



Columbian Squires of Ontario

THE SQUIRES COMPASS

February, March, April 2019

“Faith, Hope & Charity - Youth of Today”



2018-19 Ontario Provincial Board Officers

Provincial Father Prior:	Rev. Jacques Labelle
Provincial Chief Squire:	Matthew Ducharme
Provincial Deputy Chief Squire:	Dominik Jezierski
Provincial Notary:	Jeremy Lopez
Provincial Bursar:	Jens Dekker
Provincial Marshal:	Jonah Glajch
Provincial Sentry:	Justin Bornais
Past Provincial Chief Squire:	Jeremie Bornais
State Squires Director:	Narciso Rodrigues
Senior State Squires Advisor:	Ken McLean
State Squires Advisor:	Joe Bodnar
KofC State Board Liaison:	Bruce Poulin



Provincial Board News

Remember to email provincialchief@ontariosquires.com about a circle pillar event to be featured in the next issue of The Squires Compass!

As we are now well into the new year of 2019, I pray that this year will bring new goals and new achievements to you and your circle. Setting personal goals and circle goals are essential to the success of any circle and I would encourage you as we approach the second-half of the fraternal year, to evaluate your goals and commit to them once again. The Provincial Board last gathered at the District Deputy's Meeting at the beginning of December where we represented all Squires across Ontario. This event was successful and allowed the Provincial Board to grow together with the Knights of Columbus. The next gathering of the Provincial Board is in Mississauga, ON on February 1-3, 2019, where we will begin to plan our upcoming Squires Convention.

On April 26-28, 2019, the Provincial Board will be attending the 116th Knights of Columbus Ontario State Convention in Niagara Falls, ON. At this event, the KofC State Board for the next fraternal year will be elected. I am grateful to the current State Board for their ongoing support and guidance of the Provincial Board and the Columbian Squires. This is also the event where the Provincial Board hosts our annual raffle, our major fundraiser for the fraternal year.

On May 31-June 2, 2019, all circles are encouraged to gather in Burlington, ON for the **65th Columbian Squires Ontario Provincial Convention**. More information regarding schedules, registration, and hotel room booking will be emailed to all Chief Counsellors and Chief Squires in the coming months. I encourage you and your circle to attend this event as it is a great opportunity to grow in friendship and brotherhood with other Squires from across the province. This is also when elections are held for the Provincial Board for the next fraternal year. Please consider running for a position on the Provincial Board over the coming months. More information regarding this will be sent to all circles shortly.

As we begin Lent on March 6, 2019 with Ash Wednesday, I hope that this time is truly a period of renewal of your soul as you ponder the Passion of Our Lord Jesus. On behalf of the Provincial Board, I wish you a Happy Easter season! **Please continue to pray for the continued success of the Columbian Squires Program here in Ontario!** If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact myself by email (provincialchief@ontariosquires.com) or by phone (519-564-0376).

Esto Dignus - Be Worthy,

Matthew Ducharme
Ontario Provincial Chief Squire



The Service Pillar

This pillar employs all to play a role in their community and bring the Word of God to those in need, both inside and outside of the Church.

Lucas McGee
Provincial Service Committee Chairmen

FEBRUARY

GROCERY SHOPPING FOR SENIORS

Senior citizens often have some difficulty with mobility, and February's cold weather does little to motivate them to get out of the house. It is especially at this time of year, the middle of winter, that seniors have trouble getting out to purchase groceries. Circles can offer their service by assisting those who have trouble getting outside: members can put a sign-up sheet out in the church for a few weekends, and have seniors, or their family members, sign up for the groceries they need. Squires can then purchase these items and donate them to those who asked for them. Alternatively, Squires could perform the same act of service, but give much-needed groceries to those in retirement homes: those who are capable of cooking, but not necessarily of purchasing the food for themselves.

MARCH

SANDWICHES FOR THE HOMELESS

While often focused on during the holiday season, the homeless are in need of help all year round, and because it falls just after Christmas and before Easter, March is often overlooked as a time of need for the less-fortunate. As an engaging day event, Circles could meet in the morning to make sandwiches or another simple lunch, and then walk throughout the streets of downtown in the afternoon, offering the prepared food to the homeless on the streets. Large and small Circles could easily participate in this event, which would take place during Lent, and is a great form of "almsgiving" for the season.

