

The Virtual National Recruiting and Retention Symposium 2020

Date: Thursday October 22nd, 2020

Time: 10:00 – 12:00 pm

Platform: GoTo Webinar

Complimentary – Thanks to our Sponsors!

Registration: [Click to register](#)

Agenda

10:00 – 10:10 am	Introductions	NRRS Chairperson: Charlie Charalambous Platinum Sponsor: Dirk Kupar
10:10 – 10:30 a.m.	Mental Health: A Driver's Story	Speaker: David Henry (Driver at DM Krenkevich and Crazy Canuck Trucking Podcaster)
10:30 – 11:10 a.m.	Recruiting in the COVID-19 Era	Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bart Kanters (Concrete Ontario) • Geoff Topping (Challenger Motor Freight) • Mike Millian (PMTC) Moderator: Dirk Kupar (TruckRight)
11:10 - 11:25 a.m.	Driving Freedom: How Truckers Prevent Human Trafficking	Speaker: Helen Van Dam (Truckers Against Trafficking)
11:25 - 11:50 p.m.	Driver Inc. Where Are We Today - Where We Need To Be Tomorrow	Speaker: Stephen Laskowski (OTA & CTA)
11:50 – 12:00 pm	Closing Remarks	TransRep President: Kim Richardson

Speakers

David Henry

Session: Mental Health - A Driver's Story

Bio: David Henry is a long-haul driver, Bell Let's Talk friend, creator/cohost of Crazy Canuck Truckin podcast and as a person who should be 6 feet under, he's passionate about sur-thriving every day. Multiple head injuries, broken bones and dark times haven't dulled his sense of humour.

David was also recently featured as part of the Bell Let's Talk campaign and you can view his video here:

<https://letstalk.bell.ca/en/our-initiatives/team/david-k-henry>



Helen Van Dam

Session: Driving Freedom - How Truckers Prevent Human Trafficking

Bio: Helen Hofer is the director of the Freedom Drivers Project for [Truckers Against Trafficking](#) (TAT). In this role she uses the TAT mobile exhibit, the Freedom Drivers Project, to educate and empower members of the trucking, bus and energy industries along with the general public about sex trafficking and how these industries are driving change in this issue. Prior to working with Trucker Against Trafficking in 2015, she was the communications and events manager for iEmpathize, an international anti-trafficking non-profit. In both positions, she has traveled training various audiences on the reality of human trafficking and how each person has a role to play in combating it.



Stephen Laskowski

Session: Driver Inc. Where Are We Today - Where We Need To Be Tomorrow

Bio: Stephen Laskowski is president of the [Ontario Trucking Association](#) and the [Canadian Trucking Alliance](#). Stephen has been a part of the trucking association for close to 25 years. Over the years, he has been involved in multiple high-profile policies that have had tremendous change on the freight transportation sector, including: 9/11 and its impact on the cross-border trucking industry, the technological and environmental enhancements, trucking labour issues like the driver shortage and multiple major truck safety reforms. Most recently, in the aftermath of the Humboldt tragedy, Stephen has led a national effort to improve highway safety across Canada, most specifically by urging, MELT, expedited implementation of electronic logging devices to monitor drivers' hours of service and more robust industry entry standards to ensure the trucking industry is fully compliant with the all rules of the road. As president his main mission is to level the playing field for the majority of responsible, compliant motor carriers in our industry.



Steve was selected to be a participant in the prestigious US State Department World Leadership Exchange Program in 2004. He holds a Master's of Public Administration degree from the University of Western Ontario and an undergraduate degree in Political Science & History from his hometown school McMaster University.



Panel: Recruiting in the COVID-19 Era

Recruiting in the COVID-19 Era Moderator: Dirk Kubar

Bio: With a goal to help clients achieve growth and profitability through technology, Dirk Kubar and his wife Lisa launched their software company, [TruckRight](#), in 2014. As multi-truck owner/operators and proprietors of an international truck driver leasing company, Lisa and Dirk envisioned a complete software suite that would engage drivers from hire to retire, markedly improving fleets' ROI and bettering driver relationships.

Since then, the couple has continued to help clients save both time and money with a cloud-based, paperless workflow expertly designed to keep fleets engaged, safe and compliant. For more information, please visit www.truckright.com.



Recruiting in the COVID-19 Era Panelists:

Bart KanTERS: Bart joined the RMCAO in 1999 and has progressed from technical engineer to engineering manager to his current role as president of [Concrete Ontario](#). Prior to joining Concrete Ontario, Bart was a division manager of a concrete restoration company in the Kitchener-Waterloo area.

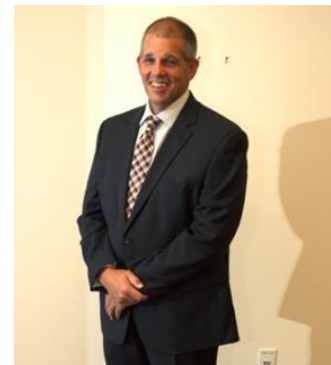
Bart's experience with ready mixed concrete is as a civil engineer with the responsibility of addressing the technical concerns of both Ontario concrete industry and the local design community. He has a Bachelor of Applied Science degree from the University of Waterloo, an MBA from Heriot-Watt University in Scotland and is a registered engineer with the Professional Engineers of Ontario.



Geoff Topping: Geoff Topping has been in the Trucking Industry for over 25 years and has held many roles in that time. Geoff started his career as a Driver and has since held positions in Operations, Sales, Recruiting and Human Resources. Currently, Geoff is Vice President of People & Culture including Safety, Recruiting and Risk Management for [Challenger](#). Geoff has also served Industry associations such as the Truck Training Schools of Ontario where he acted as the Chair of the Carrier committee and is currently the co-chair of the Recruiting, Retention and HR committee at TCA as well as a Commissioner for the Niagara Bridge Commission. In 2018 Geoff was awarded the HR Leader of the year by Trucking HR Canada and in 2017 was also recognized as the HR Innovator.



Mike Millian: Mike grew up on a beef farm in rural Southwestern Ontario in Huron County and began his career in the Trucking Industry in 1990 at the age of 18. Mike spent three years working for a local carrier Hauling Livestock and bulk agriculture products. At the age of 21 Mike went to work for a long Haul Refrigerated and general freight carrier and spent 5 years hauling freight in all 48 US Mainland States and 6 Canadian Provinces. The Carrier then opened a Certified Driver Training School in 1998 and Mike came off the road to become one of the Schools First Certified Driver Trainers. In 2000 Mike Transitioned into Safety and Compliance for the Fleet, while still working part time as a Trainer for the School.



In 2002 Mike moved over to a Private Fleet and became the Safety, Compliance, Maintenance and Training manager for the Hensall District Co-operative's Commercial Trucking Fleet. Mike spent the next 12.5 years with Hensall and oversaw the Fleets as it grew from 40 Trucks in 2002 to over 160 in 2015. In January of 2015 Mike moved into the Trucking Association business and was named the President of the [Private Motor Truck Council of Canada](#), where he remains in his current role.



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