



2012-2013

# L-E-A-P

**Lodge Excellence & Award Program**  
*The Grand Lodge of British Columbia & Yukon  
Masonic Leadership Conference  
Penticton, BC  
April 2012*

## What is it all about?

- A structured program encouraging participation in 38 Lodge and Community Activities
- Originally developed by the Grand Lodge of Oregon
- Instituted in our Grand Lodge by MW McSween in 2005

## Why Participate?

- This program will ...
  - Promote fellowship with a Lodge
  - Promote fellowship between Lodges
  - Raise the profile of Freemasonry in the community

## Who Here Has Participated?

## Past Participation

### 147 Lodges

- 2008 - 8 Lodges (5 from District 14)
- 2009 - 8 Lodges
- 2010 - 16 Lodges (5 from District 14)
- 2011 - 8 Lodges
- 2012 - ??

## What's New?

- Improved Clarity of Tasks
- 4 Additional Tasks (38)
- 7 New Tasks
- 7 Updated Tasks
- More overall points available
- Higher threshold to qualify
- Aligned to 5 Pillar Plan

## 5 Pillars

- Leadership
- Education
- Communication
- Membership
- Community

## Old Program

Pillar		Category "A" 2 points	Category "B" 1 point	Total	Total Points
Leadership	LE	6	1	7	13
Education	ED	2	1	3	5
Communication	CN	4	4	8	12
Membership	ME	3	5	8	11
Community	CN	3	5	8	11
Totals		18	16	34	52

## New Program

Pillar		Category "A" 2 points	Category "B" 1 point	Total	Total Points
Leadership	LE	5	4	9	14
Education	ED	3	3	6	9
Communication	CN	4	4	8	12
Membership	ME	3	4	7	10
Community	CN	3	3	6	9
Totals		18	18	36	54

	<b>Health of a Lodge</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Healthy Lodges will find they have a high score without even trying</li> <li>■ Weak Lodges will struggle for points at every step</li> </ul>

	<b>Reporting</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This program is not a report on the condition of your lodge, nor is it a part of the DDGM's report which is submitted in May of each year</li> <li>■ However, <u>participation</u> in the program should be acknowledged in the DDGM's report to Grand Lodge</li> </ul>

	<b>Registration</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The program works on an honour system</li> <li>■ If a Lodge decides to participate in the program, the Master of the Lodge should communicate to the DDGM his intentions to participate before commencing</li> </ul>

	<b>How Does the Program Work?</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ There are a total of thirty-eight (38) tasks in this program which are divided into two parts:</li> <li>■ Category A activities are worth 2 points</li> <li>■ Category B activities are worth 1 point</li> </ul>

	<b>Qualifying for an Award</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ To qualify for the <u>Lodge Excellence Award</u> an individual Lodge must obtain 35 points or more by completing any of the activities in Category A or B.</li> <li>■ To qualify for the <u>Lodge Recognition Award</u> the individual Lodge must obtain at least 25 points by completing any of the activities in Category A or B.</li> </ul>

	<b>Qualifying for an Award</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The qualifying period starts right after Grand Lodge and ends June 1<sup>st</sup> the following year</li> <li>■ A change of Masters and Officers will occur between these dates</li> <li>■ The Worshipful Master should ensure that the incoming Lodge Officers are in agreement with participation in the program as they will be the ones who complete the project.</li> </ul>

	<b>Qualifying for an Award</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ For Lodges with tasks occurring in June, a firm commitment to complete those tasks is required, as the forms must be submitted by June 1<sup>st</sup>.</li> </ul>

	<b>Qualifying for an Award</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ In Districts where Lodges may find it challenging to travel to other Lodges due to large distances, the DDGM is encouraged to permit completion of the program over a two year period. This decision is up to the DDGM.</li> </ul>

	<b>Receiving the Award</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The Worshipful Master will receive the Award on behalf of his Lodge at our Grand Lodge Communication</li> <li>■ Get it framed and display it with pride</li> </ul>

	<b>The Tasks</b>
	<b>Category "A" Activities</b>  <b>2 points each</b>

	<b>Leadership - 2 Points</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A1 Establish a long range Strategic Plan for the Lodge including elements such as succession, sustainable membership levels, long range financial planning etc.</li> <li>■ A2 At least four (4) Lodge members, including at least two (2) elected officers are to participate in a Masonic Leadership Course .....Receive two (2) bonus points if your Lodge organizes the Regional or District course.</li> </ul>

