



Spiritualist Church of Canada

Autumn 2017

President's Message

Well, I cannot believe that fall is upon us. August 1st arrived here in Ontario and it immediately felt cooler, especially in the evenings. In spite of the chill, I am sure we will still have some beautiful, warm days to look forward to. Soon the fall colours will be magnificent, and I for one hope to get out and see them in their full glory.

The board has been extremely busy planning the upcoming AGM in Edmonton. The AGM packages have gone out to all our members so if you did not receive yours, please let us know and we hope any of you reading this newsletter that can attend, will. There are five positions to be filled, so if you have an interest in serving on the board, have someone nominate you.

Rev. Patti Tomczyk's term is up and she has decided not to run again. Rev. Patti has been a strong, and stable board member; be it with government rules and regulations, the timing of meetings or teaching courses, Patti has the ability to keep us on track. Thank you, Rev. Patti, for all you have done for the Spiritualist Church of Canada. You will be missed. Moving forward, I know you will always be a strong beacon for Spiritualism, however you choose to serve Spirit.

Your board has accomplished much this year, of which I will discuss at the AGM. For those of you who cannot attend the members' meeting, I will post these accomplishments in our Winter Newsletter.

It has been a year filled with various challenges, but it is through challenge that one grows. As a board, we strive to approach issues with love, light and prayer, and endeavour to make the right decisions for you, our members. Meeting these challenges has certainly helped us learn and grow as a board and especially myself as your President.

On an educational note, the SCC will be offering **S301 Leadership** as well as **S302 roles of Pastor, Board Workers & Relevant Laws**, in Calgary the week following the AGM. Check our website for course details, dates, and times.

Lastly, we are pleased to welcome The Open Door Sanctuary in Victoria, British Columbia to the SCC membership. If you are out in BC, drop in to see Rev. Simon James and Rev. Brian Robertson, they will be pleased to see you. Their website is www.firstspiritualists.com.

Rev. Brenda Ropp, President

"Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower." - Albert Camus

"Just before the death of flowers,
and before they are buried in snow,
There comes a festival season
When nature is all aglow." - Author Unknown



Special Message

Rev. Patti Tomczyk

Time has certainly flown by for me. As we prepare for the upcoming Annual General Meeting in Edmonton I have taken some time to reflect on my experience on the board of governors for the Spiritualist Church of Canada (SCC).

As I will not be seeking re-election at the end of my term in October I wanted to draft this message to all of you to say thank you. It has been a truly wonderful experience and I do mean that with all sincerity. The experience of serving on the board has enriched my life in many ways.

I feel honoured to have served you on the board of governors. I have been blessed to have worked with such wonderful people on the board, as well as having had the opportunity to interact with and get to know more SCC members. It is however, time for me to move forward with some other projects that I have had on the back burner for a while. I do so with confidence in those remaining on the board and knowing that all is in Divine order.

I have always tried to do my very best, keeping the interests of Spiritualism, the SCC as an organization and more importantly, the membership foremost in all my actions. I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve you as members; for your confidence, trust and friendship. My hope is that I have somehow, in some small way, made a positive contribution to the SCC.

To my fellow board members – it has not only been a privilege to work with you, but an absolute pleasure getting to know you better as individuals. Thank you for your candour, your honesty, and the camaraderie we have shared.

In deep appreciation for the gift that each of you are in my life.

Patti

Editor's Message

I like, no love, autumn; beautiful colours surrounding us intermingling with the last green of the summer. Fresh morning air that makes you forget momentarily that you live in the heart of the city. New energy flows through the Earth and all who share it. Traditionally, the autumn equinox is a celebration of the harvest; I hear about harvest festivals and see harvest moons.

Because I'm still in love with you on this harvest moon

Neil Young

Nothing like a new season to remind us that change is part of life's cycle and love is all around.

Thru the trees comes autumn with her serenade

Melodies the sweetest music ever played

Thelonious Monk

Love of our fellow human, nature and her animal representatives. We are always asking about Love: What is it? How do we achieve it? But how often do we ask ourselves how do we give Love? What is the best way to send Love? When do we know that sending out Love is the right answer?

The answer to that last one is **always** of course. Sending Love provides you with the Love you require for your own soul growth. Whether consciously or unconsciously, we strive for this throughout our lives because we know that unconditional love is possible.

All you need is Love – Lennon/McCartney

My basic, short definition of Love is, understanding and empathy, being of service, sharing a bit of ourselves with the souls around us be they in our lives or on the periphery.

In our ever-expanding world, it can be difficult to remember that Love is what makes it go 'round but we always get there in the end, and today, I am ok with that.

Love is the greatest force. Love works wonders that no other power can achieve. Love desires no ill for its beloved or anybody else -
Silver Birch

Peace love and peachiness in Spirit
Stevie



Important Dates 2017

AGM 14th October
Edmonton

http://www.spiritualistchurchofcanada.com/images/aboutus/89th-agm-2017-png_orig.png

The Earth and Man

A little sun, a little rain,
A soft wind blowing from the west,
And woods and fields are sweet again,
And warmth within the mountain's breast.

