

The National ROUNDUP

JULY 2025
ISSUE #2



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IPA Canada members have been generous in their responses to our first issue of the National Roundup and I thank each of you for your kind words. In the first issue, I introduced a contest in my search for article inputs from the membership. The prize that will be assigned after the draw (December 2025) consists of a two week stay at a private villa outside of Merida, Mexico (does not include airfare or transfers). Only members who submit printable articles will be entered into the draw.

I also invite members to contact me if the member has any particular idea or subject matter on which the member would like to see an article. I ask only that if you do, send me an email with sufficient advance notice to allow me to research the facts so I can produce the type of article you will appreciate and will be able to trust to be accurate. My email address is

newslettereditor@ipa-canada.org

I also would encourage members to share this newsletter with other non-member law enforcement personnel as a recruiting tool. In future issues, we may be highlighting some of the many benefits of membership in the IPA. These would be further incentives for law enforcement to consider membership in the world's best law enforcement social organization.

Membership recruitment is not nearly as difficult as many members seem to think. One region in Canada has increased its membership by almost 50% in 18 months. If we could all do that, our organization would grow fantastically and that growth would make the negotiation of greater benefits for members, that much easier. Remember to talk to your fellow LE workers and tell them what a great organization we have...and it costs only \$35 per year!



INTERNATIONAL POLICE ASSOCIATION, SECTION CANADA

President's Message September 2025

Hello colleagues.

I hope everyone is enjoying a safe and pleasant summer and taking full advantage of the excellent weather.

First and foremost, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to Guy Boismenu, who has dedicated the past ten years to creating membership cards for our members. After a decade of commendable service, Guy has chosen to step down from his role as Cardmaster to enjoy a well-deserved retirement. Consequently, the National Executive Bureau is seeking a volunteer to assume this position; in the meantime, I will handle these responsibilities until a successor is found. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me to discuss the details of the role. Additionally, the NEB is currently exploring digital membership cards, and we anticipate a report will soon be submitted to the NEB, which will then make recommendations to the National Executive Council regarding their implementation.

I am pleased to announce that I have launched an Instagram account for our members to follow. This platform will help keep everyone up to date with activities taking place globally within other national sections. I encourage you to follow the account to stay informed about international events and news.

I remain optimistic that some of you will consider participating in the IPA Games and other activities hosted by national sections worldwide. Please consult your regional presidents or visit our national website for information on available subsidies for event attendance. I strongly encourage members to take advantage of these opportunities and proudly represent Section Canada at these events.

The National General Meeting is scheduled for October and will be conducted virtually. Further details, including the meeting link, will be provided in the coming months.

I urge all regions to organize more social events to foster member engagement and camaraderie. Enhancing our social calendar will not only strengthen existing relationships but also provide opportunities to introduce potential new members to our association. Increasing our membership depends on your efforts to invite and encourage others to join. The benefits of membership, including travel perks through Perkopolis, make our association truly valuable.

Finally, I would like to thank Gary Walsh for his commitment to establishing the Riders of IPA, an initiative that connects members with motorcycles and enables them to participate in various local functions. If you are interested in joining the Riders of IPA, please contact me, and I will facilitate an introduction to Gary.

I would like to conclude by encouraging members to support our recruitment efforts and help

expand our Association's membership. Currently, Canada maintains one of the smallest memberships within the Association. While geographical challenges are significant, I respectfully urge you to consider recruiting potential members from your region.

Please continue to enjoy this wonderful weather and the camaraderie of your colleagues, and stay safe.

Thank you for your ongoing support and involvement.

Message from the Publisher



Thank you for all of the very positive feedback received after publication of Issue #1. Nothing motivates people more than an obvious appreciation of the work done. Also, I have already received articles from members for future issues, including this one. Each of those contributors will have his or her name entered into the draw for the two week stay in Mexico. That draw will occur in December of this year, so please, submit your articles in time to be entered into it.

Be sure to look into the recruiting article in this issue submitted by Wally Romanuck, Vice-President of Region 4 for Saskatchewan North. This article details the plan that Wally put together to take in front of the Saskatoon Police Services. Similar attempts have been made over the years in various regions, some with success and others, not so much. Wally's plan is very impressive and only time will tell how well it may work, however, if we don't try presentations such as Wally's, we will be missing many great opportunities for recruitment.

Congratulations to Wally and Region 4 on a job well done.

Do you want to recruit more members for your Region? Then have a look at this great template, courtesy of IPA R4 Member, Wally Romanuk.



