



Victory ROADS

Victory Riders Calgary NEWSLETTER

Meet-In-The-Middle highlights Reynolds Ride



Victories of every make, model, colour and configuration decorated the Victory-only parking area at Meet-In-The-Middle/Ride to Reynolds August 9 in Wetaskiwin. Photo by Ruby White

Victories came from everywhere to Meet-In-The-Middle August 9.

Through the cooperation of the **Alberta Reynolds Museum** and its **Ride to Reynolds** event in Wetaskiwin, Victory motorcycles from all over the province gathered in their own corner, among the **1,200 motorcycles** that attended.

MITM was an annual event up until a couple of years ago, and the Ride To Reynolds seemed an ideal time to revive it. The R2R organizers liked the idea and quickly made arrangements for Victory to have its own, cordoned-off area in the parking lot. **Victory Riders Calgary**

took the lead in organizing the event and called on Victory riders in **Red Deer, Edmonton** and around Alberta to spread the word about the event.

Vince Aiello from **Cycle Works Calgary** contributed to the cause by donating its Victory **pop-up tent** and Victory table cover, making the display look very professional.

Drifter and **Treasurer Randy** went to Wetaskiwin the night before the event, Randy riding up and Drifter piloting his Jeep loaded with display materials. They were on site to set up at 8 am when the grounds opened. R2R

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Kaslo Kurves beats the weather

How often have we said we can't trust the weatherman? It happened again at Kaslo Kurves 2025, but this time for the better.

The annual three-day riding event in the spectacular **Kootenay Lakes** region, **August 15-18**, looked threatened early in the week with weather predictions of rain and

possible thunder storms. Not having a lick of sense, members **John B, Jamie, George, Ed, Drifter, Mike and Wayne** from Edmonton headed out Friday morning from Aldersyde under heavy-overcast skies. Target was the **Magnuson Hotel** in

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Next Events

Bikes & Bomber
August 23
- See Facebook EVENT

Breakfast Meeting
August 24
- See Facebook EVENT

Upcoming Rides & Events

August Breakfast Meeting
August 24, Red Crowns Pub
Ride to follow

Ride to Bikes & Bombers
August 23
See VRC Facebook Event

Contacts

- President - John B
President@VictoryRidersCalgary.com
- Vice President - Open
- Secretary - KD Berthelet
Secretary@VictoryRidersCalgary.com
- Treasurer - Randy H.
Treasurer@VictoryRidersCalgary.com
- Past President - DrifterDon
DrifterDon@gmail.com
- Ride Wranglers - Open

New members

Victory Riders Calgary now has 658 members, according to our Facebook site.

We had a whack of new members join recently, and most appear to be real people.

We had another fake "Victory garage" try to join; the fourth this month. It got binned and banned. Gatekeeper Joan is merciless.

Welcome to our new members:

- **Dustin Monson**
- **Todd Oldenburg**
- **Albert Melin**
- **Riz Vw**
- **Chico Sanchez**
- **Ryan Francis**



From Page 1... R2R becomes MITM for Victory

supplied **sign holders** and three large directional signs were placed to lead Victory riders to their own parking and display area.

The event started at 10 am and, unsurprisingly, members **Trevor and Crystal**, perennial MITM participants, were the first Victory to arrive (not counting Randy's which had a head start.) Each Victory rider who arrived was given a **wristband** to enter the museum for free and a commemorative **poker chip**, crafted by member **Joan** and her company **A Second Time**.

Because this was a Victory event, not a Calgary one, the chips had the Victory logo on one side and *Ride To Reynolds 2025* on the reverse. The bikes were also given tags so they could display the model, year and any modifications to the bike.

Victorys rolled in throughout the day with the **Calgary** being one of the larger groups. Because of the proximity to **Edmonton**, that city was well -represented among the **52 Victorys** that rolled through the parking area during the event. Several other Victorys chose the general parking area, often because they rode in with friends on non-Victory bikes. We don't judge, unless it's a **Victory Judge**.

Throughout the day, the Victory area was busy with riders exchanging **information** and ideas on **parts, performance, mods and accessories**. The **Club** gained some new members too.

Thanks to **Randy, John B. Stephanie, Jamie, Joan, James H, Drifter** and other Club members for their work in planning and carrying out the event. And to **Ed, Wes and others** for teardown, especially **Doug** who found the magic buttons to collapse the tent. Thanks also to **Lorne and Dean** in Edmonton and many other Victory riders around the province who helped spread the word about the event.

Got some ideas for **next year's Meet-In-The-Middle**?

