

THE WALKERTON KINSMEN INVITE YOU TO

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# PAR FOR THE COURSE

# ZONE J CONFERENCE

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**SATURDAY, MARCH 28**



Registration, Coffee and Treats at 9:30am  
Call to Order at 10am

Kin Hall (above Timber-Mart)  
201 Durham St West  
Walkerton, ON

RSVP by March 21 to  
[walkertonkinsmenclub@gmail.com](mailto:walkertonkinsmenclub@gmail.com)  
\$10 per person includes lunch. Dress in  
your best golf attire!

## 2025 Zone J Conference Agenda

Call to Order

Formalities

Welcome to Zone

National President Patrick Bowers,

Governor Dave Heimpel, Vice Governors Matt Sharpe

and Martina Post

Host Club Comments

Credentials report

Appointments

Roll Call by club

President's Reports

Minutes of Zone Conference 2025

Zone Executive Reports Financial Report

District One Reports

Speak-off

Old Business

New Business

- Zone House Rules Resolutions and Notice of Motion

Elections

National President Patrick Bowers

Sgt. at Arms Report

Final Remarks

Announcements for the Good of Kin

Adjournment

Lunch

## 2025 Zone Minutes

### Zone J Spring Conference 2025 Agenda

Date: Saturday, March 1, 2025 10:30 am

Hosted by the Kinsmen Club of Teeswater

Teeswater Curling Club, 64 Gordon St E, Teeswater, ON

Call to order - note time \_\_\_\_\_ Ask all to "Please rise"

- 1) O' Canada - led by Don Nicholson
- 2) Toast to the King - by Mike Love
- 3) Toast to Founder - Hal Rodgers by John Vance.
- 4) (Kinsmen / Kinette / Kin Song led by Karen Cautts.)

As we move towards reconciliation with the original peoples of this land, it is important for all of us to consider the history of what is now called Canada and how we all have arrived in this moment of time.

We cannot achieve reconciliation without first recognizing the unique and enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous People and their traditional territories.

The town of Teeswater occupies the ancestral lands of the Ojibway First Nation, commonly known as the Chippewas of Saugeen.

- 5) Introductions (ask each to stand when introduced)
  - a. District Governors - Lori Schnarr- Palmerson Kinettes  
and Paul Schnarr – Listowel Kinsmen
  - b. District Vice Governors - Dave and Tracy
  - c. District 1 CF Director - Francine.
  - d. Life Members - introductions Brenda.
  - e. New Members - introductions NONE
  - f. All Past National, District and Zone Officers – Karen Brenda.

6) Dinner and Grace - by Steve Travale.

7) Appointments:

a. Recording Secretary: Luke Kennedy.

b. Credentials Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

c. Rules of Order: Mark Davis.

d. Scrutineers: \_\_\_\_\_

e. Sergeant at Arms: ~~Ben~~ Carl Kennedy

f. Fine Master: Ben Ireland

g. Speak Off / Joke Off Judges Francine Breck.

8) Address to the Chair

*Honoured Guests, DG Tyler, Fellow Kin:*

*(whatever you want it to be) Honour guest DG Tyler.*

9) Roll Call

*Credentials Chair ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) to do roll call.*

*Answer from club president or representative and how many attending*

Club	President	Members
Kinette Club of Chesley		1
Kinsmen Club of Chesley	Mike Love	4
Kinsmen Club of Teeswater	Tyler Kennedy	7
Kinette Club of Walkerton	Lisa Wells	1
Kinsmen Club of Walkerton	Steve Travale	3

10) Welcome from the Host Club : the Kinsmen Club of Teeswater

by: Ben Ireland.

11) Credentials Report – by Carl of the Kinsmen Club of Teeswater.

12) Open Fine Session

Ask for a motion to open the fine session

**Motion by:** Steve Travale

**2<sup>nd</sup> by:** Marty Fitzpatrick

Carried  Defeated

Automatic Fines: according to Kinsmen Club of Teeswater House Rules

13) 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Nominations:

- a. Zone J 2025 Golf Tournament Walkerton
- b. Next Zone 2026 Spring Conference Hosts Walkerton
- c. Deputy Governor(s) 2025/2026 Nominations \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Zone J Treasurer 2025/2026 Nominations \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any other nominations?

14) Zone J Reports

- a. Secretary's Report of Zone J Spring Conference - 2024 \_\_\_\_\_

Ask for a motion to accept the minutes from the previous Zone J Spring Conference 2024 as recorded and distributed by email

Have handout available for conference. Any omissions or errors?

- omission - District resolutions were presented
- ask for more and seeing none ask for a motion to accept

**Motion by:** Jannette Fitzpatrick

**2<sup>nd</sup> by:** Steve Travale

All those in Favour All Opposed NONE

Carried  Defeated

- b. Zone J Treasurer's Financial Report for 2024 - given by - Karen Coutts

Ask for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for Zone J 2024/5  
as printed and distributed by email

Motion by: Karen Co

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Janette Fitzpatrick

Any omissions or errors? Seeing none, call the question.

All those - in favour All Opposed 0

Carried  Defeated

b. Zone J Budget Report for 2024/2025 given by DG Tyler

**You may want to discuss Zone J dues here?**

Ask for a motion to accept the Zone J budget for the term 2025/2026???

Motion by: Steve Travale

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Marty Fitzpatrick

All those in favour All Opposed 0

Carried  Defeated

d. Club reports - to be presented by club presidents or representative  
sent to DG Tyler one week ahead of the Zone J conference

a. Kinette Club of Chesley - read or submitted by Janette Fitzpatrick

b. Kinsmen Club of Chesley - read or submitted by Mike Love Submitted.

c. Kinsmen Club of Teeswater - read or submitted by Tyler Kennedy

d. Kinette Club of Walkerton - read or submitted by Karen Coatts Email.

e. Kinsmen Club of Walkerton - read or submitted by Steve Travale

15) 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Nominations:

e. Zone J 2025 Golf Tournament Walkerton Kinsmen

f. Next Zone Conference 2026 Hosts Walkerton Kinsmen

g. Zone J Deputy Governor(s) 2025/2026 Nominations Tyler Williams

h. Zone J Treasurer 2025/2026 Nominations \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any other nominations?

