



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 11 MARCH 2024

Seven Wardens Provide Update on Ritual Review

The Corporation of the Seven Wardens launched a review of the Ritual of the Calling of an Engineer in February 2022. For further background on the Ritual Review process please see the first and second communiques, dated November 21, 2022 and April 4, 2023.

The Ritual Review Committee has been meeting regularly since February 2022 to move forward with its mandate “to make the Ritual meaningful and inclusive for all candidates”. The Committee wishes to thank all internal and external stakeholders for continued input to the review process.

Feedback from stakeholders overwhelmingly support the need for change. Four primary options for the Ritual were formulated:

- Continue to use the modified (interim) version
- Make further refinements to address additional concerns
- Keep the best elements of the traditional Ritual and embed them in a modernized ceremony
- Maintain the purpose and intent but develop a completely modernized ceremony

In June 2023, a Plenary meeting in St. John’s, NL, was attended by over sixty wardens representing almost all Camps across Canada as well as wardens of the Corporation. They reviewed the work of the Ritual Review Committee to date and gave feedback on the options developed.

After considering all feedback, the Corporation has decided that the third option - to keep the best elements of the traditional ritual and embed them in a modernized ceremony - is the best way forward.

A new framework for the ceremony has been developed which keeps traditional elements like the Obligation and the presentation of the rings, and provides for updated text emphasizing the history of the ceremony, the values being promoted, and their application to modern engineering. A short list of potential authors for the new text has been prepared and preliminary contact has been made with some authors. The committee is striving to involve a variety of Canadian voices in preparing the new ceremony. It is envisaged that one additional author will be required to tie the old and new text together and make sure the ceremony is cohesive.

In January 2024, a new Advisory Panel was selected to provide guidance to the Ritual Review Committee, including the selection of authors and to review new ceremony text. Members of the panel were selected to represent a range of external stakeholders and diverse viewpoints.

Next steps for the committee are to finalize the selection of authors and review their text as it is submitted.

...2





The Ritual of the Calling of an Engineer was instituted with the simple end of directing the engineering graduates towards a consciousness of the engineering profession and its significance, and indicating to experienced engineers their responsibilities in receiving, welcoming and supporting the engineering graduates in their beginnings. The Corporation wishes that the outcome of the Committee's work will honour the integrity of the Ritual to ensure that it continues to be relevant and enduring for the next 100 years.

The Corporation of the Seven Wardens Inc. is a not-for-profit Canadian Corporation, managed by volunteers, whose purpose is to administer and regulate the use of "The Ritual of the Calling of an Engineer". Local groups, or Camps, across Canada are responsible for the delivery of the Ritual to candidates.

###

