

Changes on the Executive Committee of the ARA Board of Directors

On June 22, 2016, we notified the membership that after two consecutive terms, Ed Hendricks would not be seeking re-election as chairman of the ARA. We also notified the membership that the secretary/treasurer position was becoming vacant. We requested nominations for members interested in assuming these two important volunteer roles on the executive committee of the ARA board of directors.

We are pleased to report that one nomination was received from Al Cameron for the position of secretary/treasurer, and without any further nominations, he is elected



Al Cameron has been elected to the position of ARA Secretary/Treasurer by acclamation.

by acclamation to this position. Al is the current first vice chairman of the ARA, the chair of the ARA's Licensed Motor Dealer Division, and he serves as one of the ARA representatives on the B.C. Motor Vehicle Sales Authority (MVSA).

Al is the owner/operator of Bluenose Motor Co. in Parksville, B.C. He established Bluenose Motor Co. in 2003, offering sales/financing, mechanical repairs, detailing, and body shop services. His company was voted *Small Business of the Year* in 2007 by the Parksville & District Chamber of Commerce.

Al moved to the West Coast in 1995 from Nova Scotia, and he started in the industry with the Jim Pattison Group in Victoria. He is a strong advocate of the ARA. Al is a member of the Parksville AM Rotary, and he is a supporter of local community organizations such as the Parkville & District Chamber of Commerce, the SPCA, and Project Literacy. Mr. Cameron will assume the responsibilities of the ARA's secretary/treasurer on September 18, the day after the ARA Annual General Meeting (AGM).

2016 ARA Executive Election Nominees

We are further pleased to announce that we have received three (3) nominations for the position of chairperson of the ARA. The nominees and their bylaws are included below. According to the ARA bylaws, the members present at the ARA AGM in Whistler on September 17 will have the opportunity to vote on the individual that they would like to see assume this critical ARA executive committee position.

Each of the nominees will be given the opportunity at the AGM to provide a brief presentation seeking your vote. Following the presentations, voting will be conducted by secret ballot. Each official representative of a member attending the AGM will be provided with a ballot to cast their vote when they sign in at the registration desk. The newly elected chairperson will assume the position on the day following the AGM. Make sure you attend the AGM to participate in the election!

One further note — former ARA vice chairman, Clint Wilson, has agreed to chair the election for the new ARA chairman at the AGM. According to our bylaws, AGM elections must be chaired by a past executive member of the board.

Scott Waddle, Precision Auto Service, Langley *Mechanical Division*



Scott says he's been fixing cars since he was four years old, maybe younger, out in the driveway with his dad. He says this is all he really knows, but he's always had an entrepreneurial spirit. He could always find a way to earn a dollar, even as a young kid.

Like many kids in high school, Scott grew up fixing up old cars, and naturally (at least naturally for him), he carried through with this interest. Scott went to a Polytechnic University, took the auto service entry-level course, and he got a job in a repair shop. He did his apprenticeship and became a Red Seal technician, as well as earning AirCare, Propane, and Commercial Vehicle Inspectors licenses. Scott has

also done every other certification available, including the ASE master technician designation.

After working as a mechanic at several independent repair shops, Scott knew the repair business was in need of a modern, customer service oriented option, and he believed there was a better method. He opened Precision Auto in 1997, and it wasn't long until he realized that running a business was nothing like fixing cars, and that he needed help.

Scott hired his first technician in less than a year, and the business kept growing from there. Scott started taking business management courses at a regular pace, and he hired a second technician in 1999 (an 18 year old kid at the time, and he still works for Precision today). Scott then hired the company's first customer service consultant, and the business has consistently grown at about 15% per year over the past 18 years.

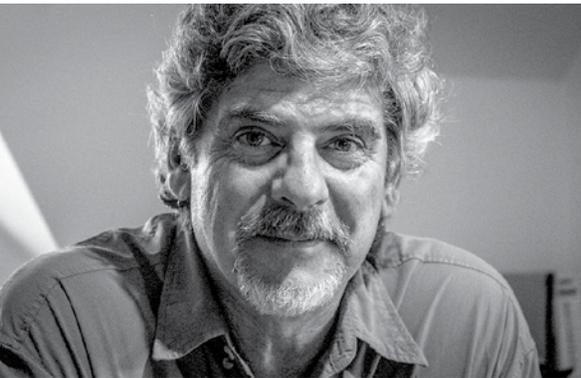
According to Scott, the secret of this growth is simple — always hire people who are better than you at their specific jobs. Scott is proud to say that in those 18 years, the company has only had 12 employees (there are shops that go through that many in a year).

Given Precision Auto Service is a small business with a local client base and staff, and given Scott has a young family, participating in the local community at many levels is an obvious choice. This commitment has proven to pay for itself repeatedly from both a business and personal point of view.

Some of the things Scott is involved in are his children's school PAC, he is a director at the Langley Chamber of Commerce, a director at the ARA, and a member of the Think Referrals Business Networking group. Precision Auto Service is a supporter of many local schools, Kimz Angels, The Langley Rams Football team, and many other local charities. Precision is also part of the Township Adopt a Street Program, and staff is involved in many other community events, like Fraser Valley Family Day.