Recruiting Strategy Brief

Date submitted: June 02, 2025		Presentation Date: May 27 & 28, 2025	
Project name	Recruiting Initiative For IPA Canada Region 4		
Project requestor	Wally Romanuk - VP - Sask North		
Project summary and objective Briefly describe the market situation and opportunity. What are we trying to achieve?	Bring IPA Canada Region 4 information to members of the Saskatoon Police Service so they may be able to determine if joining the IPA is an opportunity they may wish to take advantage of.		
Product/service description	Annual membership to IPA Canada Region 4		
Target audience Who are we talking to? Identify by age, gender, job title, income, location and lifestyle. What do they think of us? What are their needs, problems, motivations, or hot buttons? How are they solving their problems now?	In the past, efforts had been made to target police recruits with IPA Canada/International information. Very little uptake was realized with this effort. New police recruits seem more focused on learning objectives and their new training, home life (young families) than joining a fraternal organization. This initiative will target more senior members in Patrol Div at Saskatoon Police Service. This demographic, it is felt, would be more open to the IPA considering many of these members would be closer to their retirement dates and may already have a substantial number of years of service.		
Competitors Who are they and what are their notable strengths, weaknesses?	Competitors could be other fraternal organizations such as Kinsmen, Knights of Columbus, Masons, Rotary, etc. Even their own veteran's organizations could be considered competitors as they charge a membership fee. However, local veteran's groups do not offer the same benefits such as Youth Scholarships, Travel Opportunities, Vendor Discounts and IPA hosted events around the world.		



Key messages and copy points What is the single most important message to communicate? What are the supporting messages important to this audience? Spell out the "big idea" and all other info we want to convey, including important product or service details, dates and locations, etc.	Articulate the specific benefits of membership in the IPA that cannot be had with other groups. IE: Scholarships, Group Travel, Free/Low Cost accommodations, exclusive insights into other locations including their local law enforcement organizations.
Visuals—photos and graphics Who, what, where are we showing? If using existing graphics, include file names and locations.	Wally Romanuck put up an IPA recruiting poster in the SPS parade room several days before our presentations that included IPA contact info and his personal contact info. Additionally, Wally provided 8x10 photos of some of his adventures around the world with the IPA.
Offer/fulfillment piece details Are we offering an incentive for responding? Do we need a separate email or letter to go with that?	No incentive was provided with this recruiting initiative. That is not to say that in future recruiting presentations our Region could not offer some sort of joining benefit (ig: 1st year at half price?)
Call to action What specific action do we want recipients to take?	Region 4 is wanting to recruit more members of Saskatoon Police Service to our group.
Resources	Resources used for this event: 1. Recruiting posters 2. Internet - IPA International Recruiting Video 3. IPA Canada R4 business cards were left with prospective members 4. Wally used personal photographs of his adventures through the IPA 5. Travel reimbursement for Dennis Eberle - Fuel cost (\$94.20) 6. 5 Lodging - provided free - thanks to Diane & Wally Romanuck



Project schedule

Customize as necessary. For example, if the job is to write Google ads, include steps for the digital marketing strategist to research keywords and create ad groups for the writer to write to.

Schedule	Date
Kickoff meeting	<u>AGM</u> - Feb 27, 2025
Follow-up meeting	Messages exchanged between <u>Romanuck</u> & <u>Eberle</u> - various dates
Delivery Date	May 27 & 28, 2025
Debrief	May 28, 2025

Project budget

Project sign-off

Review and Approval Team

Final Approval Person

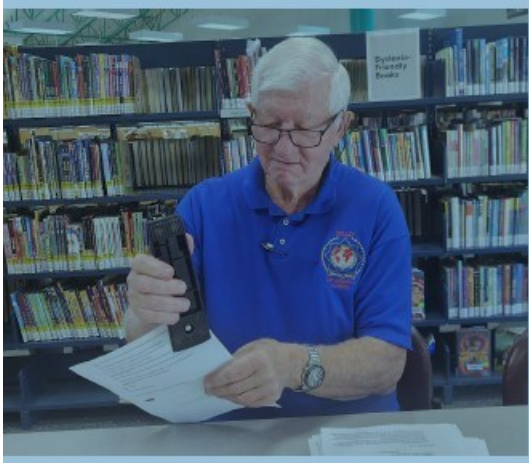
IPA Region 4 Executive Group

Dennis Eberle
Pres - IPA Canada Region 4
480 931-9288

Notes

See Appendix A for event pics

IPA Recruiting Presentations to Saskatoon Police Service May 27 & 28, 2025



Wally Romanuck hard at work stapling together hard copy applications for IPA Canada Region 4



Dennis Eberle, Lisa Nowosad and Wally Romanuck at Saskatoon Police Service HQ,
May 27, 2025



Dennis Eberle & Paul Pitzel

Wally Romanuck took Dennis Eberle to visit the
Gordie Howe statue and gravesite at
Saskatoon's SaskTel Centre



S/Sgt Dean Gulka and Wally Romanuk
25 May 2025

S/Sgt Dean Gulka &
Wally Romanuk
25May28

BG's Positively Speaking

The Tradeoff

Most of us have area's in our life in which we would like to be more successful. The question is, why aren't we more successful? What stops us from achieving the things we want to?

