift was installed in the Unit, and the donation was mentioned in the Stewardship Report of the QEII Foundation.

After a pressing need had been identified, and approved, a \$1000 donation was made to the Palliative Care Unit of the Dr. Georges-L.-Dumont Regional Hospital in Moncton, N.B. for the provision of a mobile sound system as part of a musicotherapy program for the comfort of palliative care patients and their visiting families. On June 8th, 1998 Commander Brian Newbold, KCLJ, GOMLJ with Chev. Bernard Poirier, KLJ, MMLJ, presented the gift to Mrs. Jocelyne Bannister, Head Nurse in the Palliative Care Unit. (20). This donation was reported on in three local newspapers. It was later learned that it had had a great positive impact on the Unit.

At the invitation of the Grand Priory, the Acadia Commandery became a member of the Canadian Palliative Care Association in 1997, with the Commandery Hospitaller Chev. Blair Orser, KLJ, MMLJ to receive the Association magazine.

In 1999, thanks to the efforts of The Hon. Mr. Justice Kenneth MacKay, KCLJ, GOMLJ and the Hon. Archibald Johnstone, KLJ, MMLJ a worthy palliative care project was identified in P.E.I.

Shortly thereafter, \$1000 was contributed to the Palliative Care Unit of the Prince Edward Home in Charlottetown, for the purchase of specially-designed furnishings of direct benefit to patients. On March 16th, Commander Ronald Bourne, CLJ, MMLJ, accompanied by Donald Deacon, OLJ travelled to the Home and presented the donation to Superintendent Arlene Mamye in the presence of Ms. Patricia MacDonald, Chief Palliative Care Nurse. (21).

At the 1999 Annual General Meeting of the Commandery it was decided that the 2000 palliative care donation would be invested in Newfoundland and Labrador, so \$1000 was reserved for that purpose. However, it turned out that no recipient meeting the Commandery criteria could be found, therefore the reserved funds were held in abeyance. In view of this situation, it was decided that an alternate palliative care project would be identified in Nova Scotia for the current year. (22).

On March 15th, 2001, in a formal ceremony, a \$1000 gift was made to the Queen's County Palliative Care Unit in Liverpool, N.S. Commander Ronald Bourne, CLJ, MMLJ accompanied by Chev. Armand Wigglesworth, KLJ, MMLJ, who had done the necessary identification work, presented the cheque to Unit Co-ordinator Janet Carver with Palliative Care Nurse Shaune MacLeod also on hand. Hospital staff and Palliative Unit care givers and volunteers attended the ceremony. (23). This contribution was used to buy a series of educational videos for hospice care training

sessions, and for the printing of 300 copies of a locally-developed booklet entitled "Preparing for a Loved One's Death". These aids will benefit family members and others, and it is felt that they will have a long-lasting impact.(24). This donation received fine local newspaper coverage.

The next year, it was agreed that another \$1000 would be made available for a suitable palliative care project in New Brunswick and the author was asked to carry out the search. In due course, a \$1000 donation was approved for the purchase of a Multi-purpose Recliner Health Care Chair(a piece of equipment especially useful for long-term care applications) for the Palliative Care Unit at The Moncton Hospital.(25). The gift was presented to Mrs. Barbara Tait, Campaign Chair for the Friends of The Moncton Hospital Foundation, by Commander Edmond Landry, KCLJ, OMLJ, at the 2002 Acadia Commandery Dinner in Moncton. On March 4th, 2003, together with Ms. Lana Hebert, Palliative Care Nurse Manager at the Hospital, the author had the pleasure of unveiling the Chair, which bears an engraved brass plaque with the inscription : "Donation from Acadia Commandery, Order of Saint Lazarus, Oct. 2002". (26).

Shortly thereafter, The Friends Foundation added a silver plaque to its Donor Wall in the main lobby of The Moncton Hospital to permanently recognize the Order of Saint Lazarus. In addition, this donation received more excellent publicity via

newspaper items and a note, with photograph, in Vital Signs, the widely-read magazine of the South-East New Brunswick Regional Health Authority. This exposure, together with that accorded to the earlier palliative care donations, emphasized the importance of the good works of the Order of Saint Lazarus; and enhanced the public profile of the Acadia Commandery.

Commandery approval was recently given to the awarding of another \$1000 palliative care donation in the Province of Prince Edward Island. At the time of writing, the co-ordination of the search for an appropriate recipient is in the capable hands of Secretary/Receiver Maj. Douglas Doncaster, CLJ, MMLJ.

In summary, through the generosity of its members and friends the Acadia Commandery has been instrumental in the provision of more than \$14,000 to a variety of medical projects at local, national, and international levels.

11. Commandery National Unity Activities

The Acadia Commandery has always been a strong supporter of National(Canadian) Unity. In 1976, the Grand Prior His Excellency Col. Frank McEachren, GCLJ, after having attended the June 1st Annual General Meeting of the Commandery noted that the Acadian Commandery was very interested in Canadian Unity. In 1977, the possible launching of a National Unity Newsletter was being studied, and in the same year the Secretary of State's

Office was contacted in order to obtain brochures with a view to distributing them to various communities for their Heritage Day celebrations.

In 1978, the Commandery submitted an 8-page Brief to the Federal Task Force on National Unity, which held hearings in Moncton. The Brief contained five recommendations and concluded with the statement that "it behooves all citizens of this country to be interested in its future." The document still makes interesting reading, and even after almost a quarter of a century remains highly pertinent. Because of its historical significance, the Brief has been included in its entirety in this account (Appendix V). A copy of the Brief was discovered by the author while searching through the Commandery Archives.

