

Fraternal Leader Success Planner



February 2018

Dan Heffernan, State Deputy

Happy 2018 to all! What does this 2nd half of our fraternal year have in store for you and your Councils?

As technology advances so does the way we need to grow and expand our Order. Supreme has initiated 'e-Membership' or 'Online Membership' which is appealing to our younger men (the online/computer savvy ones) who will reach out to inquire about the Knights of Columbus. As we change our recruitment techniques to keep pace with the new evangelization of our church, we have been given an opportunity in Ontario to try this new method. As you probably know, Supreme rolled out the e-Membership Program here in Ontario January 16th.

How e-Membership works?

Please refer to the FAQ for the Online Membership produced by Supreme to assist you with any questions you have or have encountered from others.

Another new and important Program that we have initiated is the **"Ontario Knights of Columbus 2 Man Support Team"**. It has been designed to offer *Councils experiencing difficulties* to have a '2 Man team' evaluate their issues, assist them in building bridges between members, and in some cases, the pastor, give service through training and recruitment efforts, and aid with ceremonials.

Here are the steps to help determine which Councils require this support;

- 1- If a council has recruited less the 2 new members in their last 2 years
- 2- If a council has not reached Star council award in last 3 years
- 3- If a council has not filed a semi-annual Report* in the last 3 cycles

Contact Reg Campbell, Ontario State Council Retention Director and the 2 Man Support Team Director, to discuss the issues that the Council is experiencing and how to best assist the Council.

Brother Reg will make the assessment and discuss with the State Deputy how and who should assist the Council.

We are at a crucial time with our membership growth here in Ontario. **Supreme has recognized this and has a declared Canada their #1 priority. They have established a Canadian task force to determine the issues we face with membership growth and suspensions, and work towards a solution. You will hear more about this as time goes on.**

As we continue the good works of Fr McGivney, let us be proud of what our founder has accomplished in being a model for men in the Church, and our communities.

Marcel Lemmen, State Treasurer

Brother Knights,

Councils should have received two invoices from the Ontario State Office recently. The first is payable to the Knights of Columbus Ontario State Council and is for the Ontario State Per Capita and State Bulletin. The per capita this year is \$16.32 plus \$1.00 for the bulletin per member. Honorary Life and Disabled members are not billed.

The second invoice is for the Columbian Squires and is payable to the Knights of Columbus Ontario Charity Foundation. At the 2017 State Convention a resolution was adopted by the delegates that requires each council to pay \$40 per year towards the Columbian Squires. Since the Squires are a charitable youth program, the invoice may be paid out of a council's charity account.

Fraternally,

David Gelinas, State Warden

Worthy District Deputies and brothers,

As our fraternal calendar is just past the midway point, I encourage all the District Deputies that have possible new councils to put our plan into action and make this happen. Our parish priests that do not have any K of C presence in their parish need you to find the men in that parish that want to fulfil their charitable responsibility and give service to their pastor but without a council there are without that vehicle and leadership to do so. New councils are very important to the overall growth in Ontario.

With E-membership now launched in Ontario State there are some procedures that need to be understood and followed by our council wardens and guards. E-members will be issued membership cards from Supreme and these members can enter any council general meeting but do not have any voting privileges and they cannot become executive officers. They can also attend the State convention but cannot participate or vote as an official delegate can. Our goal with our E-members,

that have enough curiosity to visit a council meeting, is to invite them to join with you at a function and become attracted and inspired to join the council as a regular member. Be gentle with your invitation and don't be overwhelming to them. Our wardens and guards need to be more attentive when checking membership cards at the doors of all degrees. Our E-members cannot attend any of our degrees until they decide to take the degrees and become full fledged member of a council.

Another portfolio I now have is State Miniature Flag Director. These Ontario K of C miniature flags are vinyl and 18 inches long and available now for purchase in bundles of 50 for \$12 (pick up price). That's only 0.24c for each flag and very inexpensive. If you want them shipped, you'll pay \$20 more for each bundle of 50 flags (\$32 total). That's 0.64c per flag for those using shipping and still very reasonable. Look for SO-50 in the forms section on our website (the office should have it ready soon). You can use them for the new State widows program titled "Deceased members headstone cleaning and prayer" program. Our State Widow chairman Ron Hutt can explain more.

Beside the intended use in our cemeteries for this prayer program, I also want to promote other uses for these miniature flags such as marking of paths and side of roads for races and parades and for members to wave in their hands at parades and sporting events. The ideas are endless, and you'll find them available for purchase in our store at the next State convention.

