



Graham J. Wrigley
GRAND MASTER



25th August 2020

Dear Brethren

As indicated in my message at the end of last week, and following the Government's announcement yesterday, I have reassessed my decision to close the Lodges.

Obviously no Lodge meetings can be held if your Lodge is situated in a region at Alert Levels 3 and 4. However, effective from Wednesday August 26, you can hold a Lodge meeting if your Lodge is situated in a region at Alert Level 1 or 2. But only if you feel you can do so safely. This decision has been taken after careful consideration. I have been at pains to balance the very real safety concerns that exist because of Covid-19 with the importance of opening Lodges and allowing Brethren to attend meetings where possible.

To assist Lodges that can open, and to ensure the continued wellbeing of those Brethren, I have been working closely with the President, Deputy Grand Master and National Office to update our Policy and Guidelines. These can be found by clicking on the link www.freemasonsNZ.org/covid-19

When reopening a Lodge, it is important these Guidelines are met. Lodges must also operate within the current Government restrictions and guidelines. Hence the decision that Lodges in No 2 District Auckland and District No 5 Counties-Hauraki, which remain at Level 3, will have to remain closed and can only reopen when they are fully at Level 2.

The Guidelines we have prepared, and updated flowcharts, have been carefully designed to guide you through the process of opening, based on the alert level applicable to the location of your Lodge. Notwithstanding the Guidelines, we must all take personal responsibility to ensure our own safety and that of our fellow brethren. If a member is feeling unwell, they must not attend a Lodge meeting.

Stay safe, stay well and continue to be kind to each other.

Yours fraternally,

Graham J. Wrigley
Grand Master

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