



EDMONTON TOY RUN ASSOCIATION

Making a difference in the lives of children since 1984

NEWSLETTER

Issue #12 - April/May 2026

Santa's Mailbag

Hello Everyone!!!

Well winter can stop any day now....

Every year I declare March 15th as the start of the motorcycle season, and once again... ughh, winter continues to stop that from happening. Well, it is Alberta, so now I officially declare the start of the 2026 motorcycle season April 11th. Why April 11th, well that is the night of the Edmonton Toy Runs sold out BC/DC concert at the World-Famous Blackjacks Roadhouse in Nisku!! Yes, we sold this event out last year, and we sold it out again this year! This event is a major fundraiser for the Edmonton Toy Run and we feature live, and silent auction items, plus 50/50 draws, and someone is going to win two floor seats to see AC/DC live in Edmonton! If you have a ticket to the show, it's going to be an amazing evening and we will see you there.

We are thrilled to be back at the YEG Motorcycle Show April 9th-12th at the Expo Center. The Edmonton Toy Run is the official 50/50 at the show, and if you are going, please stop by and see us there. We have several events happening this year including bike nights, meetups, rides, including our third annual Poker Run on August 15th, and the 43rd Annual Edmonton Toy Run Sunday September 20th.

Before the actual riding season starts, it is a good idea to run through a checklist of things to do before you get out on the open road. Some things to remember, The roads are crap and stay like crap well into the season. Watch for sand and gravel; dark spots are everywhere, and they are probably ice. Potholes appear out of nowhere and the pavement will be cold and slick.... The back brake is your friend.

Remember, it is essential to make sure your motorcycle is in top shape before you ride. Be sure to follow the suggestions below.

Charge your motorcycle battery. If your motorcycle battery is stored separately, recharge it fully. Make sure the battery connections are tight and free of corrosion.

If you have a FOB, now is the time to change your FOB battery.

Check your tire pressure! Tires tend to lose pressure over

the winter, and with the price of tires, please take care of yours. No burnouts..... well maybe a few. Adjust tire pressure as per manufacturer's recommendations. Assess the tread depth for adequate grip, look for cracks or replace tires if they are worn.

Check fluid levels. If you have a liquid cooled motorcycle, ensure the coolant is at the correct level and isn't old or contaminated. Inspect the brake fluid and replace it if necessary. Check your oil levels and replace as per manufacturer's recommendations. Check brake pads for wear and replace if they're thin.

Wash and inspect your motorcycle. While cleaning, inspect cables, throttle, brake and clutch levers, panels, tires, chains or belts, lines and hoses, saddle bags and trunks. Check and test all the lights. Headlight, brake light, turn signals, and hazard lights. Replace any burnt-out bulbs and clean those lenses for maximum visibility. Inspect and look for any signs of rust or corrosion, especially on the frame and chrome parts. Check all bolts, and ensure the throttle snaps back cleanly.

If you see cracks or anything that does not look right, contact your dealer for advice and help. If your bike has any software updates that need to be done at your dealer, book it in now, they will be busy!

Check your gear. Helmets have an expiry date, jackets, gloves and the like seem to shrink every winter, well I know mine do... Ensure you have properly fitted gear, correct size gear makes riding so much more enjoyable.

Finally, we have not ridden our bikes in months, our reflexes are not sharp. Take it easy on the first few rides. Practice braking and low speed control, rebuild that muscle memory before pushing it. Confidence returns faster than skill.

2026 is going to be a great riding season. So many events are being planned, and I cannot wait to see you all out there! If you are hosting or going to an event, please let us know, we can post on our events page!!!

Be safe and remember to always enjoy the ride!!!!

Jay Padilla - Planning Committee Chair

www.edmontontoyrun.org

Featured Rider(s)/Business

For more than four decades, the **Edmonton Toy Run** has brought riders, families, and local businesses together in a powerful show of generosity and community spirit. Among the event's newer partners is Trail Tire Edmonton, which has stepped forward over the past two years to support the Toy Run's mission of helping children and families across the city. Their involvement reflects a growing commitment from local businesses who see the Toy Run not just as an event, but as a meaningful way to give back and stay connected to the community they serve.