In 1979, the Commandery set up a National Unity Commission, later known as the Canadian Unity Commission, which operated until 1988. Three years later, the Commandery, on the recommendation of the author, made a one-time \$100 donation to the Terry Fox Canadian Youth Centre, located in Ottawa. The Centre accommodated 126 students per week who studied Canadian institutions such as the Supreme Court. The cost per student was \$475. It was hoped that this contribution would serve as a catalyst to encourage regular funding from other sources. The money was used to help two needy New Brunswick students to attend the Centre, as part of the Canadian national unity effort. Fortunately, it had the desired effect because financial support was quickly provided

by the New Brunswick government and other agencies.

At the 1983 Chapter-General in Montreal all of the Commanderies were invited, via the Grand Priory Commission on National Unity, to establish hospitality committees to befriend and orient members visiting parts of the country with which they were unfamiliar.(27). It was hoped that this initiative would help the cause of Canadian Unity. The Acadia Commandery responded by forming such a committee without delay. In 1984, its chairman (the author), hosted two members from the Ottawa Commandery, taking them out to lunch and on a sightseeing tour of the Moncton-Shédiac area.

In 1986, the Unity Commission of the Grand Priory was disbanded and its work suspended for one year - it being replaced by an Ad Hoc committee charged with the task of studying national unity from the standpoint of the ethnic communities of Canada. At the 1987 Annual General Meeting of the Commandery the feeling of those present was that "National Unity should be one of the prime purposes of the Order and should remain so." (28). In 1994, the Acadia Commandery recommended that the Grand Priory Commission on Canadian Unity be re-activated. In 1996, the decision was taken to re-instate the Commission, and for the next five years the Commandery provided a representative to help it in its work.

In 1997, the Grand Priory launched the First Canadian Unity Essay Competition, with the winner to receive a prize of \$2000. The author served on the selection Jury. One year later, the Acadia

Commandery responded to an appeal from the Grand Priory by providing \$300 from its own funds to support the activities of the National Commission on Canadian Unity.

In 2001, the Grand Priory Unity Commission was abolished. The disappointed Acadia Commandery Executive informed the Grand Priory that, in its opinion, "the Commission has been and could well be of continuing beneficial service to the country and the Order." (29). The reply received indicated that the Grand Priory emphasizes as one of its goals the promotion of National Unity and the qualities of good Citizenship. At the 2002 Annual General Meeting the Commandery Executive reaffirmed its 2001 opinion, but since there was still little support for reinstatement it was reluctantly decided that there was no point in further persuing the matter.

12. Provisional Delegation for Newfoundland

Following the successful 1995 Chapter-General in St. John's, interest in the Order of Saint Lazarus in Newfoundland grew. The number of members there increased rapidly, and at the May 1996 Council Meeting in Winnipeg Provisional Delegation status was approved for Newfoundland and Labrador. The first Head of the Delegation, with the title of Deputy Commander(Newfoundland), was Mr. John O'Mara, CLJ, MMLJ, who, in that capacity, became a member of the Executive of the Acadia Commandery. He served well in that post until 2001 when he was succeeded by Chev. Kevin Hutchings, KLJ . It was felt that the creation of the Delegation would favour

the recruitment of new members and make the Order an active force within the Province.

The Provisional Delegation was still part of the Acadia Commandery and reported to the Grand Priory of Canada via the Commandery. At the 1997 Acadia Commandery AGM, it was understood that the Commander would recommend full Commandery status for Newfoundland and Labrador as soon as the membership there reached 25. By early 1998, the growing number of new members in Newfoundland had made the formation of a Commandery for that region a "distinct possibility." (30). However, unfortunately, soon afterwards the membership of the Provisional Delegation decreased due to resignations and other factors such that the target figure was not attained. In view of this unforeseen development, it was agreed, at the 1998 AGM, that the envisaged recommendation for the creation of a Commandery would be put on hold.

At the 2003 Chapter-General in Edmonton, the status of the Newfoundland Provisional Delegation was changed so that in future it would be reporting to the National Executive via the Vice-Chancellor/Commanderies. To make this possible Bylaw No. 6 (Commanderies) was amended to include changes concerning Provisional Delegations. Chev. Kevin Hutchings, KLJ was named Head of the Delegation "with all the rites and responsibilities of a Commandery Commander." (31). It was hoped that this autonomy would lead to an increase in membership in Newfoundland.

As a result of this status change, the membership of the Acadia Commandery decreased by eleven. The make-up of the Commandery Executive was modified by elimination of the post of Deputy Commander(Newfoundland) and one of the Counsellor positions. A change was also necessary regarding the post of Chaplain. Given the new circumstances, the Commandery Executive decided that the \$1000 held in reserve for a suitable palliative care project in Newfoundland, and unused since 1999, be transferred to the Provisional Delegation. This action was taken shortly thereafter. This turn of events, i.e. the status change, reduced the vastness of the Acadia Commandery territory considerably and thereby attenuated the long-standing geographical problem.

13. Acadia Commandery Membership

In 1974, 14 members of the Order of Saint Lazarus were residents of the Maritime provinces, thus they automatically became members of the Acadian Commandery on its establishment in October of that year. The founding members were : John Dickey, Patrick Duncan, Hugh John Flemming, Most Rev. James Hayes, John Keith, Ian MacDonald, William MacLeod, S r., John MacPherson, Bruce Oland, Desmond Piers, Stuart Smith, Della Stanley, George Stanley, and Ruth Stanley. The next members to join the Commandery, in 1975, were : Rev. Clément Cormier, Harry Porter, George Piercey, and George Robertson. Chev. Robert Pichette, who joined the Order in 1973, was reported to be the Founder of the Acadia Commandery(i); however, this is incorrect because he only joined the Commandery

in 1977, on his transfer from Ottawa. Towards the end of 1975 the Acadia Commandery membership had reached 20. (8).

