

# KIN CANADA

## Prospective Member Handbook



Updated: September 2019

Welcome and thank you for seeking out Kin Canada!

Kin Canada is an all-Canadian service organization made up of dedicated member volunteers who serve their community's greatest need through hosting and sponsoring events and community service projects. Since its founding, Kin, Kinsmen and Kinette clubs across Canada have contributed more than \$1 billion dollars to Canadian communities and disaster relief programs beyond our borders.

As you learn more about Kin Canada and attend your first few club meetings, we would like to give you a look into how a Kin Canada club is run, what the atmosphere is like and give you some information to take to meetings before you become a member.

To help you discover the District you would be a part of in Kin Canada please take a look at the graphic below:



Now that you know generally which District you would be a part of, you can [find your local club](#) and contact them directly to inquire about club membership and coming out to a meeting.

You can also reach out to your [District Governor](#) to learn more about clubs, your District and Kin Canada in general.

Please note that all Kin Canada members are required to obtain, submit and pass a Criminal Record Check for review before active membership is granted.

For more information, you can [contact Kin Canada National Headquarters](#) or call (800) 742-5546.

## Club Specific Information

Now that you know your District and your local club you may be looking to visit for a meeting, are already scheduled to visit for a meeting or club event. To help you in remembering your local club, area, history and projects please feel free to fill in the spaces below:

You are a prospective member of the Kin/Kinsmen/Kinette Club of \_\_\_\_\_

Club #: \_\_\_\_\_ District #: \_\_\_\_\_ Zone: \_\_\_\_\_

This club was chartered on: \_\_\_\_\_

This club meets on: \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_

Current club service projects are:

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Current club fundraising project are:

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Upcoming club social functions are (these include unique events for this current year, inter-club events and monthly socials):

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Club Fun Facts:

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**Club House Rules** (a set of rules or code of conduct that govern the club, write key rules here):

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**Club History** (interesting facts, history, things you should know about the club's past etc.):

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In Kin Canada there is a lot to learn about our extensive history as an Association, our Founder Hal Rogers, our partners, different conventions and educational experiences to attend and awards. Make sure to get in touch with a club executive member to ask them about all of these exciting learning opportunities as a member!

All club functions and projects need your support and passion in order to be successful! If you have any questions on aspects of club life or need help filling out any other sections of this document for your reference, contact a member of your club's executive team.

*Club Executive Member*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

For additional information on Kin Canada please refer back to our [website](#).

## **Kin Canada, Who We Are and What We Stand For**

### ***Our Motto***

“Serving the Community’s Greatest Need.”

Kin has NO super imposed programming. Each club bases its service projects on the needs of its own community. Several districts have area-wide service projects, (i.e. Telemiracle, STARS, supporting M.S., and the Kin Canada Foundation etc.) as well as take on certain national service projects as well. Currently, our main national service project includes donating to the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in hopes of finding a cure or control for C.F. We also have a Kin Canada Bursary program designed to help students fund their dreams of post-secondary education, advocate for Canadian Blood Service collecting blood donations, organ and tissue donation programs and our Kin Canada National Day of KINDness day every February and our disaster relief fund.



### ***Our Mission***

Volunteer members impacting Canadian communities through service, leadership, fellowship and personal development.

### ***Our Vision***

To be Canada’s National Service Organization

### ***Our Values (E.P.I.I.C.)***

Excellence, Pride, Integrity, Inclusiveness, Compassion

### ***Our Objectives***

To promote and direct service work through fellowship amongst its Clubs and their members, to the end that:

- members of the Clubs may enjoy personal development through the Association;
- they may be improved and educated in modern business and professional methods and ethics;
- the involvement of all in the enrichment of their community may be stimulated;

- a spirit of co-operation, tolerance, understanding and equality among all nations and peoples be fostered and that unity of thought and purpose throughout Canada be established toward this goal; and
- they shall serve their community's greatest need.



### ***Your Opportunity***

- Volunteer in your community and have fun doing it
- Choose which projects and causes you support in your community
- Participate in the planning and implementation of projects with great people
- Network with community and business leaders
- Develop personally and professionally with our member-only education

programs ([Kin-U](#)) and members only resources ([iKin](#))

- Participate in our Mentorship Program
- Win prestigious national awards for personal and club accomplishments
- Meet like-minded people in your community and all across Canada

### **Kin Canada Acronyms**

When talking with one another, the use of acronyms by members of Kin has become the norm. These shortened versions of Kin terminology may be recognizable to those who have been in the Association for a number of years but to a new member or to the general public, the acronyms may sound odd.

Listed below are the most common Kin acronyms. While these may still be in use, it is recommended that members of Kin use the full terms whether at club, zone, district and national events or when speaking with the general public.

