



THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO SPRING CONVENTION

Welcome to Komic Kin II - the 2024 District 1 Kin Spring Convention. The St. Thomas Kinsmen are proud to be your hosts for this amazing weekend of business, awards, fellowship, and fun!

Our goal for this weekend is to make your Spring Convention experience as enjoyable and positive as it can be. If you have any questions or special requests, simply find a St. Thomas Kinsmen and we will be happy to assist you!

In this guide, we have tried to anticipate and answer the most common questions about Spring Convention, including the weekend schedule and suggested dress code. If there is anything else you need to know before or during Spring Convention, don't hesitate to ask!

The St. Thomas Kinsmen Spring Convention Committee

Hotel Information

The host hotel for Spring Convention is:

Ramada by Wyndham London
817 Exeter Road, London ON N6E 1W1
(519) 681-4900

From the 401, exit to Wellington Road North. Turn right (east) at Exeter Road, the hotel entrance is just past the gas station.

Saturday breakfast, Saturday business, Saturday lunch, and the Saturday night Banquet & Dance will all take place in the main Somerset Ballroom, located just off the hotel lobby (to the left if facing the front desk).

The Friday and Saturday night BYOB “After Hours” hospitality rooms will be held in the Rembrandt and Van Gogh meetings rooms, located on the other side of the lobby (to the right if facing the front desk).

The Friday Night Pub Crawl bus leaves the front of the hotel at 7:30pm sharp. Please arrive in the lobby at 7:00pm for Opening Ceremonies followed by Pub Crawl instructions. If you registered for the Pub Crawl but cannot arrive at the hotel in time for the 7:30pm departure, let us know when you will be arriving and we will make arrangements for you to join the Pub Crawl in progress.

Breakfast on Sunday morning will be served in the hotel restaurant, Clover Restaurant & Lounge, from 7am to 11am. Be sure to present your breakfast ticket to your server.

Meals and Special Dietary Needs

Lunch and dinner on Saturday are buffet style, with a wide selection that should satisfy most dietary needs, including lactose- and gluten-free. If you provided other special dietary requests when you registered, those have been passed on to the hotel. Please see one of the St. Thomas Kinsmen coordinators if there are still any concerns with the available meal selection and we will do our best to accommodate you.

When you sign in at the Spring Convention registration desk in the lobby, you'll receive an envelope with a wristband and/or Saturday banquet meal ticket and/or breakfast ticket for Sunday morning. The **wristband must be worn during the day Saturday**, and will provide access to the breakfast buffet, the coffee break in the morning, the buffet lunch, and the afternoon coffee break towards the end of business. You can remove the wristband once business adjourns on Saturday. **Please bring your dinner ticket with you on Saturday night.**

First Stop: Spring Convention Registration Desk

When you arrive, please sign in at the Spring Convention registration desk to receive your wristband and/or meal tickets, along with your boodle bag.

The registration desk will be open:

- ◆ Friday, 4pm – 10pm, in the hotel lobby
- ◆ Saturday, 7am – 9am, near the ballroom entrance
- ◆ Or, see one of the St. Thomas Kinsmen Convention coordinators

When, Where, and Wear

- ◆ **Friday Night:** Dress for Friday night is casual, though many members will dress in some type of Kin wear. For members not going on the Pub Crawl, one of the BYOB hospitality rooms will be open with music, games, and snacks. Once the Pub Crawlers return at 12:30am, the second BYOB hospitality room will open for dancing and partying until 2am (or later!).
- ◆ **Friday Pub Crawl:** Pub Crawlers are encouraged to wear a “Komic Kin” costume on the Pub Crawl! We have arranged for small costume prizes sponsored at each of the 4 locations, in addition to 3 prizes sponsored by the St. Thomas Kinsmen. Judging for the District 1 Jim Sterling Memorial Costume Award will take place in the hotel lobby at 12:30am, as soon as the Pub Crawl returns to the hotel.

Pub Crawlers should also dress for the weather conditions, as we will be walking 2 to 7 minutes between some locations. The bus leaves the front of the hotel at 7:30pm sharp, so participants should gather in the lobby at 7:00pm for Opening Ceremonies and instructions for the Pub Crawl.

- ◆ **Saturday Breakfast:** The hot breakfast buffet will be served in the main Somerset Room from 7:00 am until 8:45am. Call to Order is at 9:00am.
- ◆ **Saturday Business:** Casual / Good Casual. Many members will wear a club shirt or other “Kin wear” if they have it. Please wear your Kin name badge, Kin dinner pin, and wear your wristband if you have a Full Registration to access breakfast, the coffee / snack break(s), and the lunch buffet. There will be a cash bar available during lunch (*please, no outside alcohol in the Somerset Ballroom*).
- ◆ **Saturday Banquet and Awards:** Semi-Formal – Suit and tie / Dress, Kin dinner pin, no name badge. There will be a cash bar. Doors open at 6:00pm, with dinner served at 6:30pm. Remember your dinner ticket!