The Commandery membership statistics are listed in Appendix VI. The membership steadily increased through the 1980s and attained the 40 level at the end of the decade. It then fluctuated through the early 1990s and again hit the 40 level in 1994. Due to the enthusiasm created by the 1995 Chapter-General, there was a membership drive in Newfoundland which produced some excellent results. In 1996, Acadia had the highest increase in recruitment amongst the Canadian Commanderies, and was commended for the progress made. The Commandery membership reached a record high of 52 in 1999. Unfortunately, the momentum could not be maintained, the membership decreasing to 41 by 2003. After the creation of the autonomous Provisional Delegation for Newfoundland, the number of members now stands at 27.

It should be pointed out here that the fluctuations in membership over the years are a function of a variety of parameters. Factors favouring growth are increased recruitment, and transfers-in from other Commanderies. On the other hand, membership losses result from transfers-out, expulsions, deaths, resignations, and structural decrease.

Recruitment efforts have to be sustained in order to ensure sufficient growth to at least maintain a viable organization. Inevitable attrition due to the increasing age phenomenon affects all eleven Commanderies of the Grand Priory of Canada and

and must be counteracted by admissions of younger postulants. In 1999, the average age of the members of the Acadia Commandery was 64+ years, the second highest of the Canadian Commanderies.(32).

A list of the names of the current members of the Acadia Commandery, including the year of admission to the Order and post-nominal letters, is given in Appendix VII.

14. Service within the Grand Priory of Canada

Many members of the Acadia Commandery have served faithfully in Offices at the national and local levels.

Service at the National Level :

Six members of the Acadia Commandery have had the honour of serving as National Officers. Chev. George Stanley, GCLJ was Chairman of the Historical Commission for four years (1977-1981). Chev. Robert Pichette, KCLJ served as Chairman of the Canadian Unity Commission(1979-1981) and also as Juge d'Armes (1985-1989). The Most Rev. James Hayes, GCLJ(E) served the Order as a Senior Chaplain for many years. More recently, the Hon. Mr. Justice Kenneth MacKay, KCLJ, GOMLJ was the National Historian (33). for eight years(1996-2004), and Chev. Brian Newbold, KCLJ, GOMLJ acted as Scrivener(1999-2001). At the present time, two members of the Acadia Commandery hold National Office, they are Chev. Kent Sweeney, KCLJ, CMLJ (Principal Armorist), and Mrs. Dennice Leahey, CLJ (Director of Publicity).

During the 1980s, three persons were named Members of the Council of the Grand Priory : Dame Della Stanley, DLJ

(1983-1984); Chev. Patrick Duncan, KLJ (1984-1985); and Supt. Clare Dent, KCLJ, GOMLJ (1985-1986).

Service at the Commandery Level

The names of all of the members who have served on the Commandery Executive during the past thirty years are listed in Appendix VIII. The presentation is by post category and the terms of office are given in chronological order. Appendix VIII also contains the names of those who have acted as Chairpersons of Commandery Committees.

15. Honours and Awards to Acadia Commandery Members

Within the Grand Priory of Canada :

To date, eleven members of the Commandery have received the Grand Priory Certificate for 25 or more years of faithful service to the Order of Saint Lazarus. The names of the Awardees are recorded in Appendix IX, together with the Certificate inscription and Citation.

External Honours and Awards :

Acadia Commandery members have received a great variety of Military and Civil distinctions for important services rendered. The names of the recipients who are currently members of the Commandery are listed in Appendix X. Canadian Honours and Awards are presented first, by category, and then those received from elsewhere. It is to be noted here that some of the information found in Appendix X was taken from the incomplete Commandery Archives, thus omissions may have occurred.

One member was appointed to the Canadian Senate, and four others were admitted to the Order of Canada. Another member was awarded the Canadian Order of Military Merit. Two others were honoured with Military decorations by the United Kingdom, and a third was decorated by the United Nations. Three members were appointed Queen's Counsel. In the Foreign Honours category, one finds a Papal award, three French decorations, and two Japanese distinctions.

Appendix X contains a grand total of 43 Honours and Awards which is a truly impressive figure when one considers the modest number of members in the Acadia Commandery. This well-merited recognition clearly shows the wide scope of achievement.

16. Conclusion

It is hoped that this work will serve as a handy reference for those interested in the historical aspects of the Acadia Commandery. The driving force behind its preparation was the urge to record the untold and impressive story while the essential information was still at hand.

The Acadia Commandery can be justly proud of its fine progress which is a tribute to all of those who contributed to it. May it long continue. Vive la Commanderie d'Acadie !

17. Acknowledgements

The author is grateful to the Hon. Ruth Stanley, DCLJ, MMLJ who kindly provided press clippings and photographs concerning some early(1977-1982) Acadia Commandery activities.

Appreciation is also expressed to the Executive Director of the Order of Saint Lazarus in Canada, Mrs. Jean M. Matheson, CMLJ, FCIS, P.Adm, for her valuable assistance.

18.