**CF** Cystic Fibrosis  
**CBS** Canadian Blood Services  
**CRM** Club Risk Manager  
**D#** District # (e.g.: District 1, District 2, etc.)  
**DG** Deputy Governor  
**DLS** District Leadership Seminar  
**DCSD** District Club Support Director

**DRM** District Risk Manager  
**DSD** District Service Director  
**ED** Executive Director  
**FLC** Fall Leadership Conference  
**GOB** General Operating By-law  
**HREF** Hal Rogers Endowment Fund  
**KCB** Kin Canada Bursary  
**ND** National Director



**NGS** Not in Good Standing  
**NP** National President  
**NVP** National Vice President

**PNP** Past National President  
**RM** Risk Management or Risk  
Manager

### **Kin Canada Customs**

1. Kin Canada was founded by Hal Rogers in 1920. Hal was a military man and a piece of Kin Canada we still have today is a **sergeant-at-arms** or sometimes more commonly known as a **“fines master.”** In some clubs, at District and National events you may see someone collecting money for “infractions” (i.e. not wearing your name badge, not wearing a Kin shirt etc.), this is a light hearted way to raise money and poke fun that seems to be unique to Kin Canada.
2. Alongside this at meetings, you may also be “fined” for an incorrect **address to the chair**. The chair of the meeting is the club President and they will set a saying to be repeated before any comments are made in meeting to the chair or group. This address is typically standard but many Presidents have a little fun, and add on a unique closing to the address, for example: “President John, honoured guests and fellow Kin, bring on summer!”
3. The **“Good of Kin”** is another custom you may experience at a club meeting. This typically happens at the end of the meeting where everyone is given the chance to speak and thank someone, bring up important information, share about yourself etc. This practice is done to bring members closer together, share good stories, struggles and life events among the club.

### **Kin Canada Traditions**

The Canadian national anthem and the Kin song (including joining hands during the Kin song) are traditionally sung before all meetings but this is decided upon on a club to club basis, every club is different! The expression of gratitude is a non-denomination address that some clubs will say before a meal at a meeting, or the alternative is the more traditional Kin Grace, this goes along with the toast to the Association. Below are the versions of the Kin song, expression, grace, Canadian national anthem, and toast you might come across:

*“ Becoming a Kinette 18 years ago was the best decision I have ever made. It has given me confidence that I never knew I had. Serving the community’s greatest needs has become my passion. I can’t think of any other career or organization that would open these doors. ”*

*-Member, Red Deer Kinette Club*

Kin Song	Kin Expression of Gratitude	Kin Grace
<p>Here we are, together once again            One and all a happy bunch of Kin            Leave your cares and worries for a while            Let your face break forth in smile            Look around, grab someone by the hand            They're your friends, the finest in the land            Now all set, let's shout to beat the band            Kinsmen, Kinettes and Kin!</p>	<p>Happy to meet,            Sorry to part,            Happy to meet again,            May we always be true Kin in our thoughts and our deeds,            And be grateful for all good things received</p>	<p>Happy to meet,            Sorry to part,            Happy to meet again,            May the Lord make us true Kin in our thoughts and our deeds,            And make us truly grateful for the food we receive            Amen</p>

**Canadian National Anthem**

English	French	Bilingual
<p>O Canada!            Our home and native land!            True patriot love in all of us command.</p> <p>With glowing hearts we see thee rise,            The True North strong and free!</p> <p>From far and wide,            O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.</p> <p>God keep our land glorious and free!            O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.</p> <p>O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.</p>	<p>Ô Canada! Terre de nos aïeux,            Ton front est ceint de fleurons glorieux!</p> <p>Car ton bras sait porter l'épée,            Il sait porter la croix!</p> <p>Ton histoire est une épopée            Des plus brillants exploits.</p> <p>Et ta valeur, de foi trempée,            Protégera nos foyers et nos droits.</p> <p>Protégera nos foyers et nos droits.</p>	<p>O Canada! Our home and native land!            True patriot love in all of us command,</p> <p>Car ton bras sait porter l'épée,            Il sait porter la croix!</p> <p>Ton histoire est une épopée            Des plus brillants exploits,</p> <p>God keep our land glorious and free!            O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.</p> <p>O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.</p>

**Toast to the Association**

Address to the Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Kin Canada is a unique Canadian service organization. It is through our Association that we, as members, can develop personally and at the same time give to our communities. It is through our Association that Kinsmen and Kinettes, as two bodies, share a common goal – making our communities a better place. It is through our Association that we can express our opinions openly and then join together in fellowship in an evening such as this.

Please stand and join me in a Toast to our Association.





## **Kin Canada Layout**

From the map graphic above you have seen that Canada is divided into:

### ***Districts***

There are 8 Districts across the country. Each District is led by an elected District Governor (volunteer leader). The District executive team includes Vice Governors, Deputy Governors and committees, all of which support the service clubs.

### ***Zones***

District are sectioned off further into 54 Zones divided between the 8 Districts. Elected Deputy Governors oversee Zone operations. Each zone contains a small number of clubs.

### ***Clubs***

Kinsmen and Kinettes are members of approximately 466 Kinsmen, Kinette and Kin clubs that belong to the National Association of Kin Canada. Each club decides what causes to support through fundraisers and community service projects.

Every year, clubs elect an executive team that consists of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Risk Manager and Treasurer. Many clubs will also include a Registrar and Bulletin Editor(s). The role of the executive team is to manage the operational details of the club. The Club President also acts as the liaison between the club and the Zone Deputy Governor. If you would like to learn more about club positions please ask your executive contact or click [HERE](#) once you have access to iKin as a full active member.



\*Please note that as a prospective member you will not have access to member's only resources (yet!) or have the ability to vote on motions in your club.

### ***National Head Office***

Kin Canada's headquarters is located in Cambridge, Ontario. 8 full-time and 2 part-time staff provide administrative services to the clubs. [Grant Ferron](#) is the Executive Director. He represents the paid staff, and ensures the Association moves toward its mission and objects in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.

