



## 2021 Presidents Report

2021 will be remembered as the year we tried to get back to normal at the tail end of the COVID pandemic. It's not over yet but we seem to be learning how to deal with it while carrying on doing what we do. Vaccination rates are way up, social distancing, mask wearing and cleanliness are more often the norm and our rally season has picked up steam through the last half of the year.

We will have run 6 of the 8 events in the 2021 CRC, with Perce Neige in January being cancelled due to COVID and the Pacific Forest Rally being cancelled in October due to the forest fire situation in BC.

Although a shortened season it has not lacked exciting competition and is still a three way race for the overall championship heading into Big White, the last event of the 2021 season.

Financially CARS took a big hit in 2020 as our income from licenses almost completely dried up, but with some serious belt tightening, mostly in the form of a virtual 2020 AGM and again for the 2021 AGM in Jan 2022. The association will have weathered the storm and should start the road to recovery in 2022.

In 2021 CARS affiliated with Groupe de Développement Sportif (GDS) the new ASN in Canada. As an organization they are still in the development stage and were not able to provide access to a common motorsport insurance package for 2021. In 2021 CARS entered into an agreement with Stoneridge for the second year and continue to manage our own insurance plan directly with Stoneridge.

At the 2021 AGM in January 2022 the board will be proposing a budget that maintains the license, permit and affiliation fees the same as the past two years. The big unknown will be the 2022 insurance rates that we will see for the first time in March 2022. With the world economy impacted by the pandemic it is possible the we see rate increases taking effect in time for round two of the 2022 CRC.

For 2021 we re-formatted the CARS rule book and converted to an electronic version that is posted on the web site. This has reduced rule book production costs while maintaining the opportunity for rule book advertising income. The rule book is formatted to print in 8.5 x 11.

During 2021 the CARS board continued to debate the various electronic tracking and safety systems that are in use. In order to bring this question to conclusion a team consisting of the 5 region directors have worked together to re-assess the choices and determine what would be in the best interest of the sport going forward. Just recently the board came to the conclusion that RallySafe should be used for all national events and be made available to regional events that want to use it. The cost is being finalized but should be in the order of \$210/car/rally. This provides not only vehicle tracking, but a host of safety features that improve competitor and worker safety, as well as timing and scoring that will save the costs previously spent on electronic timing light systems. The team are currently working on implementation of RallySafe effective January 2022 in time for Rallye Perce Neige.

Finally, this will be my last report as president of CARS as I will be stepping down after the 2021 AGM and handing over the reins to a new President. I was originally elected as president in 2013 and have served for 9 years. It has been an honour to work on behalf of competitors, organizers and member clubs during this period.

## **2021 Canadian Rally Championship Winners**

Overall Driver - André Leblanc

Overall Co-Driver - René Leblanc

2WD Driver - Jason Bailey

2WD Co-Driver - Shayne Peterson

P4WD Driver - Vincent Trudel

P4WD Co-Driver - Christopher Trudel

P2WD Driver - Jim Stevens

P2WD Co-Driver - Brandon Pace

Novice Driver - Vincent Trudel

Ladies Cup - Marie-France Desmarais Trépanier

## **2021 Manufacturers Championship**

Overall Manufacturer - Subaru

2WD Manufacturer - Ford

P4WD Manufacturer - Subaru

P2WD Manufacturer - Suzuki