The answer can often be found in the choices we make in our daily living. Every day of our lives we have to make choices, most of them simple ones like ; Which shirt, or dress, should I wear today? What shall we have for dinner tonight? Hey, some people even ask themselves "Which car shall I drive this morning?"

When we ask these question of ourselves we are in effect 'Trading off' one thing for another. We find them relatively easy and they give us a feeling that we have some control over what happens in our lives.

There is another group of choices available to us but these tradeoff's are more difficult to handle. We are all aware that "You can't get something for nothing", and that, "Everything has it's price". So if we want a greater degree of achievement in some area of our life we must be prepared to pay the price. That price may be in the form of giving up some of your 'Off ' time, learning new skills, foregoing that weekly night out, a few more hours of work each week, dedicating more time to your spouse or family, spending time as a volunteer. It may even involve some financial input.

Trade-off's are all about what you value most, the GOOD life you now have or the BETTER one you could have if you make the trade-off's. Choices have elements of risk involved. Your choices will be determined by the amount of risk you are willing to take.

What Are You Willing To Trade-off?*

Have You Heard....?

The Litigious Society– British litigant Jane Mulcahy was turned down twice recently in her attempts to sue her former divorce lawyers for negligence although they had won her case, defeating her husband's contentions. The lawyers were negligent, she said, because they never told her that if she "won" the lawsuit, the marriage would be over. Lord Justice Briggs, in the second appeal, said that Mulcahy's Roman Catholic faith should have tipped her off that "divorce" ended the marriage.*

* Accreditation to Brian Garvey and the Perkulator

A Well Deserved Reward*

There are many in our society all too eager to take the back end rewards, without contributing effort at the front end. They have an attitude of 'entitlement'. Asking, "What can I get out of it?" instead of, "What can I put into it?"

A farmer earns rewards after the harvest, putting in the effort up front; preparing the ground, planting seeds, nursing the seeds, making sure are not crowded out by other species, and are properly irrigated. Then after harvesting the crop, collecting the back end reward. Having no idea at the start what that final reward may be, they know only what might come, if they do everything right. If they mess up or Mother Nature throws them a curve, they will take a lesser reward. They are only 'entitled' to the results of the harvest.

When there is talk of 'Entitlements', usually by our politicians, it's generally focused on Health care, Education, Unemployment benefits and social programs, there's no mention of those corporate CEO's who have salaries that range from \$1- 5 million with multi- million dollar exit packages, many exiting their companies in a worse condition than when they took over. Would our economy be in better shape if they were paid by performance, not 'entitlement'? What about politicians and bureaucrats that have exorbitant pension plans, are they not guilty of 'entitlement'?

These questions are not political ones but ethical and moral ones. Is it not ethical and moral that we be rewarded by what we contribute to society and that we take care of those who are not able? We can all contribute to a happier, fairer and more caring society if we would only ask of ourselves, "What can I put into it?"

Then We Can Have That Well Deserved Reward!

Credit to Brian Garvey and the Perkulator



Temiskaming Shores Police was formed when the towns of Dymond, New Liskeard and Haileybury amalgamated. Like many small towns and cities, Temiskaming Shores decided to disband the department in favour of the O.P.P. taking over the policing of the new city.

My Year as A Traffic Officer

By Constable James Aguirre (R5)

By way of introduction, I am an active (7yr) member with the Calgary Police Service. I spent my first 6 years of policing working in both our District 1 (downtown) and District 7 (northern Calgary) areas and in March 2024 made my way into our Traffic Section as a member of our Traffic Response Unit. In this unit as is likely the case throughout most of Canada I investigate all serious injury or fatal collisions, investigate impaired driving offences, conduct traffic enforcement (in the summer as a motor officer), and generally assist with emergency calls for service throughout the city.

Possibly one of the best things about working in this unit is that I am not bound by a certain geographical location. I can choose to work in any part of the City of Calgary that I see fit at my leisure and have quite a flexible schedule. What does this mean for the IPA? Well, it means that for the last year plus (June at the time of writing this article) I have been able to spread the IPA word to members in my service city wide. I have been able to make time to see most if not all the IPA visitors Calgary has received in my tenure in the unit. I have found that in this position I have been able to and have had the freedom to be quite the advocate for the IPA; not only in trying to recruit new members but in meeting with current members that might be close by in the neighboring communities. I remember when I first became an IPA member reading about the fact that our founder, Arthur Troop, was also a traffic officer himself. I wonder if he had the same freedom to connect with members as an officer in the UK and if this contributed to the formation of the IPA.



Me (on the bike) and one of my teammates

I am in a position where I have many opportunities to really spread the motto of “Service Through Friendship”. It makes sense that a Traffic Officer, who has the freedom of the city, can make the time to engage with his peers. From an operational perspective I always saw Traffic as an under-utilised unit. An unconventional resource to the entire police service that could be used in a scope beyond that of traditional traffic enforcement. As a Traffic Unit I can be anywhere in the city at any given time and easily deploy to assist with emergencies. Being knowledgeable in the rules of the road I can lawfully stop any motor vehicle for intelligence gathering, sobriety checks, and of course traffic enforcement. I am in a position where I can speed up response times and be the first unit out when patrol is overwhelmed, or an officer is in trouble. Often doing speed enforcement in school or playground zones I can be (and should be) among the first to respond to an active shooter situation in those areas. Finally, during the summer, I can do it all on a motorcycle and have the maneuverability to go places where a patrol car can’t normally go such as bike paths and sidewalks.