This month, we sat down with **Graham Tanner of Trail Tire** to talk about what inspired their involvement, what the partnership has meant so far, and how he envisions the collaboration continuing to grow in the years ahead. His reflections highlight the importance of community partnerships and the shared values that make the Toy Run such a beloved Edmonton tradition.



Trail Tire has been involved with the Edmonton Toy Run for the past two years. What initially drew you to the event, and what made you decide that this was the right community initiative to support?

Trail Tire has supported the Edmonton Toy Run for about 15 years with Toy donations, in the last 2 years we have stepped up to be a collection center so we can provide even more toys and donations through our staff and customers with the onsite bins ETR supplies.



Even in just two years, Trail Tire has become a recognizable supporter of the Toy Run. What has stood out to you about the event or the community that made the partnership meaningful so quickly?

Our Company has always been community minded, as mentioned we have supported the Toy Run for many years, my connections with your amazing volunteers Nik and Denise Hewlett, have brought our connection and involvement to another level.

The Toy Run brings together riders, families, and local businesses for a shared purpose. How has Trail Tire experienced that sense of community since joining the event?

The event is important as it's a huge contributor to Santa's Anonymous, there is no better sense of community and community support than one that supports our children.

As a relatively new partner, what have you learned about the Toy Run's mission and impact that you didn't fully appreciate before becoming involved?

We have learned of the effort and dedication the Volunteers and directors put into the success of the event, not only during the event but yearlong with poker runs, and constant reminders of community meetings and events.

Trail Tire is known for its strong local presence in Edmonton. How

does supporting the Toy Run align with your broader commitment to community engagement?

Trail Tire supports other organizations such as Breast Cancer (Alberta Cancer Foundation), Minor Sports teams, and we have supported Santa's Anonymous directly in the past. The Toy run is something dear to my heart and the hearts many of my riding group, knowing it's connected with Santa's Anonymous and other community needs makes it all worthwhile

In your first two years of involvement, what moments or interactions have been the most memorable for you or your team?

The interaction with the Edmonton Toy Run Volunteers has been a memorable experience, the time they dedicate to organize and lengths they go to ensure it's a success is admirable.

Partnerships evolve over time. As Trail Tire becomes more familiar with the Toy Run, what opportunities do you see for expanding or deepening your involvement in the coming years?

I see the Toy Run program expanding to other corporate stores and then to stores in other communities.

Trail Tire meets thousands of Edmontonians through day-to-day business. How does participating in the Toy Run allow you to connect with the community in a different, more personal way?

It's interesting to find how many of our customers are connected already, many riders the participate in the Toy Run have their services done at our shops, we have motorcycle dealership staff and their families that are patrons, we

have individuals that volunteer in the Santa's anonymous sorting warehouses and some that deliver the gifts to the families in need.

For other businesses considering supporting the Toy Run, what would you say about your experience as a newer partner and the value it has brought to Trail Tire?

As a newer partner in the Toy Run, Our experience at Trail Tire has been overwhelmingly positive. Getting involved gave us an opportunity to connect with the community in a meaningful way while aligning our business with a cause that genuinely makes a difference. The visibility and goodwill generated through the event have strengthened our local presence and reinforced our reputation as a community-focused company. Beyond the business benefits, it's incredibly rewarding for our team to take part in something that brings people together and supports families in need. We would absolutely encourage other businesses to get involved; the impact goes well beyond the day of the event.

Looking ahead, what excites you most about the future of the Edmonton Toy Run, and how do you envision Trail Tire contributing to its continued growth and success?

Looking ahead, we're excited about the Edmonton Toy Run's potential to keep growing as a powerful community event—bringing together more people and making an even bigger impact each year.

At Trail Tire, we're proud to support that growth by staying actively involved, encouraging others to participate, and continuing to give back. It's a meaningful cause we're committed

to, and we're excited to be part of its future.