See **John B's** assessment of the museum on **Page 6**.



Treasurer Randy was up early to set up the Victory tent and display table



Some spectacular Victorys like this Ness Vision (No. 139) showed up at Meet-In-The-Middle. Photo by Ruby White



More than 1,200 bikes of all makes rolled into the Ride to Reynolds.



Victory's corner of the parking lot generated a lot of interest and visits.

From Page 1...

Kaslo Kurves: "Will ride for food."

Creston, B.C., perennial home for **Kaslo Kurves**.

Route was Highway 2 to **Nanton** where the decision was made to go over the Nanton Pass to **Chain Lakes** as the weather looked just



Magnuson Hotel in Creston was again ride central for the Kaslo Kurves event.

as threatening in any direction. By the time they hit the gas stop at the Co-op in **Coleman** (avoiding the chaos at the Shell station,) the sky had brightened considerably and when they crossed the B.C. border, a



Evenings were spent lounging outside the hotel rooms, bike talk mostly.

large **orange fireball** was putting in an occasional appearance in the sky among the clouds. Could it be that the weather guessers were actually wrong?



The boys, out to Thai one on.

Checking into the Magnuson, the group found **Kevin and Holly** were already moved in. First item on the agenda was, of course, food. The majority of the group headed for **Busaba Thai** in downtown Creston while other sought less-challenging cuisine. The first evening ended with **stories and conversation** in the chairs in front of the motel rooms.

Saturday's plan was also food-related. Ride to the legendary **Mountain Barn** for breakfast, and then tackle the curves of Highway 31 to Kaslo for lunch.

The Mountain Barn was as good as always and some of the group were introduced to the **Mennonite ladies'** famous biscuits and gravy. And is it proper to have breakfast dessert? At the Mountain Barn it is, as several pieces of **pie** disappeared from the display cooler.

It had rained overnight, so **Highway 31** on the west side of Kootenay Lake was wet and some judiciousness was applied to the twists and turns going up to the **Crawford Bay** ferry. At the ferry terminal, the group was told it had just missed one sailing and because the second ferry was not operating, there would be an hour-and-20-minute wait. Most headed for the coffee shop, others milled around the bikes or made a nuisance of themselves. Some of the bike milling resulted in one member (who shall remain nameless) discovering that **whitewalls** shouldn't be found on the centre of the tire tread. A few phone calls resulted in locating a suitable tire (**Metzler 888 Radial**) at a shop in **Nelson**. The plan was made for that rider and an escort to leave the group when the ferry arrived in **Balfour** and ride gingerly to Nelson for the tire swap.

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The Prez tackles an oversize burger at the lunch stop in Jaffray, B.C., He managed to dispatch it without wearing it.



Jamie McG tasted Mountain Barn biscuits and gravy for the first time...



And he really, really liked it.

From Page 3.. Kaslo Kurves

The rest of the group headed north of Highway 31, enjoying the dry pavement, spectacular scenery and legendary **curvy roads**.



"Now you just set those biscuits and gravy down right here," Ed tells the Mountain Barn waitress. Kevin looks on approvingly.

The group no sooner landed in **Kaslo**, parking in front of the Kaslo Hotel, when Jamie, who seems to attract interesting people, was accosted by the Kaslo equivalent of a lot lizard. He can tell you the story, but there were three generations involved, the senior of whom appeared to have left her teeth at home. This led to speculation about a **"gummy,"** whatever that is.

Lunch was at the **Doghhouse**, which provided exceedingly good brisket sandwiches and other



Wayne records the spectacular view off the bow of the MV Osprey as it churns across Kootenay Lake from Crawford Bay to Balfour, the wet part of Highway 31.



Generations of friendly locals greeted Jamie when the club rolled into Kaslo.

offerings, courtesy of the adjacent and co-owned butcher shop. A great place to stop for lunch with an **outdoor patio** that was more like a parade float.

After some discussion, the group decided to head back down Highway 31 and enjoy those **twisties** again, but this time head into Nelson where it might catch up with the tire chasers.

By the time the group got to Nelson, the re-tirers were already gone, so it headed down Highway 6 to the **Salmo-Creston highway**

and back to the hotel in Creston on Highway 3. Some of the group headed to **Tim's Fish & Chips** for dinner (reporting it wasn't as good as in the past, except **Drifter** who had halibut and raved, much to everyone else's annoyance.)

Saturday night was again **conversation and libations** at the motel, along with new-tire inspection. Again, more talk about making KK a **four-day event** next year.

