

**SPECIAL EDITION** .....

I am proud to say that this is the 6<sup>th</sup> year that I have been on the board of directors for the Paris Truck Convoy.

This event gets the Trucking Industry, Law Enforcement (Torch Run) and the people of Special Olympics involved.

It has been described as a magical event. It is difficult to say where you will see so much energy at one event that results in hundreds of smiling faces and laughter.

**Event Details**

Friday September 14<sup>th</sup> the event starts coming together, with trucks arriving and volunteers getting things prepared for the event.

You will see a car show, entertainer Erik Traplin. At 10 PM the top 3 fund raising drivers are announced.

Saturday September 15<sup>th</sup> 8AM the top fund raisers 3-12 are announced. The top 12 fund raisers will lead the convoy over a 2-hour police escorted route arriving back at the Paris Fairgrounds approximately 12 noon.

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### **Top 5 World Wide Fund Raisers**

1. Wisconsin
2. Missouri
3. \* Ontario
4. South Dakota
5. Nova Scotia

### **5-year History from Paris Truck Convoy**

2017: 91 Trucks, \$73,000 Raised  
2016: 73 Trucks, \$67,000 Raised  
2015: 72 Trucks, \$52,000 Raised  
2014: 89 Trucks, \$108,000 Raised  
2013: 45 Trucks, \$76,000 Raised



## **How do Funds get raised?**

That is a good question. The answer not in any special order of priority would be, generous sponsors, fund raising drivers, volunteers, and those that sponsor the drivers.

Many of the sponsors keep getting involved every year as do the drivers. The drivers and the fleet operators go to extremes to make sure that the drivers are able to attend and of course get the trucks polished up to show off.

The event is made up of numerous volunteers that get this event to move along seamlessly. During the event volunteers are on site well before sunrise and there until the last thing is packed up for another year. Our board of directors are part of the volunteer team that meet to prepare and plan numerous times during the year leading up to the event. In some cases, our e mails go down because the system is overloaded with correspondence and questions between anyone and everyone involved.

This year there are 2 challenges out.

#1 We would like to see over 100 trucks participate in the 2018 Special Olympics Convoy.

#2 This challenge came from the event Chairperson Tammy Blackwell out to myself.

To tie into the challenge, I will tell you what one of my responsibilities is as part of the event. I lead a team of between 10-12 hard working dedicated people to be truck escorts. In a nut she we get the trucks staged for the convoy. On the day of the convoy the team gets the convoy rolling from the fairgrounds to the street and 2 hours later the convoy returns and the escort team get the convoy off the road and safely parked. To see these trucks head out to convoy is an experience that has to be seen.

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## Challenge to Mike Kroetsch

The following is the challenge from Tammy Blackwell the chairperson for Paris 2018 Truck Convoy

### Tutus for Trucks

I have been on the Brant Truck Convoy board for several years, and am always so impressed by how smoothly the convoy escorts make the departure from the fairgrounds happen – much like a well-rehearsed ballet! Mike, our escort team leader, is a dancarina leading the flawless performance.

This year, I want to take this well-rehearsed ballet up a notch by issuing a challenge!

Mike has agreed, that if supporters of the convoy pledge \$2,500 to the convoy, OR for \$20 for each truck registered (whichever is greater), he will escort the convoy out of the fairgrounds this year, wearing an **orange tutu!** I am positive this is a sight everyone would like to see, so I'm asking you, please make your donation today to have the opportunity to watch history unfold (and get some unforgettable pictures for social media)!

Besides getting to watch the 2018 Brant County Truck Convoy escorted out by a man in an orange tutu, you will also be helping us raise funds to support Special Olympics Ontario, and over 25,000 athletes across the province who are living with an intellectual disability.

The deadline to submit your pledge is **9:00 AM on Saturday, September 15th, 2018.**

To pledge go to the website;

<http://www.truckconvoy.ca/convoys/brant/> then click on

**#AcceptTheChallenge!**

From there you can make an online donation.

Thank You for Your Support

Mike Kroetsch

