



Atlantic Canada Regional Seminar

Inn on the Prince, Truro, Nova Scotia
437 Prince St, Truro, NS

Thank you to our Sponsors:



April 9th, 2025

7:30am: Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:00am: Opening remarks : Mike Millian & Kelly Henderson

8:05-8:50 Tools to ensure you are prepared for a Carrier Audit

Douglas J Leamon, recently retired from the Nova Scotia Department of Public Works, and now running his own consultancy education people on the National Safety Code Standards, will provide the audience with tools and tips that will ensure they are prepared for an in house carrier audit as well as be prepared for roadside inspections.

8:50-9:35 Nova Scotia Regulatory update and Safety Initiatives

Rod Dykeman, Training and Outreach Inspector, Vehicle Transportation Inspection, with the Nova Scotia Department of Public Works, will go over CMV upcoming regulatory changes, safety initiatives, carrier education and awareness. Ken will also update the audience on where Nova Scotia is in regards to implementing MELT and ELD's.

9:35-10:00 Break

10:00 am-10:45 am AI and Trucking

Robert Newcombe, AI First will share how AI can work for you in the Trucking Industry.

10:45-11:30 am: Department of Labour

Michelle Thomason, Director of Innovation & Planning, in the Safety Branch with the Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration will present on upcoming legislation on psychological health and safety. This is a great opportunity to learn about employer responsibilities as legislation is coming Fall 2025.

11:45 am: Closing Remarks, seminar adjourns – final comments Todd Seward **Speaker bio's**



Douglas J Leamon

A Canadian Military veteran with over 25 years experience as a technician. Doug has Red seal designations in both Automotive Service Technician and Truck Transport Mechanic Trades. He has also been trained as Senior Ford technician and an Emergency Vehicle Technician. In 2024 Doug retired from public service as the Manager of Training and Outreach with the department of public service and opened his own consulting business helping inform carriers about the National Safety Code Standards and educate them on best practices to comply with and exceed safety standards.

Doug is an NSC consultant, former Manager of Motor Vehicle Inspections, Manager Training and Outreach with VTI, Province of Nova Scotia. Doug now operates a small mobile automotive and heavy truck repair business along with being an NSC consultant and providing online training. Doug is a Red seal automotive Repair technician, Red Seal Heavy truck mechanic, Master ford technician, Master Emergency Vehicle Technician, holds a Certificate in adult education, and is a Canadian firearms instructor.

Rod Dykeman, Training and Outreach Inspector, Vehicle Transportation Inspection, Nova Scotia Department of Public Works

Rod grew up in a multi-generational trucking family and has held Class 1 license since 2000. Rod drove both long haul and local- with many different configurations and commodities.

In 2012 Rod started with Vehicle Transportation Inspection, where he worked 3 years at the Enfield and Kelly Lake compliance stations. Rod spent the next 4.5 years as a mobile Inspector in various parts of the province and has been part of the Training and Outreach team since March 2020. He is also the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Coordinator for the Province of Nova Scotia.

Rod is currently a Defensive Driving Instructor, an Instructor for Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance(CVSA) and holds a Certificate in Adult Education from St. F.X.U.

Robert Newcombe, AI First

Michelle Thomason, PhD, is a kindness scholar, author and proud public servant. She has held various roles in government and is presently Director of Innovation & Planning, in the Safety Branch with the Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration. In this role, Michelle is focussed on psychological health and safety in the workplace. Previous roles include working in Adult Education and Organizational Health.

Employee health and well-being anchors Michelle's work. Michelle graduated from the Sobey School of Business, Saint Mary's University in 2020 with a PhD in Business Administration (Management). The focus of her research was kindness in organizations. Michelle is the Series Editor of *Kindness at Work* with Emerald Publishing, UK and the first title, *Kindness in Management and Organizational Studies* was published in January 2022.