18) District Governors remarks - Lori and Paul Schnarr

- Words of encouragement.

- ASKED the question ~~are~~ Are we looking for change within KIN?  
Please step up and help with the change

- Share Knowledge Between Clubs and within Clubs.
- Discussed Need for a DG in our zones.
- ENJOY the Day and Being a KIN MEMBER

- 19) Vice Governors remarks - Karen speaks on their behalf.  
Dive into their ASSISTING clubs with Social Media.
- 20) Vice Governors Candidates remarks - Spring convention in June  
- Glow Card Martina post. Elections are happening here.  
- Chrissy Heimpel Jerry Rossi
- 21) D1 Club Service Director remarks - provided a slide show  
- Donate Blood - Service awards send in Applicants  
- Donate to the Berserks. - place your shirt orders \$55.00
- 22) CF Director remarks -  
- GIVE Cheque for CF - Tickets for quilt.  
- More Social Media - Goodenough known selling license plates
- 23) National Executive Director remarks -

- 25) Quill Award submissions - Ballot vote - winner \_\_\_\_\_
- 26) Speak Off Award - by Judges - winner - \_\_\_\_\_

- 27) Joke Off Award - by Judges - winner - Ben Ireland

26) Call for any last fines

27) New business - KIN Canada (LOOKING INTO where we purchase our goods from) CONCERNS of the U.S. TARIFFS.

28) Old business - motion made by Ben Ireland that all KIN goods are that can be purchased in Canada.  
are Canada

- 29) 3<sup>rd</sup> Call for Nominations: motion made by Jannette Fitzpatrick.  
Kinsmen and member clubs. All email motioned for all.
- i. Zone J 2025 Golf Tournament Walkerton Kinsman
  - j. Next Zone Conference 2026 Hosts Walkerton Kinsman
  - k. Deputy Governor(s) 2025/2026 Nominations Don Nicholson / Jannette Fitzpatrick
  - l. Zone J Treasurer 2025/2026 Nominations \_\_\_\_\_
  - Are there any other nominations?

30) Ask for a motion to close nominations  
Jannette Fitzpatrick  
Karen (over second)

Motion by: Jannete Fitzpatrick

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Karen Coulters

All those in favour. All Opposed. \_\_\_\_\_

Carried  Defeated

33) Candidates presentations and elections:

Zone J 2025 Golf Tournament Walkerton

Host Club for 2026 Zone Conference Walkerton

Deputy Governor(s) 2025/2026 DAN Nicholson

Treasurer Zone J 2025/2026 \_\_\_\_\_

Karen

34) Hold elections –

35) Election Results by scrutineers

a. *The Host Club for the 2025 Golf Tournament will be:*

*The Kinsmen/Kinette Club of* Walkerton

b. *The Next Zone J Conference Spring 2026 will be hosted by:*

*The Kinsmen/Kinette Club of* Walkerton

c. *The Zone J Deputy Governor(s) for 2025/2026 will be:*

DAN Nicholson of the Kinsmen/Kinette Club of Walkerton

\_\_\_\_\_ of the Kinsmen/Kinette Club of \_\_\_\_\_

d. *The Zone J Treasurer for 2025/2026 will be:*

\_\_\_\_\_ of the Kinsmen/Kinette Club of \_\_\_\_\_

*I would like to ask for a motion to have the ballots destroyed.*

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**2<sup>nd</sup> by:** \_\_\_\_\_

*All those in favour.* \_\_\_\_\_ *Opposed.* \_\_\_\_\_

Carried  Defeated

Have the scrutineers destroy the ballots \_\_\_\_\_

36) *Close the fine session*

Ask for a motion to close the fine session

**Motion by:** Steve Trahan

**2<sup>nd</sup> by:** Karen Courts.

Carried  Defeated

37) *Adjournment: I would ask for a motion to adjourn.*

**Motion by:** Tyler Kennet.

**Time:** 12:05.

38) Host club's final remarks by Ben Freluh

39) Announcement for the good of Kin \_\_\_\_\_

40) Sergeant at Arms report by \$21.00 TO KIN Bussaries.

Some attendees may make motions to direct the fine pot to a certain good cause

Hold a vote to pass the motion

41) Zone J DG's Closing Remarks by DG Tyler Williams

\$21.00 FINE POT:

Donate to KIW Canada Karen

Bussaries.

Secured By Steve Trahan

## 2025-26 Zone J Financial Report

<b>Zone J Kin</b>				
<b>Financial Report for Zone Conference</b>				
Opening Balance (Jan 31, 2025)			2,355.07	
		Budget	Actual	2025 Actual
<b>Income</b>				
	Zone Dues	546.00	594.00	-
	Fines		-	-
	District Allotment	200.00	200.00	200.00
		746.00	\$ 794.00	\$ 200.00
<b>Expenses</b>				
	Admin	170.00	161.65	168.32
	Presidents Round Table	300.00	86.41	
	DG mileage	280.00	285.00	279.00
	Donations		-	-
	Bank service charges	30.00	30.00	30.00
	Zone Conference	200.00	98.31	166.67
	Zone Events		-	
	Zone Awards		-	-
		980.00	\$ 661.37	\$ 643.99
Closing Balance (Jan 31, 2026)			\$ 2,487.70	



**Kin Canada**  
Kinsmen • Kinettes • Kin

Fellow Kin:

As we gather for our Spring Zone Conferences across the country, I want to extend my warmest welcome and my sincere thanks for taking the time to attend your Zone Conference. Spring Zones are one of the most energizing parts of our Kin year, a chance to reconnect, to learn from one another, and to celebrate the incredible work happening in every corner of our Association.