A Crazy Criminal:

Planning is crucial when attempting to commit a crime, and it is essential to the success of the act that every detail be well thought out in advance. But Derrick Mosley didn’t place very high importance on these things before he decided to rob a gun store, armed with only a baseball bat. Seeing as it was a gun shop, the manager pulled a gun on the would-be robber and kept him in the crosshairs until authorities arrived.

Sovereign Citizen Movement

Many of us have encountered or at least heard of this wacky group of people who refer to themselves or used to refer to themselves as “Sovereign Citizens”. This loose group of idiots have recently begun to use other “titles” is the U.S.A. because the “Sovereign Citizen” Movement is the USA has been declared by the US Government to be a terrorist organization.

These “so-called Sovereigns” now refer to themselves by other names such as “American Nationals”, “Moorish” and even “Indigenous Moors”. Regardless of what they call themselves, they are trouble.

What is a sovereign citizen?

Predominantly found throughout the U.S.A., they can also be found in Canada, Australia and the U.K. These folks believe that due to some imaginary loopholes in the U.S. constitution, they can declare that laws do not apply to them. These “law scholars” as they often refer to themselves tend to get their “legal Information” from fellow sovereigns on the internet. Without ever checking thoroughly, they believe that the internet source of their misinformation trumps all of the police officers, lawyers and judges information gleaned from years of study and practice. The use of these internet sites as a source of accurate law does no one any justice. The loopholes in the laws that these people believe in simply do not exist. These people are so deranged that you could expect to find a Sov-Cit in Canada, Australia or the U.K. citing some misguided reference to the U.S. constitution or U..S. case law as their justification for breaking the law in Canada or other foreign countries.

For many police officers, a traffic stop will be the most likely way to encounter a member of the sovereign citizen movement. Please [do not take them lightly](#). Most sovereign citizens are basically law-abiding people, albeit highly misinformed about how the law works. However, some sovereigns have shown a willingness and ability to be violent. If you suspect you are dealing with a sovereign citizen as a LEO, please call for [backup](#).

If you read any sovereign literature, they advocate trying to confuse and befuddle the police. Their mantra is to make a cop so confounded that the officer decides to end the contract before they become more perplexed.

1. “I am not driving, I am traveling.”

Often the sovereign citizens don’t bother to pay for their licenses. They feel the right to free movement means they do not need a license. Travel is a right, which is true. What the sovereigns fail to grasp is they are free to travel, by foot, by bike, even by horse. A car is a complex machine. To operate a complex machine requires training and a license to operate said machine. Heck, here in Canada all our driving laws are worded with “operate a motor vehicle”; none say “drive.”

2. “As a free person, I do not recognize the jurisdiction you have blah blah blah blah...”

At some point, sovereign citizens will say they are free persons. As a free person, they are not subject to any local laws and are “free of any legal constraints,” including taxes and fines.

What the sovereign citizen movement fails to grasp is that they want all the protection of local government without paying the cost for it. Ask a sovereign what they would do if their child was hurt. Ask if their house was on fire, how would they plan to put it out.

Their response is always to call 911. It is a funny, eye-opening experience to point out that 911 and the fire/EMS or police service is a local, tax-funded entity. So if they are a free person, well maybe 911 is something they are free to keep away from as well -- as in no ambulance and no fire trucks and no police responses for them because they are not paying for the service.

3. “Speeding is not a crime; a crime requires an ‘injured party.’”

In a sovereign citizen’s twisted view of the law, he/she feels ordinance violations are not valid because there is no victim. Yet they forget we have different levels of legal violations in this country.

Here in Canada, most traffic and other minor violations are statute, ordinance or bylaw violations. These are not criminal offenses but are Provincial offenses. It's considered a "strict liability" offense, meaning the prosecution only needs to prove the act of speeding occurred, not the driver's intent. No “victim” is required.

4. “As a free person, your license plate taxes do not apply to me.”

It seems some sovereign citizens will make their own license plates for their cars. Even in Canada, these plates will display terms like:

- Constitutional Plate
- Exempt: Sovereign Neutral Non-Combatant
- Sovereign Christian Citizen
- Moorish American
- American National and other non-legal terms

They feel they are exempt from the ‘illegal’ tax on car ownership.

These sovereigns love to use legal terms and talk about contracts. They forget the nice roads they “travel” on have to be paved and, in the winter, plowed. Point out to them that there is a social contract between the people using the roads and the people keeping the roads open for travel. Someone needs to pay for the cost of the roads, so license plate costs are not a tax, they are a user fee.