So simple is the earth we tread,
So quick with love and life her frame,
Ten thousand years have dawned and fled,
And still her magic is the same.

A little love, a little trust,
A soft impulse, a sudden dream,
And life as dry as desert dust
Is fresher than a mountain stream.

So simple is the heart of man,
So ready for new hope and joy;
Ten thousand years since it began
Have left it younger than a boy.

Stopford Brooke -Irish poet

Canadian Weekend @ Lilydale

It was a rainy weekend but there was a good turnout for the Canadian Weekend. The SCC's night of Music and Mediumship was well attended, lively and engaging.

Autumn Inspiration

"There is a harmony in autumn, and a lustre in its sky,
Which through the summer is not heard or seen,
As if it could not be, as if it had not been!"

Percy Bysshe Shelley



Spirit's Reading Corner

This is Spiritualism by Maurice Barbanell

Maurice Barbanell was acknowledged to be one of the best-informed authorities on Spiritualism. He was an editor of the *Psychic News* weekly newspaper and *Two Worlds* monthly magazine.

Barbanell begins by introducing mediumship with a chapter entitled *Beyond the Five Senses*; steering us through evidence gathering through to permanent proof of survival. He then guides us to continue to search ourselves and Spirit for the acknowledgement of proof of survival.

'mediumship comes into being when these innate psychic powers are developed in conscious co-operation with what are called spirit guides, who are qualified, because of their advanced evolutionary state, to act as tutors in spiritual matters'
-Excerpt

An excellent study of Spiritualism and mediumship published in 1959.



NEWS

Notice from the Board



Fee Increases Effective 1st January 2018

Course Exemptions

After much discussion, the SCC Board has approved a fee of 50% of the course cost when a student applies for a course exemption.

Reason: *When students apply for an exemption, they submit documentation from courses they have previously taken which they believe relates to our course. A considerable amount of time is spent by the education committee comparing these courses, to ensure they have covered all the SCC course material.*

If the requested exemption is declined the fee paid for the exemption can then be applied towards the course.

Church Membership Fee

A new church membership fee of \$40.00 per year will be phased in over the next two years.

Reason: The last increase in Church membership was in 2006. Administrative costs have increased significantly since then.

Over the last 5 years the SCC has worked to increase our value to member churches by offering:

At no cost, our bylaw package of which member churches can use and implement as their own

No cost board training in "The Roles of Pastor, Board Workers, and Relevant Laws

Advertising at no cost Member Churches' Events and Workshops on our web site

Templates that can be adopted for church needs such as:

Fundraising and Event Tracking forms

Code of Conduct forms

Police Check letters

Resource for member churches:

Answered and/or directed churches with inquires

Attended and participated in fundraising events

Effective January 1st, 2018

Church Membership Fee \$ 30/year

Effective January 1st, 2019

Church Membership Fee \$ 40/year



Spiritualist Church of Canada
89th Annual General Members Meeting
Saturday, October 14th, 2017

HOSTED BY
ST. BRIGID'S SPIRITUALIST CHURCH
101, 10441-178 STREET, EDMONTON AB T5S 1R5

SCHEDULE

8:30 AM TO 8:55 AM	REGISTRATION
9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM	WORKSHOPS & COURSES
12:05 PM TO 1:00 PM	LUNCH
1:05 PM TO 1:45 PM	ANNUAL MEETING
1:45 PM TO 2:00 PM	BREAK & RAFFLE PRIZES
2:05 PM TO 5:00 PM	WORKSHOPS & COURSES



WE ARE OFFERING TWO WORKSHOPS AT \$ 25.00 EACH

9:00AM TO 12:00PM INTRODUCTORY MEDIUMSHIP WITH REV. WILLIAM PELECH

2:00PM TO 5:00 PM ADVANCE MEDIUMSHIP WITH REV. BRENDA ROPP

Everyone is welcome to participate in the Workshops, Lunch, 50/50 Draw and Raffle Table as well as attend our Annual Meeting. Voting at the AGM is restricted to Subscribing Members of the Spiritualist Church of Canada.

TICKETS FOR THE WORKSHOPS, AND LUNCH CAN BE PURCHASED THROUGH PAYPAL AT WWW.SPIRITUALISTCHURCHOFCANADA.COM UNDER AGM 2017 LINK. CHEQUES CAN BE MAILED TO OUR HEAD OFFICE AT 37 DALTON CRESCENT NORTH, ORILLIA ON L3V 5J6. LUNCH ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9TH, 2017.

Spiritualism History

28 Sept 1864

1st séance held in London home

November 1849

The Fox sisters begin giving public demonstrations of their powers in contacting the spirit world and drawing crowds that numbered into the thousands

15 November 1894

The General Assembly of Spiritualists is incorporated in New York State

Brought to You in Spirit From the Spiritualist Church of Canada

The reason for communication is love, love governs communication, whether it be in the love founded on the relationship between people who know one another on earth, or the love of service and the desire to help mankind that attracts unknowns to one another.

--Silver Birch from *The Spirit Speaks*

