



## 19 May, 2007 Meeting Minutes

### Attendees

Kevin Keay Smith	ORRA Chair	Brampton Motorcycle Association
Mike Raber	ORRA Public Relations	Zenriders
Marlene Steele	ORRA Treasurer	Zenriders
Mike Bossio+ Guest		French Connection Riders
Rod Doré + Guest		NA40+ Riders
Al Savoury + Guest		NA40+ Riders
Mike Cutts		Spokes and Mags
Buck Sarzin + Guest		French Connection Riders
Steve Sarazin		French Connection Riders
Jules Delorme+Dorothy		French Connection Riders
Jean Guy		French Connection Riders
Liette Gratton		French Connection Riders
Rich Phillip		French Connection Riders
Colette Derocher		French Connection Riders

### Absentia Rights

Marlene Steele ICBA – Hamilton

### Guests

Guy Charron Ottawa River Riders  
Bill Noel Ottawa River Riders  
Rob Dale Pastor and Host– Bikers Church

- **Membership**

- a. Thanks are given to Mike Bossio and Pastor Rob at Bikers Church for hosting and setting up the meeting. Introductions of all present and acceptance of last meetings minutes. Accepted by Mike Raber, seconded by Al Savoury
- b. The Executive announce that the Chrome Divas have decided to join ORRA bringing our numbers close to 900 members.

- **Executive**

- a. At the previous meeting a draft benefit statement was handed out for comments. Rod Doré volunteered to help modify it. He distributed copies to all parties and invited further comment. It was noted that Rod has done an excellent job on this next draft, and has captured the essence of ORRA. It is believed that only minor adjustments will have

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to be made from this point forth. Comments are to be forwarded to Rod at dorerod@rogers.com.

- **Web Site**

- a. Chad King is continuing to develop the new web site along with David Snodgrass. The assembled members felt that this was becoming critical, as the old site is outdated, cumbersome, and difficult to maintain. The Executive are continuing to look at the possibility outsourcing this, as the website is our primary communication tool, first point of contact for potential members, and the volume of work related to the website may be too much for volunteers accomplish.

- **Treasurer**

- a. Marlene gave the financial position. Accepted by Mike Bossio, and seconded by Rod Doré.

- **Public Relations**

- a. For those present unfamiliar with ORRA, Mike elaborated on ORRA's goals.
- b. Mike gave a de-briefing on the 29 April 2007 Spring Tune-up, which was run by ORRA and included circle checks, accident scene management, and was loosely based on the CSC refresher course practical components.. It was a good way to commence the season, improve our skills, and meet our fellow members. It was well received, as attested by members in attendance that participated in the event. Special thanks to Mike and Marlene and the Zenriders for coordinating and hosting the event. Thanks also to Rosy Toes, the White Knights, the instructors for making the event a continuing success. Mike also stated that ORRA can assist regions in putting their own event next year.
- c. Mike also stated that ORRA is working with CAA to get an ORRA motorcycle roadside assistance program for next year. The members present stated that the National Auto League had an excellent program, and they should also be approached.

- **Safety and Awareness**

- a. ORRA Executive have determined that our continuing niche is to focus on safety for the upcoming years. ORRA put out a press release about the upcoming Spring Tune-up. We followed that with a press release to the media about May being motorcycle awareness month. This went to the Toronto Star, the Toronto Sun, and Mojo Magazine. An electronic copy was given to Mike Bossio for distribution to their local media.
- b. SOAR suggested that awareness could also include working with the BEU, as they target all bikers as opposed to their intended targets. SOAR indicated that they have managed to do this successfully in the Ottawa region.