Sunday, as in the past, saw some leave early, some stay and some leave later. One group – **John B, Mike, Drifter, Wayne and Jamie** – headed home via Highway 3 in glorious sunshine, wrapping up another Kaslo Kurves. Take that, **weatherman**.



Crowsnest Lake sparkled in the sun on the ride home from Kaslo Kurves.



It had been raining, but when our group boarded the ferry, it rained no more.



One piece of bad news coming out of Meet-In-The-Middle was Tim D's close encounter with a vehicle in Drumheller as he was on his way home from the event. Tim clipped the rear of a Jeep, ripping open a hole in the fairing of his new Cross Country. Some duct tape from a nearby hardware store got the Cross Country home. Now Tim is looking for a replacement or repair fairing.



Member JP Cyr is selling his 2007 Victory Hammer and is offering it to club members first. He is asking \$3,100, but is willing to knock \$1,000 off if someone from the Club takes it this weekend. Message him on Facebook for details. 16,300 kms on the bike. It also comes with a Victory jacket.

2025 Ride & Event Schedule

August slams shut with two events - Bikes & Bombers and the August breakfast meeting. September events will be discussed at the breakfast meeting on August 24, as will the ride following the meeting at Red Crowns Pub, 523 Woodpark Blvd SW, Calgary.

Victory Riders Calgary Ride & Event Schedule 2025

Colour Code:		
GREEN - VRC Events		
YELLOW - VRC Participation or Interest		
BLUE - Victory National/Regional		
26-Jan	VRC Meeting/ Brunch	Winkin' Owl Pub
January 31 - Feb 02	Calgary Motorcycle Show	Expo Centre
23-Feb	VRC Breakfast Meeting/AGM	NEW LOCATION: Red Crowns Pub, 523 Woodpark Blvd. SW
23-Mar	CVMG Swap Meet	Red Deer
30-Mar	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
April 3-7	Arizona Bike Week	Scottsdale
April 10-13	Edmonton Motorcycle Show	Edmonton YEGmotorcycleshow.com
April 25-28	Bull Head (Laughlin) River Run	Laughlin, Nevada (mayheminfo.com)
April 25-28	Route 66 Bike Week	Arizona
27-Apr	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
May	Awareness Ride	Calgary
03-May	Hoodoo Voodoo Blessing of the Bikes	Drumheller
19-May	Victoria Day Ride	
25-May	VRC Breakfast Meeting and Ride	Red Crowns Pub
June	CJAY Kids Ride	Big Sky BBQ
01-Jun	Two Wheel Sunday	Calgary
June 13-16	IFK Kickstart Show	Calgary
07-Jun	Honour Ride	Blackfoot Motor Inn
14-Jun	Ride for Dad	Ralph's Motorsports, Balzac
June	Kids Cancer Care Motorcycle Ride	Calgary/Kootenays
21-Jun	For The Love of Motorcycles	Blackjacks Roadhouse, Nisku
29-Jun	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
July	Jasper Parkway Overnighter	
July 11-13	Bonedigger Bike Bash	Drumheller
July	ECL Choppers For Charity Hospice Ride	TBA
July 18 - 26	Two Hills Bike Week	Two Hills, Alberta
July 16 - 20	Western Canada IMRG Celebration	Kimberley, B.C.
July 25 - 27	CVMG Ponoka Rally	Ponoka, AB
27-Jul	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
July	VMC Regional Rally	TBD
Aug 01 - 10	Sturgis Rally	Sturgis, South Dakota
August	Kaslo Kurves	
09-Aug	Meet in the Middle/Ride to Reynolds	Wetaskiwin
August	Make-A-Wish Motorcycle Ride	Calgary/Highway 40/Cochrane
August	Bikes & Bombers	Bomber Command Museum, Nanton
23-Aug	12 Stop Ride for Recovery, Calgary	Calgary
24-Aug	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
01-Sep	Labour Day Ride	TBD
September	Victory Motorcycle Club National Rally	TBD
September	Calgary Motorcycle Toy Run	Calgary
September	Nanton Bomber Night Start Up	Bomber Command Museum, Nanton
21-Sep	VRC Meeting/Fall Colours Ride	Highway 40 - South to North
September	Victory Gathering	TBD
26-Oct	VRC Meeting/Ride Weather Permitting	Red Crowns Pub
October	CVMG Fall Swap Meet	Red Deer
23-Nov	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
December	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
Weekly		
	Leader's Ride	Ride Leaders' Call on time, place and destination
	Drifter's Ride	Lunch or "Coffee" Ride during the week
	Tuesday Bike Night	Twin Cities Saloon, Longview
	OBW Wednesday Bike Night	Big Rock Brewery, Calgary
	CVMG Vintage Bike Night	Thursdays, A&W Drive In, 16th Ave and 4th St. NW

Club Patches

Large - \$30
Small - \$5
Both - \$35
Coins - \$15



Finding the Reynolds' hidden treasures

By John B
President

Ride to Reynolds is one of the events I look forward to every year and this year was no exception. Aug 9, 2025, I had the opportunity to lead a group of riders along the **QEII** from **Calgary to Wetaskiwin** and the **Reynolds Museum**.