5. “Am I being detained?”

The sovereign citizens and the [CopBlock](#) movement both love this question. People who got their law degrees by reading Facebook comments feel that being detained is the same as an arrest. Yet real lawyers can explain the difference between the two.

Yes, a traffic stop is a short investigative detention. An officer with reasonable suspicion that a violation has taken place may stop someone for a short time to establish facts related to that violation. How brief that short time will be is decided solely by the citizen. If they want to play games, they are the ones making the contact last longer.

Conclusion

Remember, some sovereign citizens have a propensity for violence. Make sure you have [backup](#). Keep your eyes open for threats. Just because sovereign citizens are dumb enough to get brainwashed into some crazy belief system does not mean they are too stupid to learn tactics to hurt us.

The primary tactic of the sovereign citizen movement is causing confusion. Turn the tables on them and confuse them. Make them question what they have learned by watching videos on YouTube. Twice I have used the example of the fire department on a sovereign citizen. Both times they were so flummoxed they forgot all the other rhetoric.

CREDIT—This article was originally written by “POLICE !” with minor changes made to accommodate Canadian policing.



Police Menu—Blueberry Cheesecake French Toast

Ingredients:

1 large loaf of French bread OR Cinnamon Rasin bread
8 eggs
2 1/2 cups of half and half
5/6 cup of sugar
2 tsp of cinnamon
2 tsp of vanilla extract
1/2 tsp of salt
1 cup fresh blueberries—sub for frozen berries dusted in flour
1 8 oz cream cheese, cut into 1 inch cubes
1 cup water
2 tbsp of corn starch
2 cups of blueberries

Directions - mixture

Butter a 9" x 13" casserole pan

Cut bread into 2" cubes and set aside

In a large bowl, combine eggs, half and half, sugar, cinnamon, vanilla and salt and whisk until well blended

Place 1/2 of the bread cubes in the casserole dish

Top with 1/2 of the cream cheese cubes and of the blueberries

Add remaining bread cubes and cheese cubes and 1/2 of the remaining blueberries

Pour egg mixture over bread cubes, pressing the mixture into the dish in order to completely soak the bread.

Cover with plastic wrap and place in the refrigerator for at least 2 hours but preferably overnight.

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees

Remove plastic from dish and change to aluminum foil to cover the dish and bake for 30 minutes

Remove the foil and bake for another 30 minutes

Remove and cool for a few minutes (15) and then pour blueberry sauce over the mixture.

See next page for the Blueberry sauce recipe, ingredients included above.

Blueberry Sauce

- 1) in a small saucepan, combine sugar, water and cornstarch over heat until Simmering
- 2) Add Blueberries and simmer for 10 minutes. Using a fork, break up the berries to whatever consistency you desire in the sauce
- 3) Cool slightly before serving over the bread mixture.



World's Dumbest Criminals

The stupidest criminal out has got to be Dennis Hawkins, a 48-year-old man who tried to rob a bank in Pittsburgh. Hawkins clearly didn't get the memo about needing a good disguise that can quickly blend into the crowd after the crime, as he chose a woman's blonde wig, fake breasts and bright clown pants. Even worse still, in his failed attempt to pretend to be a woman, he didn't even take the time to shave his facial hair. As if the man wasn't noticeable enough, he drew even more attention to himself when he tried to steal a car from a nearby gas station, where the attendant called then called the police, who apprehended Hawkins soon after.

In 2010, Bailey and an unnamed juvenile accomplice decided to rob a bank in Fairfield, Connecticut. But in an attempt to speed up the process of the crime, Bailey called the bank in advance to let them know that they were coming to rob it. His obvious intent was to give the bank plenty of time to get the money ready so he could just pick it up and leave quickly. Of course, the bank decided to call the authorities and notify them of the robbers' arrival and the two men were arrested by police without incident.

In 2008, an 18-year-old man named Ruben Zarate attempted to rob a muffler shop in Chicago. After demanding money, he was told that most of the cash was stored in a safe that could only be opened by the manager, who wasn't scheduled to come in until a few hours later. To have himself some trouble, Zarate left his cell phone number for the store to call him back once the manager arrived. Of course, the store first called the police and then called Zarate back. When he came back and noticed the police were waiting for him, he engaged in a brief shootout with the cops before eventually being arrested.

One of the keys to success when completing a burglary is to pick the right target. The best target is likely an empty house, while pretty much the worst possible target would be a house full of police officers. Well, the latter is exactly what Darren Kimpton decided to choose. The house he has selected as his target was already burgled earlier in the evening, and thus police officers were already on the scene when Kimpton tried to break in. Also, Kimpton tried to rob a separate house earlier in the day, but cut himself and fled. However, he left a trail of blood at the scene and could therefore be identified in that crime too.