Vivat Jesus,

Arthur Peters, Supreme Director, Ontario

Brother Knights:

I hope that you have had a good start to 2018!

One of the priorities of the Supreme Council is to review the status of membership in Canada, and how we can help to grow the order in our great country. Like many other organizations, we are facing our challenges in terms of membership growth, and this is a subject that we are spending a considerable amount of time discussing. A Canadian Membership Task force has been formed with representatives from across Canada to look at ways that we can help to increase the membership across our country.

Here are some statistics that demonstrate the importance of this issue:

From 2009-2017:

Membership in the Order grew by 9% overall, but in Canada decreased by 7% (in Ontario, we have decreased by 2% over this period.)

British Columbia and Alberta are the only two provinces with eight consecutive years of membership growth; Prince Edward Island is the only other province to have a net positive growth over this time period. Ontario currently has had three consecutive years of growth after five years of decreases.

From 2012-2017:

We have welcomed 34,523 new members in Canada, but have lost 21,479 members to suspension or withdrawal (62%,) and 22,605 to death (65%.) Thus a net loss of 9,561 members. In Ontario, these numbers are 9,731 new members, 4,808 suspensions or withdrawals, and 5,614 deaths (net -691.)

As you can see, welcoming new members is about more than numbers, it is about the future of the Order. Many Councils have been in existence for decades, some for over a century. Over that time, there has been a great amount of good done by the members in our parishes and communities. We owe it to those who have set the path before us to continue this into the future, and to do so we must continue to welcome new members into our ranks.

I welcome your thoughts on the matter of membership as we discuss this at the Supreme level. Please feel free to e-mail me at arthur.peters@rogers.com.

Finally, I would like to thank the many Brothers who have called and e-mailed during my recent (ongoing) health issues. I am very grateful for your support and prayers. Please continue to pray for me that I will return to good health and recover from this situation.

Fraternally,

Jerry Hayes, State Communication Director

With the month of January now virtually behind us, we now must say that we are really into the final lap of this fraternal year. Can you say, without a doubt, that both you and your councils have a clear understanding of their goals and objectives that they wish to attain prior to June 30th. If they do not have a clear picture of that which they hope to achieve, how will they ever achieve it? Take a moment and call each of your Grand Knights and review in detail not only their accomplishments thus far, but as well, review what it will now take to achieve the level of success that they can and should aspire to; that being nothing less than "Star Council" status.

Fraternally,

Ron Hutt, State Family Director

We are looking at a slowdown in the numbers of submissions for "Family of the Month". Since August through to December, I have received the grand total of 15 Councils participating in this program. Of that number, one Council submitted during 4 months. It has so much potential but yet we are seeing a general lack of interest. **Are we not an order based on family values?** I hope the seniors program has seen more interest. please remember that so many of our own members are seniors and need our attention. There is so much we can do to help: offering to drive, set up visits to their homes or villas, simply staying in touch by phone, helping them with chores, etc... There is so much we can do but there is not enough time in a day for all the things we could have done for our seniors. Finally, you will be hearing about a new widow's program that Brother Dave Gelinas is working on and plans are in the works to launch it in the Spring. Stay tuned for more information as Spring is just around the corner.

Vivat Jesus,

Denis Belanger, State Programs Director

Brother Knights,

It's that time of the year again when we need all our councils to complete their fraternal volunteer surveys and to send us the results.

Why? Our organizations charitable status relies on our ability to assess and report on our all our charitable work activities. Last year we had our best survey reporting year ever, and we are asking again for your support.

How? We are asking you to request your members to complete the http://www.kofc.org/un/en/forms/council/individual_survey1728a_p.pdf in order to collect their hours. Then compile totals onto the http://www.kofc.org/un/en/forms/council/fraternal_survey1728_p.pdf form. Just a reminder, if you wish you can also use the online form <http://www.kofc.org/pdfservice/form1728.action?formType=council&lang=en> to submit your results and email a copy to yourself and to the State Council.

This is also an opportunity for you to recognize those members who have made an exceptional contribution throughout the year. A little recognition can go a long way to making our members feeling good about all that they do.

Thanks for all that you do,



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

The Power of 1

"1 Member, per Council, per Month"

"1 Star Council, per District"

"1 New Council per Diocese"

"1 First Degree, per District, per Month"

"1 Verbal Contact, per Member, per Month"

"1 Member, per Program"

R.E.S.P.E.C.T.