



Victory

ROADS
Victory Riders Calgary NEWSLETTER

Victory Riders loses founding member

James Hamling, a founder of Victory Riders Calgary and the Club's first Life Member, has died.

James lost a lengthy and courageous battle with cancer on February 10.

James was more than a **founder** of our Club; he was a foundation. He was there at the Club's formation 15 years ago and was a strong advocate and supporter for the Club and Victory motorcycles since he bought his first, a **Jackpot**, in 2006.

Not long after, he was able to marry his love of Victorys with his lengthy career in sales. He went to work at **Cycle Works Calgary**, selling Victorys and later Indian motorcycles.

His support of the Club was **unwavering**, eventually becoming **Treasurer** in 2013, a post he held for 11 years until his failing health caused him to hand over the books to our current treasurer, Randy.

Even in his health battles, James **stayed close** with the Club, attending meetings and events when he could and offering advice and counsel.



James Hamling, April 18, 1956 — February 10, 2026

"You guys were everything to him," his son Nick said. "It broke his heart to park his bike."

There will be a Celebration of Life for James at, appropriately, Cycle Works Calgary on Saturday, February 28. The time is to be determined.

Victory Riders Calgary's deepest **condolences** go out to James' partner **Lisa**, his sons **Nick** and **Matthew** and his extended family.

To help the family with those

unexpected out-of-pocket expenses, the Club is doing a **fund-raiser**.

In addition to a **Club donation**, members who were close to James are encouraged to help as they can.

Donations can be e-transferred to the Club at **Treasurer@VictoryRidersCalgary.com**. Include a note that the donation is "For James."

There will also be a donation jar at the breakfast meeting on February 22.

Next Events

February Lunch Meeting & AGM

February 22, Noon
Red Crowns Pub

BS & Beer

Woodie & Laura's
Feb 21 - see Page 4

Upcoming Rides & Events

February LUNCH & Annual General Meeting
 Noon, February 22, Red Crowns Pub
 Election of 2026 officers

BS & Beer
 February 21
 Laura & Woodie's garage
 See Page 4

Contacts

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New members

Victory Riders Calgary now has 668 members, according to our Facebook site.

Gatekeeper Joan is merciless in sniffing out and booting fake members, bots and scammers. Six passed muster this month, including two familiar names.

Welcome to our new members:

- Doug Wood
- Nick Hamling
- Victory Motorcycles of Calgary
- Philip Murphy
- Parth Mehndiratta
- Tony Riney



VRC rocks the Motorcycle Show

One cure for PMS (parked motorcycle syndrome) is the Calgary Motorcycle Show.

Ten members of Victory Riders Calgary met for **breakfast** and then headed for the show on February 1.

Member **Lorne** braved the wilds of Highway 2 to make it down from **Edmonton** and most of President **John B's** clan were there.

Surprisingly, no-show **Chris** appeared up, collecting the **Club swag** he ordered in October. (And finding he was a **t-shirt** short. If you got an extra t-shirt in your order, let Chris know.)



Chris finally collected his Club swag order and is missing a t-shirt.

Once at the show, the Members **scattered** like kids in a candy store, some never to be seen again.

Most headed for **displays** directly related to their interests, while others just wandered.

The show was smaller than last year with less emphasis on adventure bike tours. As it is now



Lorne tries out this rolling couch offering from Honda.



First, we eat. You can't hit the Motorcycle Show on an empty stomach, so we gathered at Red's Diner on 58th Ave. for a hearty breakfast. Lorne even showed up from Edmonton.

billed as a "power sports" show, ATVs and hot tubs showed up.

We even managed to find a couple of **Victorys** among the bikes on display, not in the 'vintage' section yet, though.



President John B, Susan and the boys checking out the show.



Bobby found an Excelsior-Henderson almost his same age.

New regalia for our 15th Anniversary

With 2026 being our 15th Anniversary, the club has come up with some new regalia to celebrate the milestone.

After Club members voted on the design for the 15th Anniversary patch at the December meeting, they have been produced and will be available at the **AGM**.

The **patches** will be available for, appropriately, **\$15**.

In keeping with our tradition of distributing **poker chips** to all participants in Club rides and events during the year, we are producing a 15th Anniversary poker chip.

Engraving wizard **Joan** produced the first batch of poker chips for Club attendees at the **Calgary Motorcycle Show**.

Drifter traded his to **Liane Langlois**, Bonneville and World motorcycle speed record holder, for one of her **Alberta Motorcycle Safety Society** poker chips (www.ab-amss.org).

Joan will be producing more poker chips once her involvement with dog show she organizes is over.

She also had another **surprise** for the Club. At the January meeting, Drifter was tasked with pricing out 15th Anniversary **challenge coins**. Increasing costs meant the coins would be too pricey for the relatively



World and Bonneville speed record holder Liane Langlois shows off the new VRC 15th Anniversary poker chip.