Each of you brings something unique to your club, your community and to Kin Canada as a whole. These conferences remind us that while our projects may be local, our impact is national. When we come together to share ideas, strengthen our skills and support one another we reinforce the foundation that has kept strong for more than a century.

This year has been filled with inspiring stories of service, growth, and resilience. I hope you take this opportunity to reflect on your club's achievements, explore new possibilities, and leave feeling recharged for months ahead. Our future is shaped by the passion and commitment of members like you, and I am grateful for everything you do to keep our Association vibrant and forward looking.

Thank you to Zone teams, facilitators and hosts for the work that goes into making these events meaningful. Your leadership ensures that every member feels welcomed, valued, and empowered.

As you gather for your Spring Zones, take time to laugh, reflect, and get inspired for the months ahead. Let's carry this momentum forward, with the same enthusiasm and commitment that make Kin Canada such a special organization

Thank you for all you do and for continuing to show what it means to lead with heart, service, and Kinship.

With Admiration and respect

*PR Bowers*

Patrick R Bowers, National President  
Kin Canada 2025-2026  
#Empowered To Serve

**From the Office of the National President**

Kin Canada, 1920 Rogers Drive, Box 3460, Cambridge, ON N3H5C6

519-653-1920 Toll Free: 1-800-742-5546 Fax: 519-650-1091

[www.kinCanada.ca](http://www.kinCanada.ca)



Fellow Kin of District 1

We have a great, dynamic team. Our team completed a lot of goals that we set for this year. Growth is at around +20 with another 20 pending. This is absolutely amazing. We all need to keep membership as our focus and help future clubs charter, because as much as we add clubs and members, we are also losing clubs and members.

Our team is working on a 30 under 30 recognition to be presented at Spring Convention. Nov 15th deadline was close to being completed. There were about 40 clubs that had it done. There are 3 left on the list as of Feb 14th. Good luck to the Deputy Governor candidates. So far, we have had 2 Life Memberships given out in the District this year.

We are looking forward to the Awards presentations at Zone Conference. Don't forget to forward or submit your awards to Nikki for the Spring convention!

For every year that we try to achieve the goals we have set for the District, there is always something that comes up or changes things. We must continue to adapt in order to bring District One and Kin Canada forward so that we have a positive future.

We hope to see a lot of members at the Spring Convention. Remember that we have the whole hotel to ourselves. Tilbury Kinsmen assure us that it will be epic!

Let's continue to keep moving Kin Driven 106 to Spring Convention.

Yours in Kin,  
District One Governors  
Tracy and Dave.



**Rising Together embodies the spirit of unity, collaboration, and shared purpose that defines District 1 and Kin Canada. It represents how members, clubs, and communities across our district and the nation support one another to reach new heights — not as individuals, but as one collective family.**

**Within District 1, Rising Together means strengthening the bonds between our clubs, empowering new leaders, and building on the foundations laid by those who came before us. It’s about celebrating our diversity, respecting our roots, and creating opportunities for everyone to grow and contribute. When one club succeeds, we all rise — together.**

**Across Kin Canada, Rising Together extends beyond boundaries. It speaks to our shared commitment to service, friendship, and community betterment from coast to coast. Whether it’s raising funds for local causes, supporting national initiatives, or simply lending a hand, our strength lies in our unity. Together, we rise to challenges, celebrate achievements, and build a stronger, more connected Canada.**

**Rising Together reminds us that our future — as Kinsmen, Kinettes, and Kin — is brighter when we lift each other up, guided by the values of Family, Friends, Foundations, and Future.**

**Yours in Kin,**

**Eileen George & Frank Mailloux**

## Zone J Deputy Governor's Report

It's been the usual busy year in Zone J. Hardly a month goes by when there isn't one or two activities being planned by the clubs, and it's a lot of fun attending these events. Although I am a relative newcomer to the area, I have found a lot of warmth and friendliness in the members, and a welcoming reception wherever I go.

The Kin year started off early, with Julyfest in Chesley and the Teeswater 150th anniversary celebrations. A great opportunity to meet and get to know members from brand new to well experienced. Then it was on to Club Installations where I got to see how clubs operate and work with each other, along with having a lot of fun and hijinks.

I had to give regrets to a couple of events because of family commitments, but as we know, Family, Work, Kin. So, I was only able to see the golfers heading out in a mighty charge at the Perc Dawson tournament, hosted by the Walkerton Kinsmen. And I also missed out on a good steak dinner in Chesley, so my apologies for that (and my loss).

Bottle drives are a great way to meet members and the public, and I got to listen to members talking about how they perceive Kin in their lives. I picked up a lot from helping the Chesley Kinettes.

Speaking of the Chesley Kinettes, I will never make it to the Brier with my curling skills, but I had a blast as always at the Darlene and Brianne Gardhouse Memorial Kinspiel with the rest of the "Lion Kin"!



One of the best things about being a Deputy Governor is attending a function designed to honour one of our own, and it was my privilege to attend the life night for Chesley Kinsmen Peter Knipfel, a member truly worthy of the title of Life Member.

Looking after our communities' greatest needs is a primary driver for Kin, and nowhere will you see it in greater evidence, than with the Teeswater Kinsmen. Being a small town means that they enjoy enormous support from the community, and they give it right back. As a matter of fact, ask them about the Automatic that they have built into their house rules.

The Walkerton Kinettes are always a great bunch to hang out with, and they put a lot of work and thought into their fund-raisers. They ran a bottle drive for Feed the Need, an association-wide Food Bank fund-raiser. They were able to donate \$600 in desperately needed items for the food bank in Walkerton.

