

Sensei Ron Mattie inducted into the Canadian Black Belt Hall of Fame

Hanshi John Therien , head of the World Kobudo Federation hosted the Capital Conquest the weekend of 2 November 2024 in Gatineau. As part of this event there were kyu belt and black belt tournaments, as well as two days of clinics. Each clinic was one hour long with over 25 instructors from around the world, including our own, Sensei Jim Atkinson, Sensei Ron Mattie, Sensei Neil Prime, Sensei Sanford DeWitt and Sensei Kris Reynolds. Capital Conquest is a premiere event to be included in and this is the third year in a row we were invited to instruct.

With great pride, the SWKKF Senate and membership would like to congratulate Sensei Ron Mattie, for being inducted into the Canadian Black Belt Hall of Fame at Gatineau, Quebec on Saturday, 2 November 2024.

Sensei Ron is the chief instructor of the SWKKF and is our first inductee into the Canadian Black Belt Hall of Fame since Hanshi Masaru Shintani , who was inducted in 2007.

It is a great honor for Sensei Ron to be recognized by the Canadian Black Belt Hall of Fame and a proud moment for the SWKKF!



Sensei Mattie's Acceptance Speech

Thank you everyone. I think there was a mistake, by the people, who sent in the request, to have my name in here. It was supposed to go, to the rock and roll hall of fame, for my drumming. Now people think, that I do, a special numchucks martial art with drum sticks.

However, I would like to thank, the Canadian Black Belt Hall of Fame, for just considering me, let alone be accepted, and the affiliation, with Hanchi Therien, and the World Kobudo Federation. I Also would like to thank sensei Darren Humphries for spearheading the application, behind my back. It is quite an honour to be following the legacy, of Hanshi Masuru Shintani who was inducted in 2007.

At age 14, in the early 70's, I was the cool guy, with long hair, bell bottoms, and in a rock band, but most of my friends, were turning to drugs, so I had to look for a new group of friends to hang out with. I have 6 sisters, and though we were poor, we were all raised with good morals and kindness, so we stayed out of trouble.

About the only person, that wasn't on drugs, was a kid that sat beside me at school, who was nerdy. We started to hang out together, outside of school, and then I found out he took Karate. I told him, "I don't care how much Karate you know, I can still beat you up." He said yeah probably.



Then he talked me into going to watch a class. He was only a greenbelt, and in 10 minutes, I thought, " wow, he would've beat me up bad" , and that's the kind of guy I want to be like.

Then he talked me into going to watch a class. He was only a greenbelt, and in 10 minutes, I thought, " Wow, he would've beat me up bad", and that's the kind of guy I want to be like.

His instructor was Hanshi Shintani, who also carried himself with, humility and kindness, and with strong, powerful explosive Karate.

Today that person, sensei Denis Labbé, is the president, of the SWKKF, and my best friend for over 52 years.