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- **Motorcyclists Confederation of Canada**

- a. Kevin gave an update on the MCC, which included updates on:
  - i. The Offroad Council, which is currently fighting land use issues and noise issues, which has already started to infect road riding,
  - ii. The Womens Riders Council whose first electronic survey results will be published soon, with a second more elaborate survey being scheduled in the coming months,
  - iii. The pending United Nations legislation which will affect motorcycling in the future, in terms on noise emissions and standardized testing for such varied items as carbon emissions, braking, lighting, seatbelts, airbags, and the like,
  - iv. And the continuing protection of motorcyclists rights at all levels municipally, regionally, and federally.
  - v. For the new participants, the formation and successes of MCC to date were reviewed.
- b. MCC has partnered with the British Columbia Safety Council for the inaugural national motorcycle safety symposium in British Columbia, which was originally to be held in spring 2007. This has now been changed to September 2007. All ORRA members can participate in the event. Interested members can find information about the event on the MCC website, or through the ORRA Executive.
- c. The MCC ramped up their forces for the HOV lane discussion. The petition was submitted, and ORRA sent a letter in support of their motion (attached). The Honourable Minister Donna Cansfield has declined to make amendments to the legislation at this time. Various media have taken up the cause, with the Toronto Star leading the charge in last Saturdays Wheels section.
  - i. After the questions raised at the last meeting, MCC has reported back to ORRA that the HOV lanes are only on 400 series highways, and exist only on the 404, 403, and 401 currently. MCC noted that other regions have similar lanes, but these have been created by municipal legislation, so the rules governing their use vary regionally. Members should check with their local governments for clarification. Please report back to the ORRA Executive whatever information you have, so that our riding members can be well informed when riding in your areas.

- **IMSS Booth and other shows**

- a. Mike Bossio noted that the Ottawa show is happening 2,3 June and he has booked a space for ORRA and the French Connection Riders.

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- **Regional Model**

- a. Kevin elaborated ORRA's continuing efforts to become truly provincial in nature with today's meeting was the second outside the GTA. Based on attendance, it was noted that the perception is that things are starting to decentralize, and this is a long overdue and welcome change. The Executive noted that even though most of us reside in the GTA, we consider ourselves custodians of a provincial body, and look forward to the time, when we will more accurately reflect the provincial motorcycling community. Mike Bossio noted that SOAR had finally held a meeting, and minutes are been prepared. Some of their Executive members are at today's ORRA meeting. It was noted that SOAR represented what ORRA is trying to achieve in its regional model, and that we look forward to SOAR members joining ORRA, and becoming a functional model for other Ontario regions to emulate. See attached for the proposed regional model. Comments are welcome and expected.

- **Insurance**

- a. Mike Raber noted that another Insurer was entering the market and may help drive the cost of insurance down. At this time, only positive responses have been forwarded to the Executive regarding this.
- b. ORRA has submitted their application to Dalton Timmis in an effort to leverage a group discount for ORRA Members through Dalton Timmis with Aviva Insurance. Look for an update at the next meeting.

- **Upcoming Meetings**

- a. The next meetings are schedules as follows:
- b. 15 Sept 2007 – To be hosted by the Spokes and Mags in Cornwall at the Knights of Columbus Centre 205 Amelia Street in Cornwall.
- c. 10 Nov 2007 – Location to be determined.(Sudbury?)
- d. 5 Jan 2008 – International Motorcycle Supershow at noon
- e. April 2008 – International Motorcycle Supershow

- **Events**

- a. Zenriders commented on their successful Ironbutt rally which had over 50 riders start, and 35 riders successfully finish.
- b. Many local members expressed concern that they could draw riders from outside the area, but struggled to get local participation. Problems noted varied from the name of the event, to proximity, to duration. All of these were plausible.

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### Proposed Regional Model

	A	B	Centre	D	E	
	West	West Centre	Centre	East Centre	East	
1	Rainy River (Dryden) (Kenora) (Madsen) and surrounding area	Algoma Sudbury Timiskaming Cochrane Manitoulin				<b>Centre North</b>
2	Grey Bruce	Simcoe Muskoka Parry sound		Renfrew Nipissing		<b>Centre</b>
3	Huron Perth Waterloo Wellington	Halton Peel Dufferin Metro Toronto York	Durham Victoria Northumberland Haliburton	Hastings Lennox Addington Frontenac	Lanark Leeds Grenville Ottawa Carleton Prescott Russell Stormont Dundas Glengarry	<b>Centre South</b>
4	Essex Kent Lambton Elgin Middlesex	Haldimand Norfolk Niagara Hamilton Wentworth Brant				<b>South</b>

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Honourable Donna Cansfield  
Minister of Transportation  
Ferguson Block, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
77 Wellesley Street West  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 1Z8

Dear Right Honourable Minister,

We applaud the Ministry's achievements with the HOV lane program, for decreasing commuting times, and reducing pollution, during its first year.