**Feed the Need Food Drive**  
A Canada-wide volunteer initiative led by Kin Canada Clubs

**Project Goal:** to help food banks and community food programs in Canada keep up with the demands of record-high food insecurity in all provinces.

**\$541,029 raised in four months**  
**111,380 lbs of food donated**  
**6,722 Kin volunteer hours invested**

Congratulations to the **106 Kin Canada clubs** who accomplished this together!

This event was also intended to raise awareness about Kin across Canada, and to highlight the importance of helping where help is most needed. Across the Association, an incredible amount of money, food, and service hours were put together by fellow Kin.

Being active and engaged beyond the club level means that I do a lot of travelling for events like Spring Convention, FLC, and National Convention. In fact, being at National this year meant that I had to miss out helping my own club with their annual barbeque at the Dirt Pigs Ball tournament. But it was great to see Jeff and Mike from Chesley there in Kingston to help represent Zone J. Very happy to see that they survived the time that they spent with the girls from District 3!

The coming months to the end of this Kin year will be busy with even more activities and events, and I am looking forward to getting out to everything I can.

I am also looking forward to working with all your clubs on education. Whether it's talking about the iKin webpage and the incredible resources available from there or highlighting all the opportunities available beyond the club level, I will continue to not just represent you but bring those levels to you. I believe in personal growth, and I want you all to know how being in Kin can help you to grow and fulfill your own greatest needs, as well as your community's.

Yours in Kin,  
Dan Nicholson  
Zone J Deputy Governor

Hello District 1

We, your Vice Governors, are getting excited to lead this district next year. We have now completed our in-person Governors training and have collaborated with a fabulous team of Vice Governors from across the country to create some amazing plans for our 2026-2027 kin year. Our executive team which is listed below have had a couple meetings and we look forward to sharing and reaching our goals with each of you. We will be focusing on leading the District to serve each of their communities in a way that we carry ourselves, motivated and mannerly. Getting things done while having fun!

We look forward to welcoming, working with and guiding the DG's you vote upon today to have a successful year. Thank you.

Team M&M.

Governors to be : Matt Sharpe and Martina Hanson-Post

Coordinator/ Risk Manager: Daryl Van Moorsel

Secretary: Patti Lamb

Club Support Director: Elena D'amico

Awards Director: Dave Ellis

Treasurer: Dean Kitchen

Membership and Service Directors: Shawn Holroyd and Carol Van Rooy

Communications Director: Jacob Schmitt

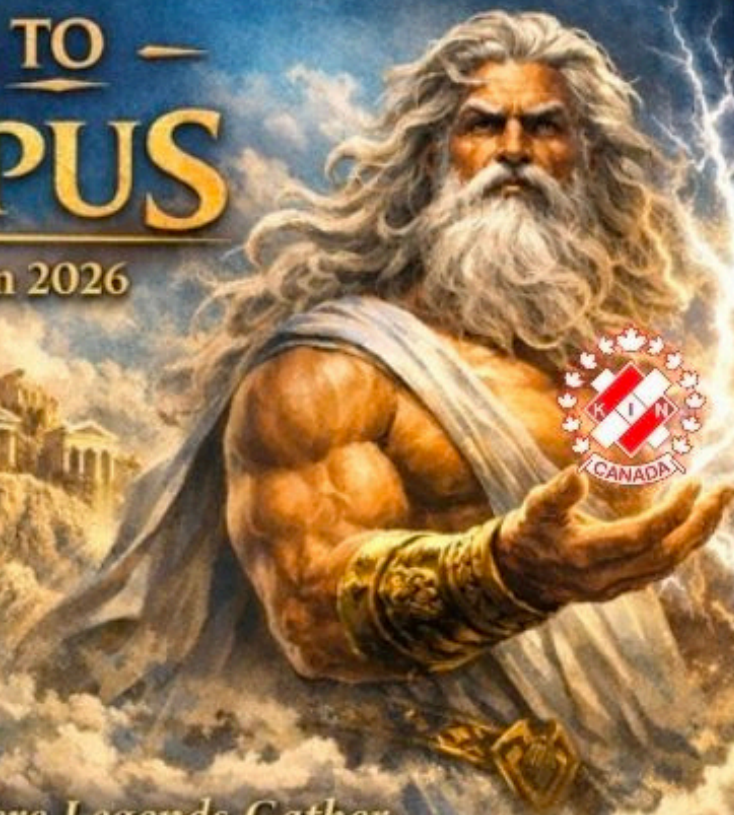


Martina & Matt

The power of positive thinking


# — RISE TO — OLYMPUS


Spring Convention 2026




*Where Legends Gather.  
Where Leaders Rise.*

## REGISTRATION

 **Full Registration – \$160** Early Bird Pricing  
Available until April 17th, 2026

 **Full Registration – \$180** After Early Bird Deadline

 **Registration Closes: May 22nd, 2026**

## WHY ATTEND

- Epic networking among future legends
- Inspiration worthy of Olympus
- A spring gathering of strength, vision, and purpose

## ANSWER THE CALL

*Spaces are limited. Secure your place among the gods  
before the gates of Olympus close.*

