

## **CLOSING CEREMONY**

*The Provincial President shall stand throughout the closing ceremony.*

### **Provincial President:**

My Brothers,  
as we have finished the business of the session we will close with prayer.

*The Provincial Chaplain shall leave his place and go to the Altar.*

**~ GAVEL calls up the Aerie ~**

### **Provincial Chaplain:**

Our Father, we ask that each of us may feel that he has conscientiously done his duty, and that only good may come to our Order from what we have done here. Amen.

### **Delegates:**

Amen.

### **Provincial President:**

I now declare this session of the British Columbia Provincial Aerie closed.

**~ GAVEL closes the session ~**



## **The Ritual of the British Columbia Provincial Aerie**

“People Helping People” since 1898

*The Provincial Conductor shall go to the station of the Provincial Vice-President, receive from him the Eagle, the emblem of our Order, and place the Eagle upon the pedestal, or other device prepared for it, at the side of the Altar opposite the side where the flag has been placed . The head of the Eagle shall be toward the station of the Provincial President. The Altar shall be flanked by the Flag on the one side and the Eagle on the other. The Flag should hang free The Altar shall hold only the Bible. The Eagle shall stand by itself. Thus, the Flag, the open Bible, and the Eagle will occupy separate places of dignity and honour in the order named. During the ceremony a patriotic air should be played.*

**Provincial Conductor:**

This is the Eagle — the emblem of our Order. From its beak in balance hang the scales of Justice ready to weigh impartially the merits of every cause. The open sweep of its mighty wings shows strength of purpose to go forth at any moment to the defense of the dearest principle of this Fraternity — Equality.

**Provincial President:**

Provincial Conductor,

*The Provincial Conductor gives the salutation sign.*

what is the motto of our Order?

**Provincial Conductor:**

If I cannot speak well of an Eagle, I will not speak ill of him.

*The Provincial conductor shall return to his place.*

**Provincial President:**

I now declare The British Columbia Provincial Aerie ready to consider such matters as should rightly come before it.

~ GAVEL seats the Aerie ~

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**ORDER OF BUSINESS**  
*The Order of Business shall be as adopted by the delegates assembled.*  
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**Provincial President:**

Provincial Conductor,

*The Provincial Conductor gives the salutation sign.*

attend the Flag!

*The Provincial Conductor shall go to the station of the Junior Past Provincial President and, receiving from him the Flag, place it upon the pedestal or other device prepared for it. The procedure shall be the same as that required of Local Aeries. During this part of the ceremony a patriotic air should be played.*

**Provincial President:**

The Aerie will salute the Flag.

**Provincial Conductor:**

This is our Flag. Above it, during the busy day and in the silence of the night, is a sentinel -- the Spirit of Liberty -- always on duty, guarding the honour of the Nation and the happiness of the home.

**Provincial President:**

Provincial Conductor,

*The Provincial Conductor gives the salutation sign.*

you will lay the Bible upon the Altar.

*The Provincial Conductor shall go to the station of the Provincial Chaplain, receive from him the Bible and place it, opened, upon the Altar. During this part of the ceremony a religious air should be played.*

**Provincial Conductor:**

This is the Bible. Its pages contain the wisdom of the ages, and its teachings are founded on the everlasting laws of Truth.

**Provincial President:**

Provincial Conductor,

*The Provincial Conductor gives the salutation sign.*

attend the Emblem!

**PROVINCIAL AERIE RITUAL**

*Also for State, District or Regional Aeries. The officers will make appropriate substitution of words. The placing of stations, with the exception of the Altar, shall be left to the judgment of the Provincial President of the Provincial Aerie. The Altar however, must be set in some conspicuous spot, either on the floor of the hall or on the stage. The signs, the Flag, the Bible, and the Eagle, shall be utilized the same as in Local Aeries.*

**OPENING CEREMONY**

*The officers or the Provincial Aerie shall wear the regalia prescribed for corresponding officers of a Local Aerie. Such regalia shall be adjusted immediately after the officers take their places. The Provincial President shall stand throughout the Opening Ceremony.*

**Provincial President:**

The delegates will be in order.

Brother officers, take your places.

Provincial Inside Guard,

*The Inside Guard rises and gives the salutation sign.*

The British Columbia Provincial Aerie is about to open a business session. You will please notify all accredited delegates to sit with us.

*The Provincial Inside Guard will carry out these instructions, and, returning to his station, will say:*

**Provincial Inside Guard:**

Your instructions have been obeyed.

~ GAVEL calls up the Aerie ~

**Provincial President:**

Provincial Chaplain,

*The Provincial Chaplain gives the salutation sign.*

lead us in prayer.

*The Chaplain shall make his way to the Altar and say:*

**Provincial Chaplain:**

Our Father, we ask that our deliberations be marked by an earnestness that will exclude every selfish thought; and that as delegates we shall at all times do that which is best for this Fraternity so that the sum of our efforts will advance the happiness of mankind everywhere and be wholly acceptable unto Thee. Amen.

**Delegates:**

Amen.

~ GAVEL seats the Aerie ~

**Provincial President:**

Junior Past Provincial President,

*The Junior Past Provincial President rises and gives the salutation sign. He shall remain standing until the Provincial President seats the Aerie.*

what are your duties as senior officer of the Provincial Aerie?

**Junior Past Provincial President:**

To guard the right of each member to be heard when he is entitled to the floor, and to raise promptly a point of order if anyone in speech or in debate deliberately ignores his fraternal obligation. In this way, I can best exemplify the spirit of Liberty.

**Provincial President:**

Provincial Vice-President,

*The Provincial Vice-President, rises and gives the salutation sign. He shall remain standing until the Provincial President seats the Aerie.*

what are your duties?

**Provincial Vice President:**

To aid you in maintaining order; to preside over this body during your absence; and to impress upon these delegates that anything of lasting value must conform to the eternal laws of Truth.

**Provincial President:**

Provincial Chaplain,

*The Provincial Chaplain rises and gives the salutation sign. He shall remain standing until the Provincial President seats the Aerie.*

what are your duties?

**Provincial Chaplain:**

To show by word and act that strength will be added to our deliberation if we observe the eternal principle of Justice.

**Provincial President:**

Provincial Conductor,

*The Provincial Conductor rises and gives the salutation sign. He shall remain standing until the Provincial President seats the Aerie.*

What cardinal principle of our Order does my station symbolize?

**Provincial Conductor:**

Equality.

**Provincial President:**

As presiding officer of this Provincial Aerie, I shall try to treat each delegate fairly, and use as impartially as I can, the powers vested in me. I promise to take into consideration the fact that the honest intention of each one of you, rather than the eloquent words of the few, is the guiding influence by which we should direct our proceedings.

~ GAVEL calls up the Aerie ~