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Appendix I

Acadia Commandery Meetings

<u>Year</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>
<u>Annual General Meetings</u>		
1975	June 9	Corps Commissionaires HQ, Halifax, N.S.
1976	May 25	Keith Hall, Halifax, N.S.
1977	June 8	Habitation, Annapolis Royal, N.S.
1978	March 21	Keith Hall, Halifax, N.S.
1979	September 14	Fortress Louisbourg, Louisbourg, N.S.
1980	April 25	Keith Hall, Halifax, N.S.
1981	April 11	Keith Hall, Halifax, N.S.
1982	April 2	Keith Hall, Halifax, N.S.
1983	April 15	Keith Hall, Halifax, N.S.
1984	April 12	Keith Hall, Halifax, N.S.
1985	April 27	Assumption Insurance Co., Moncton, N.B.
1986	April 22	Keith Hall, Halifax, N.S.
1987	April 10	Corps Commissionaires HQ, Halifax, N.S.
1988	April 7	Keith Hall, Halifax, N.S.
1989	October 14	Corps Commissionaires HQ, Halifax, N.S.
1990	April 2	Salon Bleu, Université de Moncton, N.B.
1992	October 24	Hotel Charlottetown, Charlottetown, P.E.I.
1993	September 25	Cochrane Room, Government House, St. John's, NF
1994	October 1	Corps Commissionaires HQ, Halifax, N.S.
1995	September 30	The Lord Beaverbrook Hotel, Fredericton, N.B.
1996	October 26	Newbold Residence, Moncton, N.B.
1997	October 18	Hotel Charlottetown, Charlottetown, P.E.I.
1998	October 17	Corps Commissionaires HQ, Halifax, N.S.
1999	October 16	Newbold Residence, Moncton, N.B.
2000	October 14	Corps Commissionaires HQ, Halifax, N.S.
2001	October 13	Royal Canadian Legion, Kensington, P.E.I.
2002	October 5	Newbold Residence, Moncton, N.B.
2003	October 18	Corps Commissionaires HQ, Halifax, N.S.
2004	October 16	Loyalist Country Inn, Summerside, P.E.I.

Other Meetings

1977	February 8	Atlantic School of Theology, Halifax, N.S.
1978	June 22	Keith Hall, Halifax, N.S.
1978	September 29	Keith Hall, Halifax, N.S.
1980	May 23	Hotel Toronto, Toronto, O.N.
1980	November 22	Mount Allison University, Sackville, N.B.
1982	October 16	University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, N.B.
1985	November 12	Corps Commissionaires HQ, Halifax, N.S.
1987	September 25	Corps Commissionaires HQ, Halifax, N.S.
1990	October 20	Salon Bleu, Université de Moncton, N.B.
1996	April 12	Wardroom, CFB Stadacona, Halifax, N.S.

Appendix II

Annual Acadia Commandery Dinners

<u>Year</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>
1982	October 16	Dining Room, Government House, Fredericton, N.B.
1985	November 12	The Halifax Club, Halifax, N.S.
1989	October 14	Nova Scotian Hilton International Hotel, Halifax, N.S.
1990	October 20	Restaurant L'Ordre du Bon Temps, Université de Moncton, Moncton, N.B.
1992	October 24	Georgian Room, Hotel Charlottetown, Charlottetown, P.E.I.
1993	September 25	Room 211, Hotel Newfoundland, St. John's, N.F.
1994	October 1	Centennial Room, Cambridge Suites Hotel, Halifax, N.S.
1995	September 30	Garrison Room, Lord Beaverbrook Hotel, Fredericton, N.B.
1996	October 26	Salle des banquets, Taillon Building, Université de Moncton, Moncton, N.B.
1997	October 18	Georgian Room, Hotel Charlottetown, Charlottetown, P.E.I.
1998	October 17	Miller Room, Cambridge Suites Hotel, Halifax, N.S.
1999	October 16	Salle des banquets, Taillon Building, Université de Moncton, Moncton, N.B.
2000	October 14	Brunswick Room, Cambridge Suites, Hotel, Halifax, N.S.
2001	October 13	Bray Room, Loyalist Country Inn, Summerside, P.E.I.
2002	October 5	Salle des banquets, Taillon Building, Université de Moncton, Moncton, N.B.
2003	October 18	Fleet Room, Bay View Motor Inn, Halifax, N.S.
2004	October 16	Bray Room, Loyalist Country Inn, Summerside, P.E.I.

Acadia Commandery Annual Dinner Speakers and Topics

<u>Year</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1990	Sr. Bernadette Fournier (Communauté des Soeurs de Saint-Joseph)	The Missionary Work of the Sisters of Saint-Joseph in Peru
1992	Col. Jean-Claude Dubuc (Grand Prior, Grand Priory of Canada/OSLJ)	The Order of Saint Lazarus
1993	Chev. John Perlin (St. John's, N.F.)	The Quidi Vidi Rennie's River Foundation
1994	Ms. Carolyn Thomas (Halifax, N.S.)	Volunteerism
1995	Dr. Gordon Ferguson (New Brunswick Extra Mural Hospital)	Palliative Care
1996	Audio-Visual Present- ation	The First Order of Saint Lazarus National Palliative Care Lecture
1997	Mr. Leo Walsh (Dept. of Tourism and Economic Development, Prince Edward Island)	The Development of the Confederat- ion Bridge
1998	Mrs. Eve D'Aurverne Wickwire (Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre Foundation, Halifax, NS)	Bone Marrow Transplant and Palliative Care
1999	Dr. Raymonde DeGrâce (Dr. Georges-L.-Dumont Hospital, Moncton, N.B.)	Palliative Care at Dr. Georges-L- Dumont Hospital
2000	Supt. Ronald Bourne (Commander, Acadia Commandery/OSLJ)	Personal Experiences in Kosovo
2001	No speaker	-
2002	Ms. Patricia McQuinn (Clinical Nurse Special- ist-Palliative Care, South-East Regional Health Authority, N.B.)	Hospice Palliative Care

Acadia Commandery Annual Dinner Speakers and Topics
(Continued)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>
2003	Mr. Kevin Moynihan, (Director, Ms. Dawn Dickieson, Student, Atlantic School of Theology)	Life at the Atlantic School of Theology
2004	Dr. Brian Newbold (Archivist/Historian, Acadia Commandery, OSLJ)	The History of the Acadia Commandery/OSLJ

Appendix IV

Acadia Commandery Investitures

<u>Year</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>
1980	November 22	Chapel, Mount Allison University, Sackville, N.B.
1981	April 11	Canadian Martyrs' Church. Halifax, N.S.
1982	October 16	Edwin Jacob Chapel, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, N.B.
1985	November 12	Chapel, University of King's College, Halifax, N.S.
1992	October 24	The Kirk of St. James, Charlottetown, P.E.I.
1993	September 25	Hotel Newfoundland, St. John's, N.F.
1997	October 18	Chapel of St. Peter's Cathedral, Charlottetown, P.E.I.
1997	October 19	St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church - The Kirk, St. John's, N.F.
1997	November 15	Corps Commissionaires HQ, Halifax, N.S.
1998	October 17	Corps Commissionaires HQ, Halifax, N.S.
2002	October 5	Salle des conférences, Taillon Building, Université de Moncton, Moncton, N.B.