Thank you, Graham Tanner, for taking the time to share with us more about your business, Trail Tire and how your collaboration with The Edmonton Toy Run has become an important cornerstone in the important work we do together to support the children within our communities!

Your Edmonton Toy Run Executive Members

Every month, we try to feature a rider or business within the community. Do you know of an individual, either in the biking or car world, or a business you would like to see featured? Would you like to be featured in our next newsletter? Send an email to:

Edmontontoyrun@gmail.com

Last Month's Event Recap:

On March 29th Kelly's pub hosted a meat draw with the proceeds of \$682.00 donated to the Edmonton Toy Run. We would like to thank Kelly's pub and all those that attend. Looking forward to seeing everyone at YEG Motorcycle Show April 9th-12th at the Expo Center.



Bursary

Did you know the Edmonton Toy Run has a bursary that is available for anyone who is applying for post-secondary education?

Applications are now being accepted. Click on the link below for more information and to access the 2026 Bursary Package.

<https://edmontontoyrun.org/bursary-1>

Deadline to apply is August 20th, 2026

Sponsorship

Every year, our sponsors play a big part in what we do by donating to a great cause.

If you would like to become a sponsor or know of a business or individual that would like to become a sponsor, please let us know by sending an email to

Edmontontoyrun@gmail.com



Reminder!!!!

2062 Memberships are now available!

Renewals are still only **\$15**

New Memberships are **\$25**

Available through the website:

<https://edmontontoyrun.org/memberships>

Volunteers Needed!

The Edmonton Toy Run is always in need of volunteers to help with our events. We would welcome your help at one or all of our events.

Events That Need Help 🧑

Bike Nights

The next night is June 23rd
Help is needed with setup/tear down
Directing parking
Tent and building monitors
(basically to remind people not to exit the tent/building with alcohol)
50/50 sales

Poker Rally

Next Event August 15th, 2026
Help is needed with setup/tear down
Food prep and/or service
50/50 sales
Registration Desk
Check point monitor

Main Event – Annual Toy Run September 20th, 2026

Signage set-up and/or take down.
Set-up is the night before the event, and take-down is directly after the event.
Set up/tear down at the starting point (Blackjacks Roadhouse)
Set up/tear down at endpoint (Edmonton Inn and Convention Centre)
Directing Parking
50/50 sales
Toy collection

Annual YEG Motorbike Show - April 9th - 12th 2026

Set up and/or tear down the booth

Booth coverage (minimum three-hour shift)

BC/DC Concert at Blackjacks Roadhouse April 11th, 2026

Door coverage
Set up/tear down silent auction
50/50 tickets

We also need people to help with:

Deliver/pick up toy collection boxes
Sponsorship – we need people to help obtain event sponsorship
Promotion – can you help with PR

We can be reached at:

Edmontontoyrun@gmail.com

Dad Joke:

Why did the motorcycle refuse to start?
It was "two-tired."

What is the difference between a Harley and a vacuum cleaner?
The position of the dirtbag.

How do you know if a biker is happy?
The bugs are stuck to his teeth.

Why don't motorcycles talk back?
Because they prefer to just ride back.

Upcoming Events by Edmonton Toy Run

April 9 -12 - YEG Motorcycle Show
April 11, 2026 - BC/DC Fundraiser @ Blackjacks
April 18, 2026 - Coffee Meet-up @ Fifendekel(51 Ave)
May 23, 2026 - Coffee Meet-up @ Fifendekel(51 Ave)
June, 20 2026 - Coffee Meet-up @ Fifendekel(51 Ave)
June 23, 2026 - Bike Night @ Blackjacks
July 28, 2026 - Bike Night @ Blackjacks
August 15, 2026 - 3rd Annual Poker Rally
August 25, 2025 - Bike Night @ Blackjacks
September 15, 2025 - Bike Night @ Blackjacks
September 20, 2026 - 43rd Annual Toy Run

Check out our web page for even more events!

<https://edmontontoyrun.org/event-calendar->

Contest

Find the mistake in the newsletter! Send an email to edmontontoyrun@gmail.com with the mistake you found.
All those with correct answers will be entered in the draw to win a \$10 Tim Hortons gift card.

