



Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc.
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Convention Report 2025

Greetings Brothers and Sisters

The past year has been one of the most fulfilling periods that I have had in my 4 decades with the Club. The International Board is a group of 12 very committed individuals, each with our own viewpoints and regional insights, but with one goal above all others – making this Club better. We may have spirited discussions over issues, but we never lose sight of the fact that we work for you, the almost 10,000 worldwide members that drive this organization.

Region 2 encompasses eastern Canada, from Ontario to Newfoundland. There are 40 chapters, with 850 chapter members and 19 MALs. Our two most distant chapters are over 3200 km apart. Without events such as the Atlantic Rally, it would be impossible to meet many members of the Region.

Since the 2024 Convention in Leipzig, Germany, I have attended all meetings of the Board either in person or remotely. We continue to deal with issues on an ongoing basis, and also to try to pre-empt issues before they occur.

This year, I am responsible for the Memorial House reservations. Did you know that the Red Knights have a house in Boylston, MA? You can stay there for a minimal fee, see some Red Knights history, have a BBQ on the deck and hang out. The House is available year-round to visiting Red Knights from around the world.

I have attended several Heaven One presentations, in Ontario, Quebec, as well as two in New York State (International Board members will cover each other's services in certain circumstances). Each of these presentations was well received, and until you have felt the appreciation of the fallen Knight's family and chapter members it's hard to understand. It's also a reminder to always submit your quarterly roster updates, to ensure that your members are entitled to not only this

honour, but also the free \$4000 Accidental Death benefit offered to North American Knights.

Ontario and Quebec Red Knights participated for the first time ever in the Canadian Fallen Firefighters Memorial weekend last September 6-8. We will be returning this year (Sept. 5-7) to once again provide a Guard of Honour at a special ceremony for the families of fallen Canadian firefighters. We are looking to grow our contingent for 2025, as we now march in the official parade as well.

Communications is the linchpin to growing and enjoying the Club. There have been numerous occasions where chapter members are not receiving timely info from their Executives. It is incumbent upon the folks running your chapter to check the official RKMC inbox on a regular basis. As well, Ontario will be running a pilot project to help promote events. More below.

The Ontario Association 6 Annual General Meeting was held June 14, and the Association now has two new leaders. This means new ideas! They will be leveraging technology to communicate across various platforms. Whatsapp is easy to use, and flexible. Perhaps you're a Facebook person. Maybe you do it all on Instagram. Their goal will be to inform all chapters about upcoming RKMC events. This is critical if we want to grow the Club. Look for more in the coming months.

Upcoming events - I'm looking forward to the 2025 Atlantic Rally in New Brunswick, the International Convention in Illinois, the CFFF Memorial in Ottawa, and next year's Convention in Melbourne Australia. In 2027, my home chapter (Ontario 1) is hosting the first ever International Convention at sea! Planning is well underway for this event as well. These and many other Red Knight events bring us together, to share our experiences, and deepen our bonds.

Whatever you ride, get out and ride. Wear your colours proudly. If you need a red or black RKMC vest, the Canadian supplier is in Toronto. These are made to order, not cheap, but very high quality. Our colours are our identity in the motorcycle world. We are blessed to have a respected calling. Honour your colours, and remember you are representing firefighters whenever you have them on.

Please know that I am always available by email at region2@redknightsmc.com , or by phone at 1-647-470-7562. If you're coming through Toronto, be sure to give me a call. I'd be happy to show you my fire station, grab a coffee or have a bite to eat. I'm always ready to talk Red Knights.

Stay safe, enjoy each day, and get out there on that bike!

I remain,
Loyal To Our Duty

Randy Smith
Red Knights International
Firefighters Motorcycle Club
Region 2 Director
Eastern Canada