Appendix V

BRIEF SUBMITTED TO THE TASK FORCE ON NATIONAL UNITY
BY THE ACADIAN COMMANDERY OF
THE MILITARY AND HOSPITALLER ORDER OF ST. LAZARUS
OF JERUSALEM

Moncton, N.B., January 30, 31, 1978

The Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem is an ancient organization, born of the Crusades. Its original aims were to help defend the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem and to care for the sick, particularly the lepers. It has survived the vicissitudes of the centuries. It is international and ecumenical in scope. The Order was established in Canada on a formal basis, in 1962, although several Knights of the Order, some born in Canada, served in New France before the Cession.

In fact, Samuel de Champlain was sent here on his first voyage of exploration, in 1603, by a Grand Master of the Order of St. Lazarus, Aymar de Clermont de Chaste.

Our Order, therefore, has a direct and an ancient link with the very foundation of our country. While the original aim of the Order, that is to care for the sick, particularly the victims of leprosy throughout the world, still remains as the principal objective of the Order, we in Canada have added, since 1962, another equally important objective: national unity.

The members of the Acadian Commandery of the Order of St. Lazarus, which comprises the four Atlantic Provinces, welcome this opportunity to address the Task Force on National Unity. May we, at the outset, wish you, ladies and gentlemen of the Task Force, every success in your deliberations and in the eventual formulation of recommendations to the various levels of government. Your task is vastly important if only because you provide a useful national forum, and we wish you well.

Confederation was essentially created for the good of all. Each participating province stood to gain something whether it be a railway, access to a fertile hinterland, a larger market base or political stability and protection of minority rights. However, once one member of that confederation believes that union is no longer to its benefit, then it is absolutely imperative that all members of the union re-examine the terms of the constitution which binds them together. That is where we are today.

While the problem of national unity is not new and its causes as old as confederation itself, despite the fact that the acuity of the problem is now greater than ever before, we urge the members of the Task Force and through them our fellow citizens, not to confine the problem to the one Province which has been unhappiest with the terms of union.

We are concerned that the question thus restricted to Quebec will obscure the fact that the other provinces and territories have much to gain from a thorough constitutional re-arrangement. Other briefs presented to the Commission so far have outlined various problems which plague Atlantic Canada. We need not repeat them here.

However, we feel that it is important for our fellow Canadians who do not live in these Atlantic Provinces to realize that parts of this geographic entity have been self-governing for a very long time indeed and, in some instances, for far longer than Quebec and Ontario.

While we welcome the attention we get from time to time from what is commonly known here as Upper Canada, it would be useful to remember that basic fact and that citizens who have been accustomed to govern themselves in a creditable fashion for centuries have no intention to relinquish this hard-earned right in favour of some unknown form of union if only to please the logic of their fellow citizens in other parts of Canada.

This being said, it does not necessarily follow that we, in Atlantic Canada, are not open to new forms of government if necessary. We recognize that a constitution is not an inanimate sacred object to be worshipped blindly. Rather, a constitution should be a flexible set of principles and objectives designed by the people and for the people to govern themselves with peace, order and good government.

The Atlantic Provinces are by no means reactionary or timid when it comes to basic constitutional changes. It should be remembered that some very bold and new concepts were initiated here. For instance, legislation with respect to freedom of the press, anti-slavery, religious emancipation

and government responsibility all originated in Nova Scotia long before even Westminster thought of them. Other Atlantic Provinces have also led the way in various changes. We are no strangers to reform and it is to be hoped that Canadians who have not yet realized the urgency of the situation which now faces Canada, will at last come out of their complacency. For the situation is urgent. At the same time, we need not be alarmed at re-organizing our constitution in order to meet new challenges.

We believe that beyond the current rhetoric of doom and gloom, there is an overriding wish by all Canadians everywhere to be governed sensibly.

We are uniquely Canadian. We don't need to spend hours searching for, or debating the existence of our Canadian identity. We are not English, we are not French, we are Canadians, shaped by the cultural and social environments which surround us. Perhaps it would have been better if we had spent less time debating the existence of a Canadian culture in the 1960's, and spent more time teaching each other and our children about the rich variety of artistic, literary and musical elements that express our very Canadianess, regardless of whether we come from Newfoundland, Quebec, Saskatchewan or British Columbia. It is in reading about ourselves from coast to coast, that we learn about ourselves and discover that we do possess a Canadian identity. To quote from Mavor Moore:

"The more Canadians worry about where we're going, the clearer it becomes that we should have paid more attention to how we got this far together. Our watches have not been synchronized. More a collection of people than A People, we have taken lightly those shared activities that normally define and chronicle a united society: our arts and letters. Small wonder we cannot find our national bearings."

Fortunately, some enlightened Canadian teachers have come to recognize this. Hopefully, it is not too late. School

curriculum committees and provincial departments of Education should be encouraged to incorporate more and more Canadian elements into the curriculums. In the case of literature, greater use should be made of works in translation. If there is a demand for novels, short stories, poetry and non-fictional writings in both languages, the publishing houses will respond and should be encouraged to do so through renewed federal and provincial grants. It is fine to study the literature of England, of France and of the United States, but the time has come to realize that Canadian culture, be it artistic, literary, musical or simply our life-style, is not purely derivative, most of it has been home-grown, shaped by the geographic, economic, political and social environment that makes up the political unit called Canada.

