



Nomination for election as a Masonic member of the Commercial Council April 2025

Introduction

The Commercial Council is charged with the responsibility for the preservation and optimum utilisation of all real property, investments, commercial interests, corporate governance and finances of Grand Lodge. It is also charged with ensuring that Freemasons Victoria conforms to all relevant laws and regulations.

The Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master may attend, observe and address any meeting of the Commercial Council, as non-voting members.

A member of the Commercial Council cannot also be a member of the Masonic Council simultaneously.

There are currently two vacancies for Masonic members of the Commercial Council, for a three year term commencing January 2026.

Expectations of Commercial Council Members

Nominees for membership of the Commercial Council must be able to demonstrate their commitment to:

Duty of care

- By acting impartially, in good faith and with reasonable care and diligence.
- Act in a manner consistent with Masonic values and in accordance with the Book of Constitutions, as amended, from time to time.
- Regular attendance at meetings of the Commercial Council.
- Having the experience and knowledge to meaningfully contribute to the timely and appropriate resolutions of the Council.

Duty of loyalty

- Ensure that conflicts of interests (real or perceived) are recognised, disclosed and managed appropriately in the interests of Freemasons Victoria.
- Ensure that their position or information they obtain is not improperly used.
- Ensure transparency in, and disclosure of, decision making.

Duty of obedience

- To ensure that Freemasons Victoria is continuously compliant with its internal policies and obeys applicable laws and regulations.

Skills and Experience

Masonic

Nominees for election to the Commercial Council

- must have an extensive understanding of the needs and requirements of a member-based fraternal organisation, and a familiarity with the operations of Freemasons Victoria, including a detailed knowledge of its Book of Constitutions and organisational policies and procedures.
- Demonstrate experience in and service to Freemasonry.
- Must have held the rank of at least Master Mason within a Lodge for a minimum period of five consecutive years immediately prior to nominating.

Board level and executive management experience

Nominees for the Commercial Council must demonstrate board level or executive experience in one or more of the following areas:

Financial Expertise

- Commercial and Financial Management experience at a senior level and experience in Governance
- Strategic financial planning and operations.

- Appreciation of Management accounting and reporting, Project accounting and reporting, and financial statements reporting in accordance with accounting standards.
- Experience in Investment / funds management.
- Experience in financial risk / return decision making.
- Experience in financial policy formulation including delegations of authority.

Property Expertise

- Strategic property portfolio planning.
- Business case development for property projects
- Oversight of large and/or complex property acquisitions / constructions projects
- Project management and project reporting.
- Measuring benefits and outcomes of property projects
- Oversight of contract and probity arrangements.
- Experience in Property and leasing management, Property maintenance management, and Property financing arrangements.

Additional Considerations

Nominees for election must:

- Have his nomination endorsed by a resolution of a lodge of which he is a subscribing member by a majority of members in attendance at the meeting.
- Not be disqualified from managing a corporation under law.

Nominations must include:

- Nomination Form. Duly signed and endorsed by the Lodge
- Cover letter with detail of how the candidate's skills and experience can add to the effective functioning of the Commercial Council and meet the objectives of Freemasonry. This will enable an independent review to ensure that the nominee meets the criteria for election.

- Curriculum Vitae - A fully prepared CV covering both Professional and Masonic achievements. This will enable an independent review to ensure that the nominee meets the criteria for election.
- A Precis - 300 – 500 words for publication. This will contain the essential elements from the cover letter and CV for information to the membership for voting purposes.
- Photograph – A recent passport size photograph must be enclosed

All nominations along with the necessary paperwork must be in the hands of the Grand Secretary by 30 May 2025.