



# THE TELEPHONE CITY CRYSTAL



	<p>January 2021 VOLUME 1 ISSUE 1</p>		<b>SPECIAL ISSUE</b>	
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## RENEW, RENEW, RENEW!!!!

**MEMBERSHIPS FOR 2021-2022!!! .....NOW ACCEPTING E-TRANSFERS!**

Send all e-transfer payments to: [brantfordlapandmin@gmail.com](mailto:brantfordlapandmin@gmail.com)

The Brantford Lapidary and Mineral Society, has decided it is time that we increase our annual membership. With increases in operating costs over the past couple years; we wanted to still be able to keep our membership cost low so anyone can join our club. Keeping that in mind the new membership fees are as follows:

Single \$30

Family \$35

We would like to offer our current members the opportunity to renew at the previous membership fees of \$20 for single and \$25 for family, as well as an extension on the due date this year. Please send in all renewals by March 1<sup>st</sup> to take advantage of the previous fees. Any received after March 1<sup>st</sup> will be subject to the new fee.



## A Message from our President

As I write this Ontario is operating under a “state of emergency,” and we are under a complete “lockdown.” As a not for profit corporation, we are not able to conduct normal business or activities. The workshop is presently closed, and we cannot use any city facilities for meetings.

However the executive board of the society has held some meetings by teleconference, and we are trying to act in a prudent manner to ensure the survival of the society after the Covid crisis has passed. We plan to hold a gem and mineral show as soon as this is possible, as of course it is our principal source of revenue to conduct the affairs of the society. Thanks to the success of our shows and the fiscal policies of previous boards, we believe we have the reserves to survive this emergency.

At a recent meeting the board approved the following to supplant our resources:

- 1) An application for rent relief, provided to ‘not for profits’ in a recent government decision
- 2) Increase the annual dues to members (which are currently now due)
- 3) Remove the ‘Honorary Life Membership’ category of membership for the period of emergency, and ask them to instead pay the normal annual dues

This is a rather “hard sell,” when we are unable to hold monthly meetings, but we hope our members will support us during this emergency.

On a more positive note, Gerald Van Decker our Vice President has volunteered to explore the possibility of a teleconference meeting, if we can find a speaker willing and able to put on a lapidary or mineral program talk. If you have any suggestions, or could help with this project please contact Gerald so that we can provide you with a BLMS program in these difficult times. As soon as health regulations permit we will return to our normal meeting schedules, and also will reopen the workshop.

Ernest Edmonds  
President  
Brantford Lapidary & Mineral Society  
(a ‘not for profit’ Ontario corporation)



## A Message from the Show Chair

In 1964, the Brantford Lapidary & Mineral Society history began its humble beginnings in the small basement of George Huff. From its beginnings sprang what is now the successful BLMS Paris Gem and Mineral Show in 1972 now held at the present venue, the Paris Fair Grounds with over 30 vendors from Canada and the USA.

Our show is the BLMS annual gift to the rockhounds of Ontario, and we are grateful for the support we have always received from our communities. The BLMS takes parental pride in the economic/commercial benefit of our dealer and local suppliers, but we remain a local, volunteer based not for profit, earth science education focused group open for all comers.

We hoped and planned for the best during these difficult days of Covid-19, but find events had conspired to force us to the painful decision to call the 2020 show off and it would appear the same scenario for April 2021. We are focusing firstly to reschedule an alternate show in the late summer, or fall of 2021. The focus now is also to present our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary show at a higher level in 2022. The Covid-19 related risks make it impossible for the BLMS to put on even a shadow of our accustomed vibrant event. It makes more sense to conserve our resources and apply them towards a **blockbuster 2022 BLMS 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary Paris Gem & Mineral Show. We Promise to pull out all the stops to bring you an unparalleled group of eye popping fluorescent mineral exhibits, colourful minerals and gems from around the world and some special surprises to shake everyone out of their post Covid lethargy. "THE SHOW THAT GLOWS"**

As postscript, more importantly the BLMS does not want to be responsible for a single Covid-19 series illness. Our show is run by volunteers and many of us are in the high risk demographics as are many of our participants and attendees. Consulting closely with the Brant County Health Department, the good folks that run the Paris Fairgrounds, along with many of the active show participants it is very clear that applying the mandated Covid-19 protocols make perfect sense.

We wish to truly thank our dealers and show volunteers for their continued support for our BLMS organization and to say we are very, very grateful. Our mission is to ensure your experience with our club will not only meet but exceed your expectations.

Allan Hietapakka  
BLMS Show Chair





**WORKSHOP**

NOTICE: THE WORKSHOP IS CURRENTLY CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!!

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NOW ON TWITTER



[@BrantfordS](https://twitter.com/BrantfordS)

A PDF copy of the newsletter is posted also on the BL&MS Website.

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*UNTIL NEXT  
TIME.....  
Keep Hounding  
and stay safe!*