In much the same vein, compliments should be given to the CBC and Radio-Canada for recent programmes discussing and portraying Canadian life and personalities. Some private television and radio stations have also recently become aware of their duty in this respect.

Special documentaries, especially those presented as re-enactments of past events, give young and old an immediate appreciation of their country which they might not otherwise experience. Television is an extremely powerful vehicle for spreading the message of national awareness and Canadian unity. Far too long Canadians have claimed that their history is boring, unexciting. Television can bring alive that history and turn boring dates and dry facts into colorful characters and memorable events.

A national debate conducted more or less with some degree of hysteria at a time of crisis can and does become boring. But the need to know the parts which form the whole remains.

With this in mind, we would like to suggest that the various organizing committees which were set up to prepare the various sittings of this Task Force remain active in order for all of us to profit from the experience after

the event. Many service clubs such as Rotary and Kinsmen have become very active in the field of national unity. They are to be commended and encouraged to pursue their endeavours in that direction. They are powerful forces in our community and through them, a constructive national debate can be pursued.

The same holds for those men and women who have agreed to serve voluntarily on your committees. This reservoir of good-will and experience ought not to be dissipated. It should be possible for such permanent committees to provide interesting speakers who could explain the reality of Canada to both linguistic groups. To build bridges of understanding might sound romantic to some but it is nevertheless a fact that we are in dire need of such bridges.

There has been much debate as to whether or not top priority should be given to the national unity debate or to the economy. Those who argue that the economy must come first are blindly naive. Economic conditions and unemployment figures are unlikely to improve until Canada is able to demonstrate to itself and to the outside world, that it is confident in its future, that it is a stable and unified entity.

At the moment we present the picture of a confused, disunited country waffling about, unable even to recognize the most important problem facing the country since 1967. This is hardly the kind of atmosphere likely to breed industrial development or to encourage Canadians and foreigners to invest in the country. Why would anyone invest in a bad risk? Why would anyone invest in a country which might not exist within a year or two?

We must replace pessimism and the refusal to accept the real situation with optimism and an acceptance that French Canadians -- and there is a million of them who live outside Quebec -- have legitimate demands which have long been ignored. If we can prove to investors that we are united, that we know what we want, then perhaps they will join us in that struggle, at least there is a chance that economic conditions will improve. But as long as we remain like a rudderless ship at sea, no one

will come to our aid. It is Canada's problem, one that only Canadians from coast to coast can solve together.

Too often and for too many people, national unity means national uniformity. This still prevalent attitude is the root cause of our national scandal. Canadians who speak French are not confined to the Province of Quebec alone and one wonders if the attitude today in that Province is not a direct result of the complacency of English-speaking Canadians, including those who live in Quebec as the recent Sun Life episode would tend to demonstrate.

Political leaders in that Province have argued for change at the national level for generations. The list is long and distinguished from Honoré Mercier to René Lévesque. None have been dangerous radicals. None have made unrealistic demands. None have been listened to. Ottawa has remained monolithic, occasionally fretful, sometimes responsive but always centralizing.

Francophones outside Quebec have found a new voice. One million francophones outside Quebec constitute a major asset for this country and yet, especially in the Maritimes, where Acadians have had roots since before the foundation of Quebec, they are not yet enjoying full citizenship. Acadians still must fight for their just demands, in Education for instance. None of their demands are unreasonable.

The last Premiers' Conference in St. Andrews has provided a brief glimmer of hope which is now dimming rapidly. Despite a generous and courageous lead in the proper direction by the Premier of New Brunswick, recent statements by other Maritime Premiers seem to indicate that they have learned nothing. The battle for national unity will not be fought exclusively in Quebec since so many francophones still must demand their rights more than a hundred years after Confederation. Yet it would be so simple, and reasonable, for provincial governments everywhere, particularly in the Maritimes, to correct old wrongs without having to be asked to.

New Brunswick can be looked upon as a microcosm of the Nation. Great progress has been accomplished here by men of vision and courage in an atmosphere where political chicanery and partisanship has been notably absent. Where the rights of francophones are concerned, New Brunswick has not been lacking in leadership. Much remains to be done but it is being done.

We hope that the example of New Brunswick, while not perfect by any means, will be followed by other Provinces, especially the other Atlantic Provinces. It is within the power and the easy reach of provincial governments everywhere in Canada to correct wrongs promptly. Their failure to do so or the degree of grudgingness with which they may do the minimum will weigh heavily in the balance of national unity.

The Acadian Commandery of the Military and Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem recommends further to the Task Force on National Unity that:

- a) linguistic and other rights of francophones be entrenched in a new constitution
- b) the Senate of Canada be reformed in such a way as to be truly representative of the rights and interests of the provinces and territories
- c) provincial governments take immediate steps to correct the grievances of francophoneminorities
- d) the Federal government appoint a Minister of State charged with the responsibility of representing francophone minorities outside Quebec
- e) universities and colleges establish, where it hasn't already been done, some sort of forum where both linguistic groups can learn about each other and thereby dispel myths and misconceptions on both sides.

No doubt, members of the Task Force will hear and have heard many constructive suggestions but, in closing, we wish to state that the situation is urgent and that it behooves all citizens of this country to be interested in its future. We

ought not to delegate the task.

As a former Premier of New Brunswick once said:

"The future of our country will depend largely upon the degree and direction of our dedication. If our dedication should degenerate into mere lip-service and be so lacking in direction that extremists of any persuasion become recognized as the voice of Canada, then we shall deserve the kind of Canada that will surely be ours."

