



# 2013 Presidents Report

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2013 has been a whirlwind of a year for me personally; it was a year ago that I agreed to take on the CARS President role and the board elected me as the 5<sup>th</sup> President of The Canadian Association of Rallysport.

I stepped into the role with lots of rally experience from the competitor's point of view, but minimum knowledge of the CARS Board workings, CARS history or what the member clubs and organizers are doing in detail. The learning curve has been quite a steep one to say the least. I certainly appreciated all of the support and advice offered by Tom McGeer the outgoing President as well as many of the other long time participants in the association's activities as their perspective has proved invaluable.

Working with an amazing group of dedicated rally enthusiasts on the volunteer CARS Board, and applying what I've learnt over the years in industry, I feel the association has made excellent progress in 2013.

CARS had come a long way over its 22 year life and is clearly a very professionally managed organization that sanctions and supports all types of Rally Sport across Canada. CARS, along with its member clubs and all of the individuals associated with the sport, work very hard to deliver outstanding rally programs across this country. I know from competing in the US and dealing with my US counterparts that we are viewed as putting on uncompromising events. Everyone has reason to be proud of our accomplishments.

The Canadian Rally Championship continues to be our flagship championship that many dedicate untold hours to organize, volunteer and compete in. However, we mustn't overlook the grassroots rally-sport activities that thrive in different ways in different parts of this country. These events not only build a foundation of interest and knowledge needed to have a successful National Championship, but also exist as important competition venues for the vast majority of rally enthusiasts throughout Canada.

Rally cross, rally sprint, test days, TSD/navigational rallies and regional stage rallies all have their respective following and are all thriving, albeit to different degrees in various parts of the country. CARS may not always be seen to do a lot for these groups but I can assure you we need the grass roots events alive and well so that we can challenge ourselves through all levels of the sport. To that end, the CARS Administrative Rules Committee is currently working through a proposed rule revamp for Rally-Cross and Rally-Sprint. The aim of the review is create rules that will encourage growth in these aspects of the sport while maintaining CARS safety guidelines. We're also working on a simplified event safety plan template to help the organizers create an effective and meaningful document that will reflect CARS safety guidelines.



In 2013, the Canadian Rally Championship continued to enjoy the support of Subaru Canada as presenting sponsor and Yokohama Tires (Canada) as supporting sponsor. Their partnerships have been cornerstones of the Canadian Rally Championship, through their direct support. As well, Subaru's contingency and vehicle rebate programs that have provided direct assistance to competitors and members of CARS clubs.

I would like to offer my sincere thanks, on behalf of all our competitors, organizers and member clubs, to our corporate partners for their continued involvement with rallying in Canada.

This year the Board developed a new Vision, Mission and Objectives statements, and then in support of them, established our 2013 goals. In order to successfully lead our organization forward, we felt it was and is very important that the Board, association members and the rally community as a whole have a common vision or view of our rally world and a common agreement as to where we see ourselves heading. I was very pleased that we were able to establish our vision, mission and objectives early on in the year, as it stood us in good stead to establish, and pursue, the goals and therefore establish our focus for the year. I am pleased to report that we completed the vast majority of our goals through 2013 and already have a proposed set of goals for 2014.

I am particularly appreciative of the work that our treasurer, Martin Burnley, has done to help make the board more fiscally aware and responsible. Currently, Martin reports on our financial position on a quarterly basis. This year, we established a budgeting philosophy and guiding principles with producing a balanced budget being one of the key tenets. We had a planned deficit budget in 2013 that reduced our reserve fund by approx. \$20,000. While the board had its reasons for this deficit budget, that approach is unsustainable longer term. Our proposed budget for 2014 reduces the budget deficit, although not completely, and our plan is to be back on track for a balanced budget in 2015.

2013 was a challenging year in terms of our PR efforts and media coverage. In mid-December, with about six weeks to the first event of the season, our long time producer informed us that they would no longer be producing the TV broadcasts as they had been for most of the previous 20 years. Marketing Manager Keith Morison rushed to solicit proposals from potential vendors and Musketeer Media was awarded the contract for 2013. Faced with many challenges including a heavily back end loaded schedule, Andrew Comrie-Picard and the folks at Musketeer Media did an amazing job of producing the TV broadcasts that aired on TSN, TSN2 and RDS this year. On top of that they ratcheted up our social media exposure significantly.

This was a huge learning experience for both our media partners and ourselves and heading into 2014, a new request for proposal has gone out looking to further enhance the social media and broadcast media productions. Our intent is to continue with broadcast TV of the Canadian Rally Championship and want to enhance even further the social media presence. We see this area as a huge exposure opportunity that will only become more important over time to our sponsors, competitors and organizers alike.