The Club's 15th Anniversary means new regalia - patch, poker chips and challenge coins - will be available to commemorate the Club milestone.

small number that the club would need.

Joan came up with an alternative, a **gold-centred** challenge coin which she can produce in-house.

The **Executive** approved the design and the coins will be offered at **\$15** each, once Joan is able to get them into production. A **sample** will be available at the **AGM**.

Also proposed is a special **15th Anniversary ride or event**. It was discussed at the January meeting.

Two members have since suggested that the ride or event be a **memorial** one for **James Hamling**, a fitting tribute to his long-term association with and contribution to the Club.

That possibility and what the event or ride will look like will be on the agenda at the **AGM** as well.

AGM set for February 22

Tired of John B's tyrannical rule? Think Randy's been cooking the books? Here's your chance to step up and say something.

February 22 is our **Annual General Meeting**; your chance to have your say in who runs the club and how it is run.

The meeting will be at **noon** at the **Red Crowns Pub** in Woodbine.

Since **Randy** and **Doug** moved into **executive** positions, two seats have opened up on the Club's **advisory board** (directors.)

The **AGM** will accept nominations for those two **positions**, and they'll get to choose their own titles.



Need a painter? Doug found one

It took waterboarding and pulling his fingernails out, but VP Doug finally came out with the name of the painter who has been doing such good work for him.

The painter is Tom Edwards, versatile vehicle repairer, painter and self-confessed scooter lover.

Tom has a location on rural property west of Calgary that he calls The Barn - Repair-Refinish-Repurpose.

He has a full vehicle-painting facility and, in addition to Doug's, he has worked on other Victories. He said Victory colours are quite easy to match.

He also does specialty painting such as helmets.

You can contact Tom at thebarnon240@gmail.com or 403-553-1837. But not this week. He's in Hawaii, spending Doug's money.

2026 Ride & Event Schedule

We are a month closer to riding season and already the riding year is starting to shape up. Don't forget our Annual General Meeting February 22 at Red Crowns Pub, 523 Woodpark Blvd SW, Calgary.

Victory Riders Calgary Ride & Event Schedule 2026

Colour Code:	GREEN - VRC Events	
	YELLOW - VRC Participation or Interest	
	BLUE - Victory National/Regional	
25-Jan	VRC Meeting/ Brunch	Red Crowns Pub, 523 Woodpark Blvd. SW
January 30 - Feb 01	Calgary Motorcycle Show	Expo Centre
21-Feb	BS & Beer	Woodie & Laura's garage, 5621 51st Street, Olds
22-Feb	VRC Meeting/AGM	Red Crowns Pub, 523 Woodpark Blvd. SW
15-Mar	CVMG Swap Meet	Red Deer
22-Mar	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
April 9-12	Edmonton Motorcycle Show	Edmonton YEGmotorcycleshow.com
26-Apr	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
May	Awareness Ride	Calgary
18-May	Victoria Day Ride.	
24-May	VRC Breakfast Meeting and Ride	Red Crowns Pub
June	CJAY Kids Ride	Big Sky BBQ
07-Jun	Two Wheel Sunday	Calgary
June	Honour Ride	Blackfoot Motor Inn
20-Jun	Ride for Dad	Ralph's Motorsports, Balzac
June	Kids Cancer Care Motorcycle Ride	Calgary/Kootenays
June	For The Love of Motorcycles	Blackjacks Roadhouse, Nisku
28-Jun	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
July 17 - 27	Two Hills Bike Week	Two Hills, Alberta
July 22 - 26	Western Canada IMRG Celebration	Kimberley, B.C.
July	CVMG Ponoka Rally	Ponoka, AB
26-Jul	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
Aug 07 - 16	Sturgis Rally	Sturgis, South Dakota
August	Kaslo Kurves	
08-Aug	Ride to Reynolds	Wetaskiwin
August	Bikes & Bombers	Bomber Command Museum, Nanton
August	12 Stop Ride for Recovery, Calgary	Calgary
23-Aug	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
07-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
27-Sep	VRC Meeting/Fall Colours Ride	Highway 40 - South to North
25-Oct	VRC Meeting/Ride Weather Permitting	Red Crowns Pub
October	CVMG Fall Swap Meet	Red Deer
22-Nov	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
2026-12-13	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
Weekly		
	Wrangler'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
	OBB Wednesday Bike Night	Big Rock Brewery, Calgary
	CVMG Vintage Bike Night	Thursdays, A&W Drive In, 16th Ave and 4th St. NW

BS & Beer lands Feb 21 in Olds

BS & Beer happens February 21 at Woodie and Laura's garage in Olds.

The informal **get-together** (which stands for **Bike Stuff & Beer** in case you are easily offended) is the second of some irregularly scheduled events where members can get together and **discuss bikes**

and anything else they want to talk about.

BS&B starts any time after late morning at their place, **5621 51st Street in Olds**. Bring your own **libations, snacks**; and your own **lawn chairs**. It's a garage, not a movie theatre. If you get there early, you can help clean up.