While attempting to break into and rob his own mother's home during broad daylight, James Blankenship got spooked and went to hide in the crawl space. When apprehended by police, Blankenship was extremely stunned because he didn't think it was possible to be arrested for burglary during the day. That's right; this guy thought he couldn't be arrested for burglary because it wasn't nighttime.

Breaking into homes can be tiring work, but most criminals are smart enough to wait until they get home before taking a nap. Not Mark Smith, though. In 2007, Smith (who was high on Valium and drunk on vodka) decided to break into a home and, since he was likely feeling the effects of the drugs and alcohol he had consumed, curl up for a nap in the homeowner's bed. He was woken up by the local police and sentenced to 18 months.



CITATION

Kale Havervold "10 Of The Stupidest Criminals Of All Time" 2 November 2015.

HowStuffWorks.com. <<https://people.howstuffworks.com/10-of-the-stupidest-criminals-of-all-time.htm>> 19 April 2025

Friendship Week in Japan

March 22 to March 29, 2025

I would like to share with you a wonderful Friendship Week spent in Japan from March 22 to 29, 2025. Fifteen countries were represented, with 46 IPA members, including Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada (three members with spouses: Philip Mann, Michael Boothe, and myself), Estonia, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States, plus two companions from Japan.

We arrived in Osaka, and there we received a very warm welcome and were escorted to the designated hotel to begin our trip. It should be noted that this trip was organized by Mr. Ryoji Suzuki, and everything had been planned to make our stay enjoyable. In fact, it was truly a turnkey trip. On the day of arrival, after settling in, we left by bus for dinner at the KKR Hotel restaurant and returned to the Granvia Osaka Hotel.

The next day, March 23rd, we left the hotel to travel to Hiroshima by ultra-fast Shinkansen, nicknamed the Bullet Train. After dinner, we went to Miyajima Island to visit the Itsukushima Shrine, a Shinto temple. At the end of the day, we had dinner at the Granvia Hiroshima Hotel.

On March 24th, we took the tram to the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. It was a very moving moment to relive this sad event from World War II. In the afternoon, we took the Shinkansen to Himeji to visit Himeji Castle. Then, in the late afternoon, we took another Shinkansen to Kyoto.

On March 25th, we took a guided tour of Kyoto, stopping at Kiyomizudera Temple and Nijo Castle. We broke for lunch and visited Kinkakuji Temple (a golden temple) and Toei Kyoto Studio Park (a place mostly reserved for young people, where movie scenes are filmed, and we were treated to a mock ninja battle).

On March 26th, we departed by Shinkansen for Tokyo. After checking into our hotel, we took a bus to visit Sensoji Temple and the souvenir arcade. Then, before dinner, we were able to see cherry blossoms in Chidorigafuchi Park.

On March 27th, we took a guided tour of Tokyo and visited the Imperial Palace. There, we were able to watch demonstrations of the various specialties of the police officers responsible for the security of the Emperor of Japan. (horses and riders, motorcycle escort, dog handler, explosives technician, kendo sparring, judo sparring, ancient archery, etc.). Then in the afternoon, we went to the Tokyo Tower.

On March 28th, we were scheduled to go to a spot to take a gondola up to over 1,000 meters to see Mount Fuji. Unfortunately, that day, there was very dense fog, which prevented us from seeing the iconic Mount Fuji.

That evening, we held a farewell dinner with all the participants and our hosts from the Tokyo and Yokohama regions. Several Japanese members were present, including the Japanese national president, and gifts were exchanged, etc.

The next day, it was already time to return home after an unforgettable stay where the Japanese welcome was impeccable and all our travel arrangements were arranged perfectly. At each location, we were welcomed by numerous volunteers who supervised us to make our work easier and who were selflessly dedicated. The interesting thing about the dinners was that local members from the regions of Japan we met at each of the locations visited were present at the tables and mingled with the visitors. We were therefore able to meet some interesting people. Thanks again to Mr. Ryoji Suzuki and all his volunteers.

Robert Beaudry

Secretary IPA Region 15 Montérégie

Semaine d'amitié au Japon 22 mars au 29 mars 2025

J'aimerais vous faire part d'une merveilleuse semaine d'amitié passée au Japon du 22 au 29 mars 2025. Nous étions 15 pays représentés comptant 46 membres IPA dont l'Australie, l'Autriche, la Belgique, le Brésil, le Canada (3 membres avec épouses Philip Mann, Michael Boothe et moi-même), l'Estonie, l'Allemagne, les Pays-Bas, l'Espagne, la Suède, le Royaume-Uni, les États-Unis, plus 2 accompagnateurs du Japon.

L'arrivée se faisait à Osaka et sur place nous avons eu droit à un accueil des plus chaleureux avec accompagnements vers l'hôtel désigné pour commencer le voyage. Il faut comprendre que ce voyage avait été organisé par M. Ryoji Suzuki et que tout avait été prévu pour rendre notre séjour agréable. En fait il s'agissait vraiment d'un voyage clé en main.

La journée d'arrivée après notre installation nous avons quitté en autobus pour le souper au restaurant de l'hôtel KKR et retour à l'hôtel Granvia Osaka.