## 2013 Canadian Rally Championship Results

My congratulations go to the following individuals and manufacturers on winning their respective championships

### Overall Champions

Driver: Antoine L'Estage  
Co-Driver: Rob Fagg  
Manufacturer: Mitsubishi

### 2WD Champions

Driver: Paul Hartl  
Co-Driver: Chuck Story  
Manufacturer: Volkswagen

### P4WD Champions

Driver: Jeremy Norris  
Co-Driver: Bryan Lord  
Manufacturer: Subaru

### P2WD Champions

Driver: tbd after TP  
Co-Driver: tbd  
Manufacturer: tbd

### Ladies Cup

Lynne Murphy

### Novice Driver

Jeremy Norris

## The CARS Organization

I would like to recognize and thank the Extended Board of Directors and other members of the CARS organization. It is important to note that these individuals devote a great deal of time to the business of the association and it would not be what it is without their efforts. My sincere thanks go to each of you.

### 2013 Elected Regional Directors

Atlantic Region Director:	Clarke Paynter	
RSQ Director:	Ivan Butikofer	Vice President
RSO Director:	Jim Morrow	
Rally West Director:	Eric Grochowski	
RPM Director:	Martin Burnley	Secretary / Treasurer

During the 2013 we had a number of elected board member changes.

Early on Ray Felice the long time regional director representing Rally Sport Ontario stepped down and was replaced by Jim Morrow.

Bryan Lord started out the year as the regional director representing Rallywest. He stepped aside midyear and Eric Grochowski replaced him. Eric was recently elected to represent Rallywest and will be on the board through 2014.

### 2013 Extended Board members

CRC Series Manager:	Terry Epp
Marketing Manager:	Keith Morrison
CARS office Manager:	Debbie Dyer
Organizers Representative:	Ross Wood
Technical Director:	Darryl Malone
Competitors Representative:	Chris Martin

### Other key support roles in 2013

Translator:	Pierre Racine
Medical Delegate:	Dr. Robert Labrie
Statistician:	George Dewar
Regional Event Reviewer:	Peter Gulliver

### 2013 Stewards

My thanks to a very knowledgeable group of individuals who offered their time to act as stewards at our CRC events;

Nancy Beaulieu	Alain Bergeron	Tom Burgess
Jorge Dascollas	Jean-Francois Guite	Peter Gulliver
Josh Keatley	B.Gilles Lacroix	Donald Leblanc
Martin Loveridge	Alan Perry	Luc Piche
Vitor Sequeira	Adrian Wintle	

### Committees

We have two standing committees and a number of project related committees. The members, all of who deserve huge thanks for the work they have done this year.

#### *Technical Rules Committee (standing committee)*

Jorge Dascollas	Antoine L'Estage	Darryl Malone (chair)
Frank Sprongl	Paul Westwick	

#### *Administrative Rules Committee (standing committee)*

Terry Epp	John Hall (chair)	Ross Wood
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I would like to specifically mention the NFP committee the members of which have done an immense amount of work preparing the associations new bylaws; the new bylaws are required by the Act to be in place October 2014.

***Not-for-Profit Corporations Act Committee (project team)***

John Blaber	Martin Loveridge (chair)	Luc Piche
Jamie Puddister	Jim Stevens	Dennis Wharton

Thank you to all of the other committees that worked on various projects through 2013

***Speed Factor committee***

Martin Headland	Jim Morrow (chair)	Peter Watt
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***Large Displacement Group***

Martin Burnley (chair)	Ivan Butikofer	Eric Grockowski
Bryan Lord	Darryl Malone	Chris Martin

***Safety guideline committee***

Alain Bergeron	John Blaber	Alasdair Robertson
Ross Wood (chair)		

***Steward management system committee***

Alain Bergeron	Ivan Butikofer (chair)	Terry Epp
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***Vehicle tracking committee***

Graham Bruce	Bryan Lord	Keith Morison
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The elected board appoints the CARS President for a one-year term. I have indicated that I am willing to let my name stand for another year, but I would encourage anyone from the rally community with an interest in leadership and betterment of the sport, to let it be known. If the board appoints me as President for 2014 it is still very important that others interested in the Presidents role get or stay involved with CARS, a regional board, a volunteer group or in some other way, get yourself known and gain experience.

In the meantime I'm looking forward to another great year for our sport in 2014.

John Hall  
President  
Canadian Association of Rallysport

