

"Motorcycle Ride for Dad" Tenth Anniversary Tour

Ed Gibbons addresses reception at the Edmonton Garrison

The "Motorcycle Ride for Dad" is an organization dedicated to raising awareness and funds in the fight against prostate cancer. It was founded 10 years ago by Byron Smith and Garry Janz, both of whom had close calls with the disease and vowed to help others increase their chances of survival.

Each year, up to 1,500 motorcycle enthusiasts take part in a sponsored cross-Canada ride, often raising more than \$500,000 for prostate cancer research.

This year the Ride visited Canadian Forces Bases along the way. The Edmonton Garrison was delighted to host a reception in their honour.

As a gesture of thanks, the Ride donated its Edmonton region proceeds to the Military Families Resources Centre (MFRC), an organization that provides assistance to the families of local servicemen and women.

Recently recovered from prostate cancer, Ed Gibbons, Chair of the Edmonton Salutes Committee, was delighted to recognize the riders in attendance, re-emphasizing their President's message: the importance of early detection.

Ed also addressed the importance of the MFRC and its support of military family members especially when a spouse is deployed overseas.

Representing the MFRC, MCpl Kurt St. Germain offered an emotion-filled account of both the financial and moral support he and his family have received in dealing with their terminally ill four-year-old son.

Ed spoke personally with Kurt, his wife, and their three children following the reception.