Le lendemain 23 mars nous avons quitté l'hôtel pour nous rendre à Hiroshima en train (Shinkansen) ultra rapide surnommé Bullet Train. Après le diner nous sommes allés sur l'île de Miyajima pour visiter le temple Itsukushima Shrine de confession shintoïste. En fin de journée nous avons pris le souper à l'hôtel Granvia Hiroshima.

Le 24 mars nous avons pris le tramway pour nous rendre au Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. Il s'agissait d'un moment très émouvant de revivre ce triste événement de la deuxième guerre mondiale. En après-midi nous avons pris le train Shinkansen en direction de Himeji pour visiter le château de Himeji. Puis en fin d'après-midi nous avons repris un autre Shinkansen pour nous diriger vers Kyoto.

Le 25 mars nous avons fait une visite guidée de la ville de Kyoto avec arrêt au Kiyomizudera Temple et Nijo Castle. Pause pour le diner et visite de Kinkakuji Temple (golden temple) et Toei Kyoto Studio Park (un endroit plutôt réservé aux jeunes, où l'on tourne des scènes de cinéma et nous avons eu droit à un combat simulé de Ninjas).

Le 26 mars départ en Shinkansen pour Tokyo. Sur place après s'être enregistré à l'hôtel nous sommes parti en autobus pour visiter le Sensoji Temple et l'arcade de magasins de souvenirs. Puis avant le souper nous avons pu voir des cerisiers en fleur dans le parc de Chidorigafuchi.

Le 27 mars nous avons fait un tour guidé de Tokyo et nous nous sommes rendus au Palais Impérial. Sur place nous avons pu assister à des démonstrations des différentes spécialités des policiers chargés de la sécurité de l'empereur du Japon. (chevaux et cavaliers, escorte de motocyclette, maître-chien, technicien d'explosif, combat de kendo, combat de judo, tir à l'arc ancien etc.). Puis en après-midi nous sommes allés au Tokyo Tower.

Le 28 mars il était prévu de se rendre à un endroit pour prendre une gondole jusqu'à plus de 1000 mètres pour voir le mont Fuji. Malheureusement cette journée-là il y avait un brouillard très opaque qui ne nous a pas permis d'apercevoir le mont iconique Fuji.

Cette soirée-là il y a eu le souper d'adieu avec tous les participants et nos hôtes de la région Tokyo et Yokohama. Plusieurs membres étaient présents dont le président national du Japon et il y a eu échanges de cadeaux etc.

Le lendemain il était déjà temps de revenir chez nous après un séjour inoubliable où l'accueil des Japonais a été impeccable et où tous nos déplacements étaient réglés au quart de tour. À chacun des endroits nous avons été accueillis avec de nombreux bénévoles qui nous ont encadrés pour nous faciliter la tâche et qui ont été dévoués sans compter. Le côté intéressant lors des soupers était que les membres locaux des régions du Japon qu'on rencontrait à chacun des endroits visités étaient présents aux tables et mêlés avec les visiteurs. Nous avons donc pu faire des rencontres intéressantes.

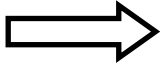
Merci encore à M. Ryoji Suzuki et tous ses bénévoles.

Robert Beaudry

Secrétaire

IPA Région 15 Montérégie

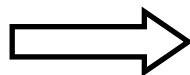
Canadian IPA member, Robert Beaudry, holds the IPA flag (left upper corner of flag) along with members from around the world.



IPA Canada members take the stage in Japan.



IPA Canada members with IPA Japan members at the Friendship Week in Japan.



A Weekend Journey with IPA Region 7 – Montreal

Members of IPA Region 7 – Montreal recently explored Quebec’s Eastern Townships, with a meaningful stop in Lac-Mégantic. The town was marking the 15th anniversary of one of Canada’s deadliest rail disasters, which occurred on July 6, 2013.

In the early morning hours of that day, an unattended freight train carrying crude oil derailed in the town’s center. Operated by Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway, the train had been improperly secured on a slope near Nantes. After a fire broke out in the locomotive and fire-fighters shut off its engine, the braking system failed. The train rolled downhill at speeds exceeding 100 km/h before crashing in the heart of Lac-Mégantic.

The resulting explosion and fire claimed 47 lives—many of them gathered at the Musi-Café. Over 30 buildings were destroyed, and the environmental toll was severe, with oil spilling into the Chaudière River. The disaster exposed major weaknesses in rail safety regulations and ultimately led to reforms in the transportation of hazardous materials.



Even today, the emotional wounds run deep. Survivors and families continue to grieve, and while the town has been gradually rebuilt, legal proceedings and ongoing efforts to create a rail bypass keep the tragedy’s memory alive. Lac-Mégantic remains a stark reminder of the human cost of regulatory failure—and the strength of a community forever altered.