The museum is a showcase of **mechanical history** and no matter how many times I go, there is something new to see. The displays in the museum are roughly **10 per cent** of what they have available.

They offer tours of their **warehouse** (one of the warehouses) for a **modest fee**. In past visits, I always wanted to do the warehouse tour, but there was **never enough time** after viewing the museum.

Between visiting with an old friend, new friends, and another planned event, this year was looking to be no different. To my surprise, Club member **Stephanie** scored us a couple spots in one of the last groups to **tour** the warehouse.

Upon entering we were given a brief guided tour including the safety **precautions** which seemed



Less than 10 per cent of the museum's collection is on display in the main museum. There's interesting stuff in the museum's warehouses.



The search for hidden treasures always starts with a road trip. President John B led the Calgary contingent to MITM/R2R with a stop at Destination Cycles in Airdrie and another at the Alberta Sports Museum outside Red Deer.

a little off. Kind of like a, "If you fall down the stairs, don't let your belt buckle or buttons scratch the collections" warning.

The entire space was **filled** with vehicles from what I expect to be every decade of the 20th century; but our focus of the tour, of course, was **motorcycles**.

We climbed the stairs to the upper level where we were met by a



John B's favourite, the 1942 British Excelsior Welbike. A failure as a battlefield tool, it later found a use as an airfield scooter.

Honda Rune, serial number **001**.

The entire mezzanine was full of bikes, snowmobiles and equipment. Our guide showcased a few of the bikes, like the Rune, the oldest running bike (a **1910 Excelsior**) and, my personal favourite, a **1942 British Excelsior Welbike**. A whopping **98cc and 1.5 HP** of pure two-stroke power coming in at a dry weight of **71 lbs**.

The group was then set **free to wander** throughout the collection taking pictures; and there are no velvet ropes.

The entire tour lasts about **30 minutes** and we were not rushed. No matter what your interests are, I think anyone would be **impressed** by the collection.



A restored 1910 Henderson Excelsior (top) and a barn-find 1915 Henderson.



Jasper claws its way back from wildfire

When Victory Riders left Jasper on their annual Parkway Overnighter last year, they started picking up reports of wildfires in the area.

By the time the week was out, one-third of the town of Jasper was in ashes and burned-out forests stretched 30 kilometres down Highway 93.

Several lightning-caused fires started near Mount Kerkeslin Campground and high winds combined the fires and drove them north to the townsite.

Greenery is starting to grow in the fire scar; and in the townsite rubble has been mostly cleared and replacement construction started.

On the untouched side of town, it's tourism business as usual.



Gas station, Jasper, 2024



Same gas station, Jasper, 2025

Club benefits from friends

Cycle Works Calgary, and its manager Vince Aiello in particular have long been supporters of Victory Riders Calgary and Victory bikes in general.

Approached about loaning the club its **Victory-branded pop-up tent** and table cover, Vince readily agreed.

The tent was the **centrepiece** of **Meet-In-The-Middle** at Ride To Reynolds this year and when the event was over, Vince **donated** the tent to the Club. He has previously donated Victory items to the club for **fundraising** including banners, bandanas and limited-edition prints.

The tent will make a great addition to our Victory regalia,

This week, **Past President Ronny** donated about 10 metres of **Victory**



Cycle Works Calgary donated its Victory-branded pop-up tent to the Club..

pennant banner to the Club. It will make a perfect fringe for our tents.

The club thanks both these **friends** for their ongoing support of the Club and helping to keep the **Victory** name front and centre in the **motorcycling community**.



Past Prez Ronny donated about 10 metres of Victory pennant banner to the Club. The two-sided banner will work well with the Club's new Victory tent.



Victory riders who arrived at the Alberta Reynolds Museum for Meet-In-The-Middle, were presented with commemorative poker chips, a souvenir of the day. Joan's company A Second Time, created the chips for the event and also for Kaslo Kurves the following weekend. The chips surprised and pleased the participants at both events. Poker chips have become desired in the motorcycling community.