



Algoma District Annual Update

Dear Brethern

The MasoniCh.I.P. program has completed its first year. There are many heart-warming stories, as well as, the knowledge that the parents or guardians of over 1700 children within the Algoma Masonic District now have the peace-of-mind their children have been registered and their vital information is available to them if the need arises.

Our Grand Lodge of Ontario has endorsed this community outreach program. In addition, our Grand Master, Allan J. Petrisor, has made the Child ID program a top priority in his tenure. He has also committed to make this endeavor a continuing program. Algoma District DDGM Kenneth Orr is also promoting the program on his official visits.

Yes, the Algoma Masonic District has made a very significant start. However, our mission has just begun. Your MasoniCh.I.P. Executive and volunteers is committed to growing our program even more in the months ahead. To assist, when starting the program, the Lakehead Shrine Club aided with an extremely generous donation of \$5000. However, only a few individual Brethern have taken the initiative and made generous contributions. Several Thunder Bay-area businesses have also made donations. We need more contributions from individual Brethern which will allow the MasoniCh.I.P. program to offer even more widespread community outreach.

Our expenses have been and will continue to be on-going. For example, start-up costs were approximately \$3500 for each of the six laptop computers, printers, digital cameras, and fingerprint systems totaling over \$22,000. To register a single child, the cost is over \$3.50 (in excess of \$6000 for the program-to-date costs). You can readily see from these figures, it is imperative we continue to actively solicit donations. Therefore, we would like to request that you consider making a personal contribution to the MasoniCh.I.P. program. (Masonic Foundation, Project # 2552) your tax-deductible donation will be appreciated.

Visit our website at: www.algomadistrict.ca and click on the MasoniCh.I.P logo for more detailed information.

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Gary Christian".

Gary Christian,
Fundraising Coordinator