

RESOLUTION of Archbishop J.V.Cleary Assembly 0857

OFFICIAL REGALIA OF THE 4th DEGREE OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

SUBJECT OF THE RESOLUTION: Re-instating the old regalia as the official uniform for the Canadian Assemblies of the 4th (Patriotic) Degree of the Knights of Columbus.

SUBMITTED BY: Archbishop J.V.Cleary Assembly **ASSEMBLY #:** 0857

Whereas, on August 1, 2017, at the Supreme Convention, the Knights of Columbus Board of Directors unanimously voted to adopt a new para-military style uniform for the 4th Degree. This new uniform includes a blue blazer, a Knights of Columbus tie, a black beret bearing the 4th Degree emblem, a white shirt and dark gray slacks.

Whereas, the jacket, shirt, tie, and beret of the new uniform resemble the current uniform worn by members of the Royal Canadian Legion and by a number of Regimental Associations of the Canadian Armed Forces and this new 4th Degree uniform will cause confusion and serve to discredit the 4th (Patriotic) Degree of the Knights of Columbus in Canada.

Whereas, the new uniform lacks decorum, presents a break from the nautical traditions of the 4th Degree and its para-military appearance will make it inappropriate for some Colour and Honour Guards inside a Church.

Whereas, the regular price of the new uniform was stated to be \$510.00 (U.S.) exclusive of shoes, gloves, sword, scabbard and baldric, plus the cost of measurements and shipping costs.

Whereas, the new uniform can only be purchased through one source.

Whereas, some Sir Knights and their families, particularly those with fixed incomes, have already made financial sacrifices in order to join the 4th Degree and purchase the old Regalia, and imposing an additional expense in excess of \$510.00 (U.S.) on them is unreasonable and adds to a financial hardship for some members.

Whereas, the Knights of Columbus Board of Directors, with minimal consultation with the general membership of the 4th Degree, originally stated that the old regalia could only be worn until June 30, 2018, which was later extended to June 30, 2019 due to production difficulties.

Whereas, the lack of acceptance from our existing membership will, after June 30, 2019 make it difficult for our Assembly to provide Colour and Honour Guards for Catholic functions, in particular at the funerals of members of the clergy and departed Sir Knights.

Whereas, many Sir Knights were looking forward to recruiting their sons, grandsons and great grandsons to follow in their footsteps by joining the 4th Degree and participating in Honour Guards.

Whereas, as an Assembly we have long had a tradition with valued sentiment of passing down Regalia and tuxedos from members who have passed away to new members, thus making it financially more inclusive to all fourth degree Knights to participate in Honour Guards.

Therefore be it resolved that the decision to change the uniform of the Canadian Assemblies of the 4th Degree of the Knights of Columbus be rescinded and the old regalia be re-instated as the official uniform of the Canadian Assemblies of the 4th Degree of the Knights of Columbus.

Therefore be it further resolved that Article 1, Section 1 in the Laws and Rules governing the Fourth Degree be reviewed and amended to be more inclusive of all inputs from the Vice Supreme Master's Districts within the Fourth Degree.

Scott Arnold FN, PGK

Faithful Navigator

Archbishop J.V.Cleary

Assembly # 0857