APRIL

EASTER EYEGLASS DRIVE

Easter falls in April this year, and over the weekends leading up to the celebration, Circles often host a "drive" as a part of the almsgiving done during Lent. Over three weekends or so, Squires would be present after each Mass to accept any donation for an "Eyeglasses Drive," a collection for old glasses. The parishioners' donations can be given to a local charity that accepts used glasses, and the organization will ensure the donations reach people who cannot afford their own corrective lenses.



The Circle Pillar

This pillar focuses on unity within the circle. Events in this pillar are designed to encourage fraternity, brotherhood, and most of all, be fun.

Aiden D'Souza
Provincial Circle Committee Chairmen

FEBRUARY SPORTS DAY

A sports tournament is a great way to bond and become closer as a circle. Creating teams and playing sports not only increases the relationship between squires but the overall morale as well. Decide with your circle if it will be a single sport tournament or a mix of events ranging from basketball to hockey. If your circle does not have access to a gym or some area and there is snow to deal with, add in a twist to your sports and make it playable in the snow! For example snow football is a great sport to play and all you need is a football and an open field.

MARCH POTLUCK

A potluck is a great way to socialize and spend a weekend. You can choose to have games and other events at the potluck as well and can make the overall experience extremely fun. To add in a twist and get to know the different cultures in your circle, you may even choose to request that squires bring dishes based on their culture or what they eat at home. A potluck can be a great way to get to know others, especially those you do not normally talk too to get to know them better!

APRIL LASER TAG

Another fun circle idea would be to have a fun laser tag event. What better way to spend an evening then making teams and fighting for victory. Laser tag is a fun way to socialize while even being a little competitive. Save money each month as a circle and use it for an evening of fun and competition, not to mention bragging rights for the winning team!



The Membership Pillar

This pillar places importance on recruiting new Squires to maintain the life of the circle. It is vital to recruit young members to replace the old.

Brennan Meloche

Provincial Membership Committee Chairmen

FEBRUARY

HOCKEY NIGHT

Host a hockey game at your local ice rink! Rent out the ice rink and invite everyone to come out and play hockey with the Squires. Get some hot chocolate from Tim Hortons, or better yet, have everyone go to a Counsellor's house for hot chocolate and a movie. Make sure to put up posters at your local Catholic school.

MARCH

PARISH BREAKFAST

Talk to your parish priest about hosting a breakfast for all the parishioners to enjoy. Organize a group of Squires and a few Counselors to come to the church hall a few hours before Mass, and cook eggs, bacon, sausage, and make some toast and juice for a simple yet nice breakfast. Set up a table with information about the Squire Program so that people who have questions can come take a look.

APRIL

ROSARY NIGHT

For the month of March, have your circle host a Rosary night open to friends and family. Invite a priest and ask him to lead meditations on the mysteries of the Rosary. Ask your local parish pastor if you can have a few minutes before Mass and announce your Rosary night to the parishioners. It's a great way to get together as Squires and to show your parish what your circle is up to.



The Spiritual Pillar

This pillar is the core of the Squires, and it is through this that we deepen our relationship with Christ, represented by the letter “C” in our logo.

Nigel Santamaria
Provincial Spiritual Committee Chairmen

FEBRUARY CARE PACKAGES

The virtue for the month of february is generosity. Why not give back to the community by feeding the less fortunate and handing out care packages. Instead of having the Squires participate, invite families and friends to join your circle. It’s a great experience and a helpful reminder of how blessed and fortunate we really are!

MARCH DAY OF CONFESSIONS

The virtue for the month of March is forgiveness. All the Squires can meet up one day and go to your local church for a day of confession. Pair this with a Lenten pretzel baking day, and you can prepare your hearts for Jesus’ Resurrection while learning to bake pretzels with your fellow Squires and Counsellors!

APRIL GUEST SPEAKER

In April, the Squires should invite a guest speaker. A priest could come in and give a talk about vocations and how important it is to pray and think about what God wants you to do in your life. Discerning your vocation isn’t just about whether you should become a priest, it is about God’s plan for your life. Whether you are called to religious, single, or married life, having a priest give a short talk will be helpful for all the Squires and Counsellors.