Precision Auto Service is committed to providing the best and most cost effective service available. The company does this by having the most technically advanced equipment and information systems, but most importantly, a staff of technicians and advisors who are qualified to repair your car today, and continually upgrading for tomorrow. Precision and its staff attend training events all over North America.

Ron Tremblay, The Garage, Vancouver *Mechanical Division*



Ron became an Automotive Service Apprentice, in 1978, at Tremblay Motors in Vancouver, which his grandfather founded in 1934. In 1984, after working with the whole family mentoring him, he acquired his automotive mechanical license and went into business with his father, Fred Tremblay, operating “The Garage” on MacDonald Street.

During his more than 30 years in business, Ron has acquired his Automotive Service technician license, Air Care endorsement, CVIP endorsement, and various advanced diagnostic certificates. Additionally, he has employed more than 20 apprentices (including two of his three sons), indenturing most of them himself. Automotive service and repair are clearly a family tradition, as all three of Ron’s sons now work with him at The Garage. Service, cars, and mentoring are Ron’s life — along with his passion

for yachting around the B.C coast.

Ron has dedicated his life to not only building and sustaining a successful business based on strong core values, but he also uses his considerable energy and expertise to give back to the industry and the community.

Ron is honoured to have been elected to the volunteer position of chairman of the Automotive Sector Advisory Group, reporting to provincial government and the Industry Trade Authority. Here he works with the industry to review government-collected statistics and provide recommendations for improvements to its apprenticeship programme. He does this in order to facilitate the sustainability of young people entering into this fast-changing and high tech industry, and to facilitate the implementation of the government-mandated Jobs Skills Blueprint relating to automotive apprentices.

As of April 2015, Ron is the most recent to person to represent B.C. as a member of the National Occupational Analysis for the Red Seal Standards of automotive technicians. This is a national programme designed to ensure that Red Seal is up-to-date and current for modern vehicles.

Ron contributes as a volunteer with the Automotive Programme Advisory

Committee for the British Columbia Institute of Technology on curriculum development to help ensure the best possible outcomes for apprenticeships and the industry.

Ron is a board member for the ARA’s Mechanical Repair Division, as well as the Canadian Independent Automotive Association, which brings together technicians to support the high quality standards in their profession.

As an implementation coach with Training with Total Automotive Consulting and Training since 2005, Ron has worked with well over 1000 shop owners throughout Canada. He trains shop owners how to implement effective management tools to increase customer satisfaction and reduce stress for everyone while maintaining a profitable business.

The Garage is a key sponsor for the One More Time charity, which regularly feeds the less fortunate on Vancouver’s Downtown East Side. Ron also makes The Garage’s lot available on weekends for car wash fundraising events in support of local schools.

Ron extends his mentoring skills as a supporter and participant of the Crash Youth Camp Society, which inspires leadership in youth “by getting out of the way.”



2016 ARA AGM

2016 ARA Executive Election Nominees

Wade Bartok, Elite Autobody, North Vancouver *Collision Repair Division*



Wade has worked in the collision industry since high school. Following a five-year stint at UBC, he began managing Elite Body Shop in North Vancouver. In 2001, the family opened a second location in North Vancouver. He is now owner and operator of both locations. In his spare time, he volunteers to coach, officiate or manage his children's sports such as ice hockey, field hockey, soccer and speed swimming.

Wade's involvement in the ARA started back in 2006. Since that time, Wade has been very active in supporting the activities of the association through his direct involvement in various capacities. Specifically, Wade has served nine years on the Collision Repair Division (CRD) including two as Chair and four as Vice Chair, a position he currently occupies. Wade also served two years

as the CRD representative on the ARA Board of Directors.

Serving on the ARA Board has provided Wade with the opportunity to actively participate in the strategic direction setting of the organization, and to more fully understand the priority needs and interests of the entire membership of the association. Wade's volunteer work with the ARA has given him considerable insight into the activities and decision making of the ARA and its Board — insights he believes would make him a productive Chair for the organization.

Wade has also been actively engaged in the advocacy work of the ARA. He continues to serve as an ambassador of the association, which results in him periodically meeting with local MLAs, and in the past he has networked with the premier and her cabinet at political functions. Wade's role with this advocacy work has been to promote the needs of the industry and priorities of the association on behalf of its membership.

On top of all of this, Wade has participated on or led numerous committees under the ARA. Wade has represented the CRD and ARA on the joint ARA/ICBC ARP Liaison Committee, the MD Technical Committee, and the Materials Committee. Wade's experience has been a considerable education in how to operate and attempt to make changes

when working with government and a crown corporation. It is unlike anything else that industry members will face in managing their own businesses, and no one can learn about it by any other way than rolling their sleeves up and getting directly involved.

Wade has served on other ARA committees including the partnerships the ARA has developed with the government's Labour Market Partnership Program. The partnership has seen several hundreds of thousands of dollars contributed to identifying strategic solutions to the labour market situation in the automotive sector in B.C. Wade was a part of the volunteer committee that has guided the four separate but related projects that resulted from this funding. One of those projects saw the formation of the BC Auto Sector Alliance Committee (BCASA), an alliance with the New Car Dealers Association that promotes automotive careers in the province, something the entire industry recognizes as a priority.

Wade believes that his belief in and commitment to the ARA, his relationships with peers in the industry, and the education that he has received from having been engaged at so many levels within the association, have positioned him well to serve the ARA membership and the organization as the Chairman of the Board.