*Register early. Rise higher. Become legendary.*

## Chesley Kinsmen

2025

### PROJECTS

- In 2024 the club installed a Wheels Park and will utilize 2025 and 2026 to pay off the project
- Homecoming- August long weekend, It was all hands on deck with members volunteering in all capacities of the Chesley Homecoming during the August long weekend
- Men's Steak night- Last Friday in November, This was the fourth annual Men's Steak Night and offers a 14oz steak/ meal with live and silent auctions for entertainment
- Chesley Community School- Jersey replacement for the athletics department
- Chesley pool Change House renovation and revitalization, Exterior was painted, new tin roof put on and a wall was reengineered to install- rollup man door
- Young Guns Broomball team sponsorship, in 2025 they travelled to Quebec City and brought home a silver medal
- Bob Johnson Classic Car show, 2025 represented the 25th anniversary of the car show which was renamed after BOB JOHNSON a dedicated KIN LIFE MEMBER, who we lost in 2024
- Sponsored the Chesley Boy Scouts troop who had the opportunity to travel, camp and learn in the Australian Outback
- Sponsored Avery Wathke, a talented women's hockey player who has now joined a women's team and league in Waterloo

2026

### PROJECTS

- The club is in the planning stages for the last big project to revitalize the waterfront at the Chesley Community Park which will include landscaping and river bank overhaul. As well modifications/additions to the pavilion
- East vs. West, This is the 2nd annual East vs. West hockey game, the Chesley District School choir opened the game with Oh Canada and the WEST won the game, the night concluded with Kareoke in the community centre
- Julyfest- July 1st long weekend
- The annual Canada Day celebration that includes a baseball tournament/ beer garden and live music
- Men's Steak night- Last Friday in November
- The fourth annual Men's Steak Night offers a 14oz steak/ meal with live and silent auctions for entertainment

- Youth Goalie equipment for Arran Elderlie Minor Hockey, purchased Youth left handed blocker and catcher
- International Plowing match support and staffing, this large agricultural is a travelling event in Ontario and is celebrating its 50th year in Walkerton in 2026

Annual

## PROJECTS

- Julyfest- July 1st long weekend, The annual Canada Day celebration which includes a baseball tournament, fireworks, beer garden and live music
- Bob Johnson Classic Car show, 2025 represented the 25th anniversary of the car show which was renamed after BOB JOHNSON a dedicated KIN LIFE MEMBER, who we lost in 2024
- Santa Claus Parade- First Friday at 7pm in December each year
- Seniors Dinner- Held at Klages Mill in Chesley, open invitation to widowed seniors or anyone who does not have family around during the holidays
- Salvation Army Christmas Kettel- Many Kinsmen volunteer to stand watch at the kettle during the drive
- Kinsmen Crop Project, a crop is planted and harvested with the proceeds going to the Chesley Kinsmen
- Kin Kindness Day, Businesses or Individuals are recognized each year for contributing to the success of Chesley as a whole
- Brianne Gardhouse Community Classic 5km & 10km run, walk or bike, this falls on the third Saturday in May each year
- Youth hockey sponsorship, the club pays one year hockey fee for two groups- junior (U7-U11)x1 and senior (U13-U18)x1 based on submissions from each teams coach
- Arran Elderslie Minor Hockey banquet, Provide the pizza party for the junior teams and provide a roast beef dinner for the senior banquet

Jeff Holding

President, Chesley Kinsmen

## Chesley Kinettes

The Chesley Kinettes have had a great year so far! We've added 3 new members to our roster, increasing to 18 members.

Once again, our annual Darlene Gardouse Memorial Kinspiel was a successful and fun day. We also hosted another successful Breakfast with Santa in Chesley. We're a busy club in the spring months with our many catering events. Coming up, we have our easter egg hunt on April 4th. We will also be hosting our annual Trivia Night at Cedar Rail Family Campground May 9th, and our bottle drive and yard sale on May 16th. We would love to see some kin teams enter for trivia!

## Walkerton Kinettes

## Teeswater Kinsmen

A few of our events we run yearly.

Men's steak night March 20

Kids fishing derby First Saturday in May

Teeswater fun fest Joint venture with ag society and swans June 12-13  
(ball tournament, Soapbox derby, concert, wing night and Kids activities)

Teeswater fair Aug 14 weekend

Halloween spook house haunted barn

Remembrance Day service

Christmas parade

Around town with Santa

We are currently in the early planning stages of a large-scale project within the community. More details are to be released soon. Thanks

Tyler Kennedy

Teeswater Kinsmen

## Walkerton Kinsmen

The Walkerton Kinsmen are honoured to be hosting this year's Zone J Conference and to provide an update on the past year as well as a look ahead at the rest of 2026.

In 2025 we celebrated 90 years as a club, with a celebration held just following the Zone Conference held in Teeswater. Despite the bad weather we had a full house for this milestone and were pleased to renew our partnership with the Municipality on the Walkerton Kinsmen Tot Lot Park with a \$10,000 donation to park upgrades.

Our club currently has 22 members; with 4 new members having joined since last year's Zone conference including young businessmen and newcomers to Walkerton. We continue to welcome prospective members to our meetings.

We once again hosted the Zone Perc Dawson Golf Tournament with just shy of 18 teams joining us in September for a great round on the links.

Throughout the past year we managed several charity bbq's for causes around the community, completed our annual roadside cleanup of our section of Adopted Road, sold tickets for an Owen Sound Attack Game Fundraiser we have undertaken in recent years, and continued our partnership on the Catch the Ace lottery held in conjunction with the local Legion and Optimist Club. We also continue to host the Walkerton Santa Claus parade which has increasing participation - of floats and spectators.

This February, we launched a new initiative, a Valentine's fundraiser which included handmade bouquets and gourmet chocolates; we sold 78 packages and plan to continue this next year.

In the spirit of serving the community's greatest need, the Kinsmen will be all hands on deck with significant events happening in Walkerton in 2026. At the Walkerton Homecoming, we will be organizing the massive homecoming parade that will cap off the weekend. Fast forward 6 weeks, and the Kinsmen will be supporting the IPM and Rural Expo held on the edge of Walkerton through the Gates and Tickets Committee - which is being chaired by our own Kin Tom Spitzig. In between we will once again run the concession stand at the Dirt Pigs ball tournament in partnership with the Walkerton Kinettes.