Appendix VII

Current Members of the Acadia Commandery

(The year of admission to the Order is shown in parentheses)

Supt. Ronald G. Bourne, CLJ, MMLJ	(1994)
Supt. Clarence J. Dent, KCLJ, GOMLJ	(1980)
Maj. Douglas H. Doncaster, CD, CLJ, MMLJ	(1994)
The Rev. Charles R. Greene, III, ChLJ	(2000)
Mrs. Phyllis J. Greene, OLJ	(2000)
Most Rev. James M. Hayes, GCLJ(E), DD	(1973)
Sen. The Hon. Archibald H. Johnstone, CD, KLJ, MMLJ *	(1989)
Hon. Juge Alfred R. Landry, QC, CLJ, LL.D.	(1984)
Chev. Edmond E. Landry, CM, KCLJ, CMLJ *	(1978)
Mrs. Dennice M. Leahey, CLJ	(1995)
Col. Anthony E. MacAskill, CD, KLJ, MMLJ	(1990)
The Hon. Mr. Justice Kenneth C. MacKay, QC, KCLJ, GOMLJ	(1978)
Dame Marion MacLeod, DCLJ	(1976)
Chev. Brian T. Newbold, KCLJ, GOMLJ, D.Sc.	(1982)
Cmdre. Bruce S. Oland, ED, CD, KCLJ, GOMLJ *	(1974)
Dr. W. Blair Orser, CD, KLJ, MMLJ *	(1988)
BGen. George C. Piercey, CMM, QC, KCLJ, MMLJ	(1975)
RAcm. Desmond W. Piers, CM, DSC, KCLJ, MMLJ *	(1969)
Chev. Bernard Poirier, CM, KLJ, OMLJ, DesL	(1983)
Mrs. Katharine A. Robinson, OLJ	(2002)
Rev. Dr. Marc E. Smith, CSC, ChLJ	(1998)
Mr. J. D. Richard Smyth, CLJ, MMLJ	(1991)
The Hon. Ruth Stanley, DCLJ, MMLJ, B.C.L.	(1973)
Rev. David R. Staples, ChLJ, MMLJ	(1998)
Chev. L. Kent Sweeney, KCLJ, CMLJ *	(1985)
Col. Armand F. Wigglesworth, CM, BEM, CD, KLJ, MMLJ	(1981)

(*) Category of Justice.

Members of the Acadia Commandery Executive (1974-2004)Commanders(*)

Chev John MacPherson	1974-1979	Mr Kenneth MacLeod	1990-1992
Chev Robert Pichette	1979-1984	Chev Brian Newbold	1992-1998
Chev Stuart Smith	1984-1985	Supt Ronald Bourne	1998-2002
Comm Bruce Oland	1985-1986	Chev Edmond Landry	2002-2004**
Supt Clare Dent	1986-1990		

* The original title was Chancellor, then changed to Commander in 1984.

**Chev Edmond Landry also served as Acting Commander from September 15 1999 until May 15, 2000.

Vice-Commanders(*)

VAdm Harry Porter	1980-1981	Comm Bruce Oland	1988-1990
Mr Patrick Duncan	1981-1982	Chev Brian Newbold	1990-1992
VAdm Harry Porter	1982-1985	Chev Edmond Landry	1992-2002
Chev Robert Pichette	1985-1986	Col Anthony MacAskill	2002-2004

* Before 1980, the office of Vice-Chancellor or Vice-President was not filled. In 1983, the title of the office was changed to that of Vice-Commander.

Secretaries(*)

Mr Patrick Duncan	1974-1978	Supt Clare Dent	1988-1989
Dame Ruth Stanley	1978-1982	Chev Robert Pichette	1989-1990
Chev Stuart Smith	1982-1984	Chev Bernard Poirier	1990-1998
Dame Della Stanley	1984-1988	Maj Douglas Doncaster	1998-2004

* The initial secretarial post was known as Recorder(1974-1975) and thereafter as Secretary/Herald. Then, in 1986 a change to Secretary was made, and two years later the office became Secretary/Receiver. In 1990, the title Secretary/Treasurer was adopted and in 1998 reverted to Secretary/Receiver.

Treasurer/Receivers(*)

Comm Bruce Oland	1975-1979	Supt Clare Dent	1988-1989
BGen George Piercey	1979-1981	Chev Robert Pichette	1989-1990
Comm Bruce Oland	1981-1985	Chev Bernard Poirier	1990-1998
Mr Patrick Duncan	1985-1988	Maj Douglas Doncaster	1998-2004

* In 1975, the office of Receiver was changed to Treasurer/Receiver and remained so until 1984 when it reverted back to Receiver for four years. Then, in 1988 and subsequent years the posts of Secretary and Receiver/Treasurer were combined.

Hospitallers(*)

Chev Martin Légère	1982-1988	Chev Blair Orser	1994-1999
Chev Blair Orser	1988-1990	Mr Richard Smyth	2001-2004
Mr Charles McGuire	1990-1992		

* The office of Commandery Hospitaller did not exist before 1982.
The post was not filled between 1992 and 1994 and 1999 and 2001.

Chaplains/Deputy Chaplains(*)Chaplains

Rev Ian Wishart	1986-1990	Rev David Staples	2002-2004
Rev Ian Wishart	1994-2002		

* Prior to 1986, Most Rev James Hayes presided over numerous religious ceremonies involving the Acadia Commandery.

Deputy Chaplains(*)

Rev David Staples	1999-2002	Rev Marc Smith	2002-2004
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* The office of Deputy Chaplain was created in 1999.