WESTJET 

On sale April 12th, 2026

Get your tickets for the WestJet Gift of Flight raffle in support of the Edmonton Toy Run.

Tickets are only \$20 each, and you could win

ONE ROUND-TRIP FLIGHT FOR TWO GUESTS

to any regularly scheduled and marketed WestJet destination.

Tickets are available at any of our events or through the website: <https://edmontontoyrun.org>

AGLC licence #772472

Draw date: September 20th, 2025

Where will your travels take you?

Drive and Deliver

Keighshire Carriers is a delivery company that can move everything from a small package to the contents of a six bed roomed house. Today, five of their small-truck drivers are on the roads of Keighshire making deliveries to various places. From the clues, can you discover who is driving which truck, his load, and his eventual destination?

Clues:

- 1) The Ford, which is a lovely shade of "titanium," is en route to Crispin Parva, but neither it nor the Leyland, which is painted in a delicate shade of "snow," are carrying boxes of shoes.
- 2) Neither Nigel's truck nor Terry's is the one carrying autoparts, and none of these three vans is going to Upper Crispin, nor is Terry driving a Leyland truck.
- 3) Colin is delivering electrical domestic appliances but is not at the wheel of a Leyland.
- 4) The TVs are destined for a small shop in Churchminster, while the talc-colored Mercedes is full of washing-machines.
- 5) Sam and his marble-colored Fiat are not on their way to Brandywell.
- 6) Dean is delivering food.

	Fiat	Ford	Leyland	Mercedes	Renault	Auto parts	Food	Shoes	TVs	Washing-machines	Brandywell	Churchminster	Crispin Parva	Upper Crispin	Wallingfen
Colin															
Dean															
Nigel															
Sam															
Terry															
Brandywell															
Churchminster															
Crispin Parva															
Upper Crispin															
Wallingfen															
Auto parts															
Food															
Shoes															
TVs															
Washing-machines															

Get Your 2026 Membership through the website @ <https://edmontontoyrun.org/memberships>

2026 Committee Members:

Jay Padilla, Hazel Gillis, Heather Gillis, Nevin Kublik, Landon Kublik, Gabe Barrington-Moss, Nik Hewlett, Denise Chenier, Daphne Dowbush, David Dowbush, Freya Giroux

Contact Information:

Edmonton Toy Run: edmontontoyrun@gmail.com

Links to Edmonton Toy Run:



AC/DC
CONCERT TICKETS
RAFFLE
TICKETS: \$10.00 EACH
DRAW DATE: APRIL 11TH, 2026 AT
BLACKJACKS ROADHOUSE, NISKU



**1ST PRIZE: 2 FLOOR SEATS
TO AC/DC CONCERT
AUGUST 9TH, 2026**
**2ND PRIZE: \$200.00 GIFT CARD TO
CYCLE WORKS EDMONTON**
**3RD PRIZE: \$100.00 GIFT CARD TO
BLACKJACKS ROADHOUSE, NISKU**
AGLC licence: 759442

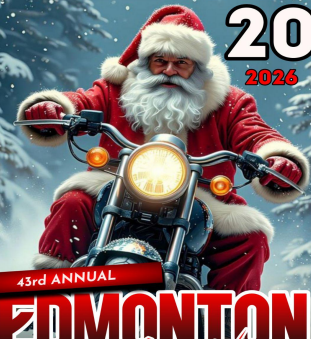


**Edmonton
TOY RUN**
Come Join Us For Coffee or Tea
@ Fifendekel - 9114 51ave

You can find us there
on the following date:
February 21, 2026
March 21, 2026
April 18, 2026
May 23, 2026
June 20, 2026



**SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER
20
2026**



**43rd ANNUAL
EDMONTON
TOY RUN**

WWW.EDMONTONTOYRUN.ORG
MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF CHILDREN
SANTA LEAVES BLACKJACKS @ 11AM
2110 SPARROW DRIVE NISKU, AB
2 WHEELS, 3 WHEELS, 4 WHEELS, ALL ARE WELCOME