- ◆ **Saturday Dance:** The dance will immediately follow the dinner and awards presentation with DJ Frank.
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Friday Night Pub Crawl & Hospitality Suite

The BYOB hospitality suite will be open Friday evening, with music, games and snacks. Once the pub crawl bus returns from the Pub Crawl at 12:30am, the Jim Sterling Memorial Costume Contest judging will be held in the hotel lobby after which the second BYOB hospitality suite next door will open for dancing and partying until 2:00am.

If you registered for the Pub Crawl, please be in the lobby for 7:00pm for Opening Ceremonies, and to meet your team captain and fellow Crawlers. Whether you choose to wear a costume or not, please dress for the weather for walks of 2 to 7 minutes between some of the locations. Be sure to bring enough money for a drink at each of the 4 locations, but please leave your travel mugs at home. Water will be available for the bus ride.

The bus will leave at 7:30pm sharp! There are 4 stops, allowing for 45 minutes at each stop plus 15 minutes walking time between locations. The bus will leave St. Thomas at midnight and arrive back at the hotel around 12:30am, at which time the dance party side of the hospitality suite will open.

If you have registered for the Pub Crawl but are unable to arrive at the hotel for the 7:30pm departure time, let us know and we will arrange transportation for you to join the Pub Crawl in progress.

The Hospitality Suites are **BYOB** affairs, so come prepared for the weekend!

Costume Contest(s)

The Jim Sterling Memorial Costume Contest judging will take place in the hotel lobby at 12:30am, once the Pub Crawl returns Friday night. Judging will be done by two Members of the District Executive and one Member from the St. Thomas Kinsmen, and the winner will be awarded a framed certificate on Saturday night during the Governors' Ball and Awards Banquet.

To be eligible, Clubs must have at least 4 representatives (which may include any of the Clubs' family of Kin in attendance), and will be judged to have the best costume to complement the Convention theme, "Komic Kin".

The St. Thomas Kinsmen are also sponsoring prizes for the best Club / Couple costume (consisting of at least 2 people) for a \$50 LCBO gift card, and a \$25 LCBO gift card each going to the best Kinsmen costume and the best Kinette costume. These prizes will be awarded based on audience vote.

Saturday Morning Breakfast

If you booked a Full Registration, a hot buffet breakfast is available in the main Somerset room 7:00am to 8:45am. Be sure to wear your Saturday wristband for the breakfast, lunch and coffee / snack break(s) on Saturday. Call to Order is at 9:00am sharp.

Credentials

The credentials desk will be open at the entrance to the Somerset Ballroom from **7:45 am to 8:45am**. Every Accredited Delegate or Alternate should sign in.

Meeting Agenda

9:00am	Call to Order
10:45am	Morning Coffee Break – be sure to wear your Convention wristband!
1:00pm	Lunch – The hot buffet lunch will be available from 1:00pm until 1:45pm. Be sure to wear your Convention wristband for the buffet line. You do not need to rush to finish your lunch before business reconvenes. A table will be set up at the back of the hall for your dirty dishes when you are done eating lunch.
3:00pm	Afternoon Coffee Break - be sure to wear your Convention wristband
4:30pm	Adjournment until dinner

Saturday Night Banquet & Awards

The Saturday Night banquet will be held in the main Somerset Ballroom. Doors open at 6:00pm, with dinner served at 6:30pm. Please bring the **dinner ticket** that you received when you signed in at the registration desk. The hotel will provide a cash bar.

Saturday Night Dance

Following dinner and awards, prepare to dance the night away with DJ Frank! Once again, the hotel will provide a cash bar (please, no outside alcohol / travel mugs in the ballroom, please).

Hospitality Suite / After Hours Lounge

The party keeps going in the hospitality suites following the dance on Saturday night. One BYOB hospitality suite will open at midnight, and the second hospitality suite will open as soon as DJ Frank is finished in the main ballroom to keep the party going until the last person standing is no longer standing.

Remember, the hospitality suites are **BYOB**, so come to Spring Convention prepared!

Sunday Breakfast

If you booked the Full Registration for Spring Convention, a hot breakfast is available in the hotel's Clover Restaurant & Lounge from 7am to 11am on Sunday. Be sure to bring your Sunday Breakfast meal ticket to give to the restaurant server.

Questions?

The St. Thomas Kinsmen want to make sure your weekend is productive, fun and memorable! If you have any questions over the weekend, simply ask one of our Members and we will do our best to help!

Other Helpful Information

- ◆ The Beer Store
1005 Wellington Rd, London
(North on Wellington Road past Bradley, 6 minutes away from the host hotel)
Open Friday, 10am – 9pm; Saturday, 10am – 9pm
- ◆ LCBO
1073 Wellington Rd, London
(North on Wellington Road, at the NW corner of Wellington and Bradley, 5 minutes away from the host hotel)
Open Friday, 10am – 10pm; Saturday, 10am – 10pm
- ◆ Tim Hortons
1384 Wellington Rd, London
(Across the street from the hotel, on the north side of Exeter Road)
Open 24 Hours