	<b>Leadership - 2 Points</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A3 Establish and maintain the Mentorship Program for all new candidates.</li> <li>■ A4 File a Lodge Budget for the year and present it to the Lodge for its approval.</li> </ul>

	<b>Leadership - 2 Points</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A5 The Worshipful Master is to present a formal plan for the Lodge's work and activities for his term of office to the membership.</li> </ul>

	<b>Education - 2 Points</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A6 The DME and at least three (3) other Lodge members to attend Grand Masonic Day or another Regional or District Masonic Education event.</li> <li>■ A7 Lodge to conduct three (3) Masonic Education programs during the year.</li> <li>■ A8 Have a Brother of the Lodge present a paper at the local Lodge of Education &amp; Research or have your Lodge open and close that Lodge.</li> </ul>

	<b>Communication - 2 Points</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A9 Other than the usual Lodge notices, the Lodge must distribute at least three (3) written communications in the Masonic year to its entire membership reporting on Lodge activities, Masonic education or other articles of Masonic interest.</li> <li>■ A10 Establish a Phoning Committee and an e-mail Distribution List for your Lodge and regularly contact all members. It is critical that no members be overlooked just because they don't have e-mail.</li> </ul>

	<b>Communication - 2 Points</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A11 At least four (4) Lodge members, including at least two (2) elected officers, to visit a tyled meeting of a Lodge outside of their District, or travel a reasonable distance to do so if within the same District.</li> <li>■ A12 Hold a special event to which the Lodge members' ladies, families and Lodge Widows are invited. Such events could include Ladies' Night, Special Dinners, Picnics, Christmas Parties, Dances, etc.</li> </ul>

	<b>Membership - 2 Points</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A13 Conduct a "Bring a Friend to Lodge Night" or "Buddy Night", or invite prospective Candidates (and their families) to Lodge Social Functions.</li> <li>■ A14 At least two (2) Lodge members, including at least one (1) elected officer, visit a Job's Daughters or De Molay meeting, especially on a Fraternal Night of the youth groups.</li> </ul>

	<b>Membership - 2 Points</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A15 Have one or more Entered Apprentices or a Fellowcraft present a paper to the Lodge about their thoughts on the degrees through which they have traveled; the paper to be presented before the brother progresses to the next degree.</li> </ul>

	<b>Community - 2 Points</b>
■ A16	Be engaged as a Lodge in visible public events such as sponsorship of youth activities or participation in local community activities or Business Associations.

	<b>Community - 2 Points</b>
■ A17	Visit a local Elementary School and present details of the "We Can Help" program to the administration or teachers.
■ A18	Have at least 10 percent of your membership visibly participate in a local community event such as marching in a parade or riding on a float to show the public who and what we are.

	<b>The Tasks</b>
	<b>Category "B" Activities</b>
	<b>1 point each</b>

	<b>Leadership - 1 Point</b>
■ B1	The Lodge's voting delegates (no proxies) must commit to participating in the current year Grand Lodge Communication.
■ B2	Confer or exemplify any of the three degrees. Assign one (1) point for each degree.
■ B3	The Lodge must hold a ritual practice for each degree conferred or exemplified with a minimum of six (6) officers in attendance at each practice. Assign one (1) point for each qualifying practice held.

	<b>Leadership - 1 Point</b>
■ B4	All reports and payments of Grand Lodge per capita assessments and fees are to be completed and filed with the Grand Secretary by the dates required by Grand Lodge.

	<b>Education - 1 Point</b>
■ B5	Invite the District Education Officer to your Lodge to make an educational presentation to the Lodge.
■ B6	A Brother from the Lodge is to attend another Lodge and present a Masonic paper or other program of Masonic interest.

	<b>Education - 1 Point</b>
■ B7	Call upon the Lodge Historian, at least once per year, to fulfill his directive by giving at least one presentation in Lodge or article in the newsletter (see A9 above) on the history of the Lodge, its Past Masters, or senior members (living or deceased).

	<b>Communication - 1 Point</b>
■ B8	Establish and regularly update a Lodge Website as per the Grand Lodge Website Regulations and Guidelines.