Commission ChairpersonsEcumenical Commission

Chev John Dickey	1975-1979	Dame Della Stanley	1983-1984
Chev Brian Cuthbertson	1979-1983	Mr Charles McGuire	1988-1990

Medical Commission

Chev Ian MacDonald	1979-1982	Chev Blair Orser	1988-1990
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National Unity Commission(*)

RAdm Desmond Piers	1979-1983	Chev Brian Newbold	1983-1988
Col Anthony MacAskill	1997-2001		

* In 1984, the name was changed to National Unity Committee.

Archivists(*)

Chev Stuart Smith	1990-1993	Chev Brian Newbold	1997-2004
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* In 1998, the office became that of Archivist/Historian.

Registrars

Dame Della Stanley	1982-1983		
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Standard/Banner Bearers

Mr Patrick Duncan	1981-1983	Chev Kent Sweeney	1992-2004
Chev Reginald Hunt	1983-1985		

Sword Bearers

Chev Reginald Hunt	1982-1983	Chev Archie Johnstone	1994-2004
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Members of Grand Priory Council

Dame Della Stanley	1983-1984	Supt Clare Dent	1985-1986
Chev Patrick Duncan	1984-1985		

CounsellorsNew Brunswick

Chev Simon Bujold	1990-1996	Rev Marc Smith	2002-2003
Mr Graham Stave	1996-2002	Mrs Katharine Robinson	2003-2004

Nova Scotia

Supt Clare Dent	1990-1996	Col Armand Wigglesworth	1997-2004
Col Anthony MacAskill	1996-1997		

Prince Edward Island

Chev Archie Johnstone	1990-1997	Hon Weston MacAleer	1998-2002
Maj Douglas Doncaster	1997-1998	Hon Kenneth MacKay	2003-2004

Newfoundland

Chev Pearce King	1990-1998	Chev Kevin Hutchings	1998-2002
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Commandery Committee ChairpersonsSpecial Committee on Activities

Mr Patrick Duncan	1976-1980
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Committee Chairpersons : Nominations Committee

Mr Patrick Duncan	1977-1978	Chev John MacPherson	1985-1989
Chev Robert Pichette	1980-1981	Comm Bruce Oland	1989-1990
Chev John MacPherson	1981-1983	Supt Clare Dent	1990-1997
Chev Patrick Duncan	1983-1984	Chev Brian Newbold	1997-2003
Comm Bruce Oland	1984-1985	Chev Bernard Poirier	2003-2005

Honours and Awards Committee(*)

Chev John MacPherson	1990-1991	Chev Brian Newbold	1992-1995
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* In 1992, the name became Admissions, Promotions & Awards Committee.

Appendix IX

Grand Priory of Canada Certificates for Service
to the Order of Saint Lazarus(*)

<u>Name of Awardee</u>	<u>Year of Admission to the Order</u>	<u>Year of Certificate</u>
Hon. George Stanley	1969	2000
RAdm. Desmond Piers	1969	2000
Most Rev. James Hayes	1973	2000
Hon. Ruth Stanley	1973	2000
Comm. Bruce Oland	1974	2000
Dame Mary Cook	1975	2000
BGen. George Piercey	1975	2000
Dame Marion MacLeod	1976	2001
Chev. John Perlin	1977	2002
Chev. Edmond Landry	1978	2003
Hon. Kenneth MacKay	1978	2003

* The Certificate was first awarded to Acadia Commandery members in the year 2000.

The Certificate bears the inscription " The Grand Priory of Canada wishes to record their high appreciation of service rendered to the aims and objectives of the Order."

The citation reads as follows : " This Certificate is presented in grateful recognition of 25 years of faithful service to the Order of Saint Lazarus."

Honours and Awards to Current Acadia Commandery MembersAppointment to the Canadian Senate

Hon. Archibald H. Johnstone

The Order of Canada

Edmond E. Landry, CM
Desmond W. Piers, CM
Bernard Poirier, CM
Armand F. Wigglesworth, CM

Canadian Order of Military Merit

George C. Piercey, CMM

Long Service and Good Conduct Medals

Voluntary Officers Decoration

Bruce Oland, VD

Efficiency Decoration

Bruce Oland, ED

Canadian Forces Decoration

Douglas H. Doncaster, CD
Archibald H. Johnstone, CD
Anthony E. MacAskill, CD
Bruce Oland, CD
Blair Orser, CD
Armand F. Wigglesworth, CD

Other Military Awards

Distinguished Service Cross

Desmond W. Piers, DSC

British Empire Medal

Armand F. Wigglesworth, BEM

United Nations Medal for East Timor

Ronald G. Bourne

Commemorative Medals

Commemorative Medal for Her Majesty Queen
Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee

Ronald G. Bourne
Clarence J. Dent
Archibald H. Johnstone
Edmond E. Landry
Desmond W. Piers
Bernard Poirier
Marc E. Smith
Armand F. Wigglesworth

Canada 125th Anniversary Medal

Clarence J. Dent
Archibald H. Johnstone
Edmond E. Landry
Desmond W. Piers
Bernard Poirier
Ruth Stanley
Kent Sweeney
Armand F. Wigglesworth

Other Awards

Queen's Councillors

Kenneth C. MacKay, QC
Alfred R. Landry, QC
George C. Piercey, QC

Canada Volunteer Award

Clarence J. Dent

Foreign Honours

Papal Decoration

Ordre apostolique de Saint Grégoire le Grand

Edmond E. Landry, Chevalier Commandeur

French Decorations

L'Ordre National de la Légion d'honneur

Desmond W. Piers, Chevalier

L'Ordre des Palmes académiques

Brian T. Newbold, Chevalier
Bernard Poirier, Officier

Japanese Honours

The Sacred Treasure, Gold Rays
with neck ribbon

Bruce Oland

Meritorious Services Prize,
Chemical Software Society of Japan

Brian T. Newbold