As part of the visit, members and friends walked through **Star Walker**, a powerful open-air sculpture installation. It features 47 monumental sculptures—one for each victim—and a 48th representing hope and renewal. Rather than linking each piece to an individual, the artists envisioned 48 souls journeying together toward the stars, united in a shared path forward.

Each sculpture is distinct, made from materials such as steel, cedar, copper, and stone. Together, they evoke themes of wonder, remembrance, and the cosmos.

For anyone visiting Lac-Mégantic, **Star Walker** is more than an art installation—it’s a living memorial, deeply rooted in the town’s ongoing story of loss, resilience, and renewal.



The group also visited the ASTROLab at Mont-Mégantic—a unique astronomy museum and activity centre set deep within Quebec’s Parc national du Mont-Mégantic. Designed to ignite curiosity and awe, the ASTROLab offers immersive, hands-on experiences for all ages. It’s located in the heart of the world’s first International Dark Sky Reserve, where minimal light pollution creates ideal conditions for unforgettable stargazing. More than just a museum, it’s a true gateway to the cosmos. If you’re in the area, it’s a stop you won’t want to miss.



The weekend was finished off with cocktails aboard a cruise on Lake Memphremagog



IPA Monteregie Region 15

For several years, our IPA Montérégie region 15 has held friendly get-togethers every year and every month, with two activities per month and currently one per month in 2025, whether it's a breakfast or a happy hour, with participation ranging from 3 to approximately 25 people each time.

On April 11, 19 people participated in a sugar shack outing at BOUTIQUE ÉRABLIÈRE MAURICE JEANNOTTE in Saint-Marc-Sur-Richelieu, an outing which had not been held since April 7, 2019.

During this 2019 sugar shack outing at LE BLINFINDIE in Saint-Blaise-Sur-Richelieu, also commemorating IPA Founder's Day, there were 29 participants from as far away as the Ottawa region, Shefford, Ste. Barbe, Boucherville, Beloeil, and St. Rémi, to name a few. It was an excellent, gentle day, with a wonderful atmosphere, an ambiance not to be missed, and extraordinary camaraderie. A wonderful outing to the Montérégie sugar shack with its rustic, wood-heated decor, where you can enjoy your meal in all simplicity, especially the ham cooked in breadcrumbs, while you are surrounded by courteous staff.

On May 29, 2025, our happy hour will be held at BISTRO DES BIÈRES BELGES in Saint-Hubert.

Other special activities are held each year, including an evening for the Alouettes, a golf day or golf tournament with a fundraiser for a charity, a President's dinner with a speaker, and our annual AGM, which includes a happy hour and a spaghetti dinner.

In past years, we organized a 55-person trip to New York in 2009 and a 55-person trip to Boston in 2011. We have already held wine and cheese events over the years, Murder Mystery dinners, rallies, Bar BQs, and bike rides, then in 2022, a parade was held to welcome Sheriff Chad Kennedy of Alberta who marched in our region of Montérégie for "SEA TO SEA FOR PTSD". Our region is still full of multiple events.

We plan to celebrate our 25th anniversary with a Ball featuring a live band and inviting those who founded our region, as well as highlighting all the presidents who have served over the years, by issuing awards.

Guy Babin,
Président – President
IPA Montérégie R15

BISTRO DES BIÈRES BELGES



On April 11, 19 people participated in a sugar shack outing at BOUTIQUE ÉRABLIÈRE MAURICE JEANNOTTE in Saint-Marc-Sur-Richelieu





EXCLUSIVE IPA PERKS

IPA members will also receive:

- Free Gratuities**
(\$240/person)
- Free Premium Beverage Package**
(\$263/person)
- Free Port Charges**
(\$305/person)
- Total value \$1546/cabin**



Pricing in Canadian Dollars / Per Person Rate

Category and Inventory	Public Price	IPA Price (per person)	SAVINGS (per cabin)
Owners Suite (1) 710 sq ft with step out balcony	\$19,317	\$17,241	\$4152
GS Suites (2) 474 sq ft with step out balcony	\$15,360	\$13,581	\$3558
Cat SA Suites (2) 355 sq ft with step out balcony	\$11,006	\$9,293	\$3426
Cat SB Suites (12) 355 sq ft with step out balcony	\$10,214	\$8,501	\$3426
Cat AA cabins (7) 252 sq ft with step out balcony	\$9,687	\$8,173	\$3028
Cat AB cabins (11) 252 sq ft with step out balcony	\$9,423	\$7,909	\$3028
Cat. "D" cabins (7) 205 sq ft with Panoramic Window	\$7,312	\$6,097	\$2430
Cat. "E" cabins (4) 205 sq ft with Panoramic Window	\$6,126	\$5,042	\$2168

Optional Add-Ons:

Pre-Cruise Prague (3 nights) \$1365/person

Post-Cruise Budapest (2 nights) \$858/person

**Contact IPA Member Gary Lavoie at
(705) 918-3772 or glavoie@expediacruzises.com**

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For information and for purchasing**