We look forward to a busy rest of year!

Steven Travale



# VICKI ANDREWS

## **Fellow Kin,**

I would first like to thank the District Council for the opportunity to address my fellow Kin. As you meet over this weekend, I hope you have a productive meeting with Good of Kin in mind, and our future at the heart of your discussions.

I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you, as I seek the office of National Vice President. I am a Life Member of the Kinette Club of Fredericton, and was also the Charter President of my club in 2010. Since chartering, I have served several terms as Deputy Governor, District Treasurer, two time Governor of District 7 and National Service Director for two years while we found our way through Covid. Like so many others, my passion for volunteerism started at a very young age as I am a Kin Kid, and proud that my own children are 3<sup>rd</sup> generation Kin in the making. Professionally, my experience is diverse, with 30 years of project, business, team development, and strategic planning as a commercial banker and now CFO/COO of Kennedy Auto Group leading a team of over 100 amazing professionals.

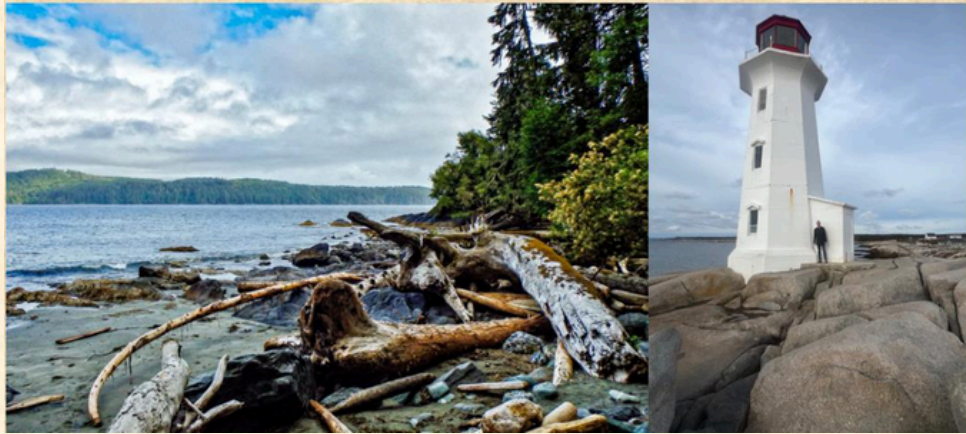
The National Board develops the foundation that supports our members to safely serve our community's greatest need. We have made great strides in recent years as it relates to member development and community service. As an operational leader, I understand the challenges faced by our Association and I have the experience and the passion necessary to maintain our momentum as our National Vice President, so we can continue moving **FORWARD TOGETHER. LIFTING COMMUNITIES!**

**Vicki Andrews for 2026/2027 National Vice President**



**Kin Canada**  
Kinsmen • Kinettes • Kin

## Coast to Coast: Collaborate, Grow, and Give



Hello Fellow Kin!

Welcome to your respective Spring Zone meeting, I trust you'll have an engaging and productive meeting followed by some great fellowship and networking. For those zone meetings where you'll be electing Deputy Governor's for the upcoming Kin Year, congratulations to the successful candidates and thank you for stepping up to take on this very important role within Kin.

For those that don't know me, my name is Lonny Wiebe, and I'm deeply honored and excited to be a National Vice President candidate for the 2026/2027 Kin Year! I've been a Kin member since 1997, currently with the Bulkley Valley Kinsmen Club in District 5. I've enjoyed numerous positions at the zone and district level and am in my final year as a Director on the Kin Canada National Board. As I close in on 3 decades in Kin, I have so much gratitude for all that Kin has given me. Kin expanded my horizons with public speaking, networking, professionalism, volunteerism, loyalty and so much more. It's brought me lifelong friendships and a sense of belonging that is second to none. I can honestly attest that I wouldn't be where I am now career wise if not for Kin. As such, I strongly feel it's time for me to give back to our Association in a most impactful way as National Vice President.

We have been seeing some encouraging and notable progress in Kin over the last number of years. We're finally starting to see consecutive years of membership growth, new clubs are being chartered, we're having success in the non-dues revenue generation space, and we're inviting and attracting more youth into our organization while still leveraging the vast knowledge and experience of our longer tenured members. Our Service Dollars and Hours continue to break records, we most certainly have a lot to be proud of! We have a new strategic plan that's in the works to help guide us over the next number of years as we look to continue building on our momentum. However, we still have a lot of work ahead and it's not going to come easy.

My campaign slogan is **Coast to Coast: Collaborate, Grow, and Give**. Collaborate like never before, pooling our resources, expertise, and networks to amplify our impact to achieve exceptional outcomes for our communities. Grow, not just in membership but as an entire organization, adapting to new ways of doing things while keeping our foundational traditions alive. Continue to give with our hearts, changing lives and making Canada a better place for today and tomorrow. We need to ensure we're being strategic and deliberate in establishing new partnerships while leveraging our existing ones to the fullest.

We need to elevate our brand and see Kin Canada as a widely known staple throughout the country that Canadians are proactively knocking on our door to be a part of. We've got a passionate, caring, and engaged membership from Coast to Coast, I know that we will continue to accomplish great things, and I look forward to being a part of that and doing whatever I can to help move our Association forward!

I look forward to meeting many of you in my campaign travels and hearing your thoughts and ideas on how we can continue improving and growing Kin across Canada.