However, we implore the Ministry of Transportation to amend current regulations, and allow motorcycles access to these HOV lanes *at any time*, in consistence with the Compass message boards "Please give motorcycles space for safety" message. Failure to do so, forces solo motorcyclists into the center lane, which has been deemed the "suicide lane" by many of us, and is contrary to the "best practices" noted in the MOT' own handbook. In amending the current regulations, the Ministry of Transportation will be returning a safety enhancement to motorcyclists, without increasing traffic volume or compromising the HOV programs objectives. This will also bring the Province of Ontario regulations into alignment with the other Provinces and States, which allow unfettered access to these lanes.

The Ontario Road Riders Association believes that an announcement timed for the beginning of May, which is Motorcycle Awareness Month, would serve all parties to the fullest, as it would return the safest lane to motorcyclists, and prove that the Ministry of Transportation is still committed to the HOV program, and the welfare of all highway users.

The Ontario Road Riders Association supports the Motorcyclists Confederation of Canada (MCC), and would urge the Ministry of Transportation to review the MCC HOV lane access petition.

The Ontario Road Riders Association (ORRA) is an association of road riding motorcycle clubs representing almost 1,000 individual riders based in central Ontario. The Ontario Road Riders Associations primary objective is safety and awareness for all motorcyclists, and to this end we run rider skills refreshers every year, promote rider training, distribute or make available literature for safe riding, to ensure that each and every rider enjoys their ride and returns home safely to their loved ones.

Cordially yours,  
Kevin Keay Smith – Chairman  
Ontario Road Riders Association.

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### Ontario Road Riders Association (O.R.R.A.) Member Benefit Statement

#### What is ORRA ?

ORRA is an association of Motorcycling Clubs located within the Province of Ontario. This association acts to represent its member clubs with a united voice to all legislative bodies and manufacturers on issues affecting the motorcycle community.

ORRA ...

- Is a Strong promoter of safe and lawful motorcycling in Ontario.
- Forms a collective of Clubs in Ontario.
- Promotes motorcycle safety, education, and awareness within O.R.R.A.'s membership, the motorcycling community and the public.
- Liaison's between provincial, federal and local municipalities regarding motorcycle legislation and other issues affecting the motorcycle community.
- Encourages members to take an active role in local community oriented charities and organizations.
- Supports other similarly motivated organizations in achieving and/or improving their objectives, and public acceptance of motorcycling.

----- Our Motto -----

**"CLUBS WORKING TOGETHER TO PROMOTE  
A POSITIVE IMAGE OF MOTORCYCLING"**

#### Why Should My Club Join ORRA ?

If you believe that the motorcycling community needs a clear and united voice on issues that affect the future of our sport, and want to promote safely, then you should join the Ontario Road Riders Association.

- Does your Club work to raise awareness for motorcycling issues? ..... Join ORRA.
- What to be part of a larger voice? ..... Join ORRA.
- Need liability insurance? ..... Join ORRA.
- *[add a few more items here]*

#### How is ORRA fulfilling its Mandate ?

- Member of MCC
  - Through which General Liability Insurance is arranged at unbeatable rates.
  - A national voice for motorcyclists.
- Developing a Regional Model to expand motorcycle rider representation.
- Holds meetings 4 or 5 times each year with member clubs.
- Actively seeking status for reduced Motor Vehicle (motorcycle) insurance rates.
- *[add a few more items here]*

#### Want Further Information ?

ORRA [www.orra.on.ca](http://www.orra.on.ca)  
MCC [www.motorcycling.ca](http://www.motorcycling.ca)

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