	<b>Communication - 1 Point</b>
■ B9	Establish and maintain an active "Sick & Visiting" Committee. Visit members of your Lodge who are within the length of your cable-tow, who are unable to attend Lodge because of health issues and spend time in fellowship with them. A report from the Sick and Visiting Committee must be given at each Lodge meeting advising on the status of ill or distressed Brethren or their families and the Lodge Widows.

	<b>Communication - 1 Point</b>
■	B10 Establish and maintain a complete Lodge Widow's list. Make contact with those Masonic Widows at least twice during the Masonic Year. Consider Christmas Cards, Easter Lilies or similar recognition. Offer assistance as and when needed. See also A12 above.
■	B11 At least three (3) brethren to attend each meeting of the Masters and Wardens Association or District Council.

	<b>Membership - 1 Point</b>
■	B12 Hold a meeting in which Job's Daughters and/or DeMolays present a program about their ritual, work, or activities.
■	B13 Acknowledge recipients of the Medal of Merit, Dennis Marsh Medallion, fifty (50) year jewels, or others where special service to the Lodge deserves special recognition.

	<b>Membership - 1 Point</b>
■	B14 Conduct a "Rusty Square Night" – an evening where members who have not attended Lodge for some time can refresh their memory of the signs, tokens and words.
■	B15 Encourage the continued engagement of new Lodge members who have been raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason within the last 3 years to present Masonic Education.

	<b>Community - 1 Point</b>
■	B16 Determine which students from local high schools have been awarded a Bursary Grant from our Grand Lodge (or a Lodge bursary). Visit the high school or invite the high school student(s) to a Lodge function with their families to present the bursary.

	<b>Community - 1 Point</b>
■	B17 Perform as a group from your Lodge, a public service or charitable activity (such as blood donations, collection for a Food Bank, clothes for the needy, hospital volunteerism, assist Salvation Army, Cancer Car Washing, participate in a Cleanup Program such as highways, parks, alleys etc.).

	<b>Community - 1 Point</b>
■	B18 At least four (4) members of the Lodge, and families if they desire, attend a church parade or church service.

	<b>Other Programs</b>
■	Lodges with unique and innovative active programs, and activities not covered under Category A or B, should approach their DDGM for his decision on whether such programs count in points awarded for either the Excellence or Recognition Award Program.
■	Such decisions are the prerogative of the DDGM.

	<b>Spread the News</b>
■	<b>Remember.</b> If only one Brother knows what is happening ... only one brother will be involved.

	<b>Encouraging Participation</b>
■	DEO should make a presentation in Lodge as an education evening
■	Blow-up the summary page to a Poster Size (\$8 at Kinko's)
■	Encourage Lodge to update their progress every 2 months or so

Tracking Progress						
PERFORMANCE TRACKING						
Expectation	Plan To Achieve	Brother Responsible	Achievement Description	Target Date (dd/mm/yy)	Status	Points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Definite</li> <li>Probable</li> <li>Marginal</li> <li>Decline</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Worshipful Master</li> <li>Senior Warden</li> <li>Junior Warden</li> <li>Lodge Secretary</li> <li>Lodge Treasurer</li> <li>Director of Ceremonies</li> <li>Director of Education</li> <li>Committee Chair</li> <li>Past Master</li> <li>Brother</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not Started</li> <li>In Progress</li> <li>Completed</li> <li>Approved</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not Approved</li> <li>In Review</li> <li>Approved</li> <li>Rejected</li> </ul>

Tracking Progress		
Points	Running Total	Date
		Oct 2011
		Dec 2011
		Feb 2012
		Apr 2012
Final Tally		June 1 <sup>st</sup> 2012
Result	35 or Over	
	25 or Over	
<input type="checkbox"/> Lodge Excellence Award <input type="checkbox"/> Lodge Recognition Award		

Next Steps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where is the Lodge Now?</li> <li>What's Next?</li> </ul>

Next Steps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pdf of the poster</li> <li>Excel Spreadsheet for Tracking</li> <li>aidan.gordon@freemasonry.bcy.ca</li> </ul>

Thank You
<p>aidan.gordon@freemasonry.bcy.ca</p> <p>RW Bro Aidan C. Gordon            Chairman, Grand Lodge Research Committee            Zion #77, Excelsior #195, Cariboo #4</p>