Yours in Kin,

Lonny Wiebe, NVP Candidate

**Coast to Coast: Collaborate, Grow, and Give**

[Lonny.wiebe@rbc.com](mailto:Lonny.wiebe@rbc.com)

[\(1\) Lonny Wiebe for Kin Canada National Vice President 2026-2027 | Facebook](#)

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## **Resolution #1 Remove reference to Delegates-at-Large**

**Intent:** To remove an out-of-date voting reference

**Whereas** when the General Operating By-laws were updated in 2014 it was clarified that the only valid votes at National, District, or Zone levels of Kin Canada were those of the member clubs; and

**Whereas** voting at the zone conference is covered in the District House Rules (Article 13, Section 6);

Therefore be it resolved that Part 2, item 8 be removed.

Part 2 Midterm & Zone Conference

8. The following persons shall automatically become Delegates-at-Large upon registering at the Zone J Conference Credentials Desk, providing they are currently an Active, Privileged or Life member in good standing in a Zone J club. Delegates-at-Large will include Past National Presidents, Past District Governors, Past Zone J Deputy Governors, the current Zone J Deputy Governor, and all current Kinsmen Zone J Officers. A Delegate-at-Large will be entitled to (1) vote and shall not be entitled to proxy that vote. Delegates-at-Large are considered separate and not part of the individual Club delegate allotment total.

Submitted by DG Dan Nicholson

## **Resolution #2 Zone Conference levy & registration process**

**Intent:** To simplify and clarify the process of paying for Zone Conference.

**Whereas** the current process described in the house rules is confusing and has never been followed; and

**Whereas** the intent remains to have the cost of zone conference shared by the entire zone rather than solely the attendees and the host club; and

**Whereas** the current process as written requires a great deal of administrative work that isn't really necessary to fulfill the intent; and Whereas according to the General Operating By-laws each club can only send one voting delegate so the current wording is outdated; and

**Whereas** the current process doesn't cover clubs with 20 or more members, and the proportions for smaller clubs are punitive (up to 50%);

**Therefore** be it resolved that the current wording for Part 2, Item 9

The host club of Zone J Conference is responsible to submit a detailed budget including all Revenue and Expenses from the expected attendance to the Zone J Executive by December 15th of that Kin year. This is to be done so that a club levy can be established based on the accredited number of voting delegates each club would have according to June 30th census of that year. The Zone Treasurer would be responsible for sending out the club assessment before Mid-Term Presidents meeting.

(INTENT - That the cost of holding Zone conference be shared by all the clubs in the Zone instead of just the people that attend, ie: club assessment may be \$10.00 per voting delegate and the cost to the people that attend may be \$5.00.)

As per Zone J House Rules each club is required to pay for the following amount of members, as outlined in the Constitution and Bylaws (part 5, section 1)

2 delegates if official membership is 4 or less

3 delegates if official membership is 5 or more, but less than 10

4 delegates if official membership is 10 or more, but less than 15

5 delegates if official membership is 15 or more, but less than 20

be removed and replaced with:

The host club of Zone Conference can assess a levy to each club in the zone in advance of Zone Conference that year. The purpose of this levy is to cover overhead costs of hosting zone conference, such as facility rental, decorations, speaker gifts, games & prizes, etc.

a) This levy will be no more than \$25 per person.

b) The levy will be for a minimum of 2 members, and a maximum of 25% of the club's National roster as per the September 30th census of that Kin year.

c) Clubs will receive a detailed invoice from the host club for their levy at least 30 days before zone conference.

The host club may still charge a reasonable registration fee to attendees to cover the cost of meals, etc.

Submitted by DG Dan Nicholson

**Resolution #3 Zone  
Conference Secretary**

**Intent:** To confirm and formalize the process of recording zone conference minutes

**Whereas** most zone teams don't have a secretary; and

**Whereas** every club has a secretary who is accustomed to taking minutes; and

**Whereas** the host club is already familiar with the venue of zone conference;  
and

**Whereas** the host club has provided the recording secretary for zone conference for many years already; and

**Whereas** the deputy governor is required to circulate the official minutes to the clubs and the district governor within 30 days of zone conference;

**Therefore** be it resolved that the host club is responsible for providing a recording secretary for zone conference. The minutes are to be provided to the Deputy Governor within 14 days.

Submitted by DG Dan Nicholson

**Notice of Motion for Zone J Conference 2026** Be it moved that the following housekeeping changes be made in the Zone J House Rules.

**Intent:** To clean up grammar & spelling, and update appendices only.

1. Part 1. Item 1.a. shall change from:

All resolutions that are properly placed before a Zone J Conference and are passed by a simple majority of all votes cast shall become by-laws and awards of Zone J, and will be placed in a booklet called Zone J House Rules and shall be supplementary to any provisions of the National Constitution and By-Laws and/or the District One House Rules, and shall in no way contradict them.

to:

Resolutions properly submitted to a Zone J Conference and passed by a simple majority become part of the Zone J House Rules and awards. These rules supplement the General Operating By-law, National Policies and Procedures, and the District One House Rules, and cannot contradict them.

2. All gendered references (he/she, his/her, etc.) shall be replaced by the third person singular for easier reading.

3. Spelling mistakes will be corrected.

4. The history of the zone will be updated and become Appendix 1.

5. The list of Zone J Officials that used to be in the house rules will be reinstated and updated in Appendix 2.

6. The list of clubs and their incorporation numbers will be reinstated and updated in Appendix 3.

## Kin Canada Kin Store

The Kin Store is more than just a place to order your club supplies.  
Go to [kincanada.ca](http://kincanada.ca) and click on Kin Store to  
browse all the products they have to offer.

# KIN CANADA HOCKEY JERSEY



It's not too late to order for yourself or as a club!



Available in Small to 7XL

Save with 5 or more

Add a name/club name and choose your jersey number for \$10

**Orders CLOSING SOON on March 15**



## Kin Canada Bursaries The Hal Rogers Endowment Fund

Every year, clubs across our Association promote and accept applications for Kin Canada Bursaries.

