



Victory

ROADS

Victory Riders Calgary NEWSLETTER

After five years...

# Drifter Don calls it a day as President

**“What this Club needs,” Drifter Don joked at the last Club meeting, “is more Past Presidents.”**

With that comment, he announced he will **not be running** again for **President** at the **Annual General Meeting** in **February**.

“It’s been a great **five years**,” he told the meeting. “I am very happy with the way the **Club** is right now. And I am happy with the **members** we have, except one or two; and you know who you are.”

Drifter took over the President position from **Kelly Cowan** in November 2019 after two years as Vice President. He has been **re-elected** by acclamation four times.

There were **challenges** at times,” he told the meeting. “Holding the Club together during the **Covid** pandemic was a big one.”

After the meeting, he said he was proud of the Club’s **accomplishments** and growth while he was at the helm. He listed the **expanded Executive**, the monthly **newsletter**, the new **website**,



*After five years at what he calls the pointy end of the ship, Drifter Don is stepping down as VRC President. A new leader will be elected in February.*

the Club patches and challenge coins, **Meet in the Middle**, and the introduction of the **High Miler** trophies as some of the additions in the club during his tenure.

“I would love to take credit for all that, but the truth is that those ideas and

many more came from the **members and the executive**. It was consensus in the Club that moved them forward.

Asked about a successor, he said, “I can think of **half a dozen people** in the Club who could do the job. They would put their **own spin** on the job; make it their Club; bring in new ideas and develop the existing good ones.”

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## It’s not too late...

# Get those odometer numbers in

The November VRC Breakfast Meeting November 24 was cut off for racking up kilometres for the 2024 riding season, but there is still time to submit those numbers for trophy consideration.

Get your numbers in to **Drifter Don** by or at the **December 15 lunch meeting**.

The **10K+ Club patches** and trophies will be presented at our **Vicmas!** celebration in January.



## Next Event

December Lunch  
Winkin’ Owl Pub  
December 15,  
Noon  
Social Meeting  
See Facebook EVENT

## Upcoming Rides & Events

**December Lunch Social Meeting**  
**Winkin' Owl Pub**  
**December 15 , Noon**  
**Ride to follow... (Kidding!)**

### Contacts

- President - Drifter Don  
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- Vice President - John B  
John660258@gmail.com
- Secretary - KD Berthelet  
KD@gmail.com
- Treasurer - James H.  
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- Road Captain positions open

## New members

**Victory Riders Calgary now has 628 members, according to our Facebook site.**

That number is down slightly because a number of fake accounts were blocked or removed.

**Scammers** are still among us, though. Don't fall for any **fake friend requests**. See the Scammer article in a recent issue of Victory ROADS on our website. Because of Facebook's screwed-up system, we can't stop them from joining, but we can stop them from posting and ban them when they try anything nasty.

**Welcome** to our new member, who appears to be real. Hope to see you on the road with us.

- **Adam Kilburn**



## Meet in the Middle plans underway

**The group organizing the 2025 Meet in the Middle event had its first meeting in November.**

The event plan is to build on the **Reynolds Museum's annual Ride To Reynolds** motorcycle day in August. The Reynolds organizers have given their approval to **Victory riders** to come together at their facility during the event.

The museum will cordon off an area for **Victory parking only** with signage and space to set up a tent and displays, if we choose.

The concept is to have Victory riders from **across the province** gather at the museum in **Wetaskiwin** for Meet in the Middle. **MITM** was held several times previously and attracted riders from **Edmonton, Calgary, Red Deer and smaller centres**. The event was usually a gathering, a ride and lunch.

The first meeting of the planning committee spit-balled ideas for the event. The organizing group currently consists of Victory Riders Calgary members **Randy H, Stephanie R, John B, Drifter Don, Darren W, Jamie McG and James H**. Additional members, particularly from other geographic areas will be brought in as the plan develops. Many have already pledged their support for the event to take place **August 9**.

One of the ideas tossed around was a display similar to what VRC did at **Two Wheel Sunday** in **Calgary** two years ago. In addition to a display of Victory artifacts and regalia, **every model** of Victory motorcycle ever made (except one) was on **display**. The bikes were tagged with the model, year and other information. The display became a **popular social gathering** area during the event.



**The Ride to Reynolds will officially be a Victory gathering in 2025.**



**Meet in the Middle riders hit the Bleriot ferry north of Drumheller.**

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## Drifter Don stepping down as President

As for his own plans, he said, "I'm not going anywhere. I'll just be **moving farther back** in the line of bikes on a ride. It'll give me a chance to do more photography and video on the rides and events. And, during meetings, I'll sit at the back and heckle."

He added, "I hope the new President lets me keep some of my **current duties**, like the newsletter and the website; those are the parts I really enjoy; but that's up to him or her."

Drifter said he would put together a kind of **job description** for the position. "That will allow the new President to assume or allocate parts of the job as

necessary," Drifter said. "We don't need anyone burning out here."

He added, "I think my major failing in the position was **not allocating** some of the activities to other Club members. That was likely a result of having to do a lot of the work in solitary through the pandemic. The next President will be **smarter** than that."

He thanked the current **Executive and Club members** for their support and their **hard work** during his tenure. "There wasn't one day or even a minute that I regretted taking this position," he said. "And I am excited to see where the **new leadership** goes with the Club."