Some of the ways that your club can help to grow this excellent program include: Actively promoting the bursaries by club websites, social media pages and by having high schools place posters throughout the school. And if you are able, arranging for a speaking engagement to provide further details works really well. Don't forget that mature students can also apply.

When your club is doing up your yearly budget, don't forget about the Bursaries. A donation of \$2500 allows your club to submit two applications, and your first pick automatically gets a bursary, as long as they meet the requirements.

If your club has come into a large amount of money through a bequeathment, etc. why not consider a named bursary. You can customize the bursary for students studying music or business, or many other courses. You can name it in honour of an outstanding Kin member or have your club name included. It's the ultimate promotion!



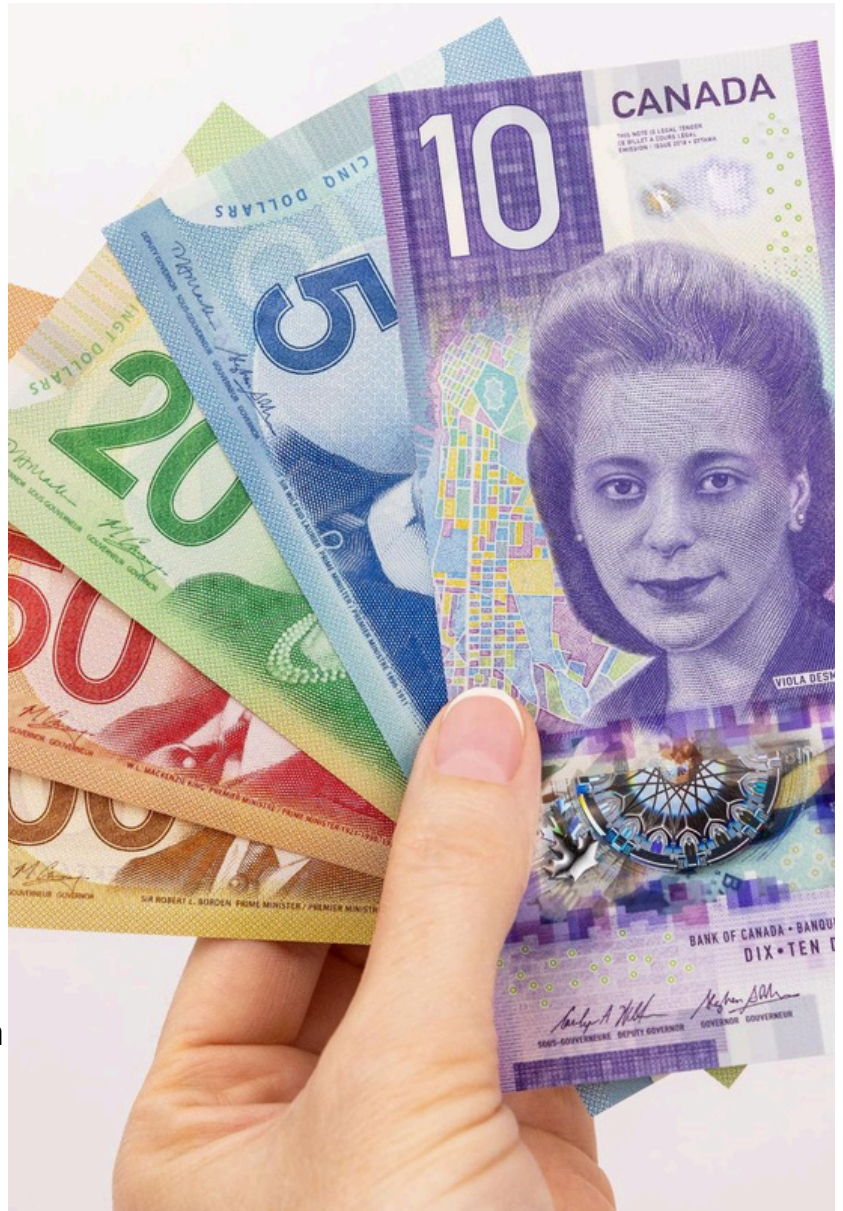
## Kin Canada Foundation

Has this ever happened to you? You're in the middle of a great fundraiser, and a member of the public approaches you about making a donation of \$20 or more. But they would like a receipt.

Your club and your community can really make good use of their generosity. But clubs can't issue tax receipts.

The next time you are planning an event that you believe may attract generous donors, consider getting the Kin Canada Foundation involved. A simple matter of setting up a partnership with Kin Canada allows generous people to donate to the community's needs and still get a receipt.

Kin Canada takes the donations, issues a charitable donation receipt to the donor, and gives you back the donation, and does all of this for a very small fee.



Visit the website to see more details on this partnership

<https://kincanadafoundation.ca/taxable-receipts-community-support-program/>

## Awards For the Winning!

As a club, or as an individual,, we all appreciate a pat on the back and recognition for a job well done. But Kin Canada offers an incredible array of awards to show off your achievements.

### Member Awards

Maple Leaf Award of Distinction  
Kin Pride and Kin Passion Award  
Founders Award for Achievement  
Members Award of Excellence  
Kin Excellence Program  
Founding Members Speaking Award  
Gem Award  
Outstanding Zone Award  
Ian F. McClure

### Club Awards

Boake Efficiency and Outstanding Boake Efficiency Award  
Charter Champions Award  
Outstanding Club Award  
Ken Pierce Membership Growth Award  
Bill Skelly Award  
Hal and Elspeth Rogers National Service Award  
Ambassadors of Learning Award

Or maybe consider a National President's Recognition Award or an Outstanding Kin Award. These Nomination Awards and others are available as well.

If I listed all the information about these awards, it would take several more pages. Instead, I suggest a trip to iKin Express and a click on Awards to see all the details. It's as simple as [www.iKin.ca](http://www.iKin.ca)