



Targa Newfoundland names new clerk of the course, registrar, and technical advisor for September 2024 car rally

St. John's, NL, May 15, 2024 ... Targa Newfoundland has made some changes behind the scenes in the organization that runs the famous road rally. The long-running event announced the appointments of Leah Dalton as clerk of the course, Wayne Lorenzen as registrar, and Vince Chaulk as technical advisor.

“We’re pleased that these three knowledgeable and talented individuals have accepted these critical volunteer roles to support Targa,” said Joe Dowden, president of Targa Newfoundland. “This event wouldn’t be possible without dedicated volunteers like them.”

Leah Dalton – Clerk of the Course

Leah Dalton of St. John’s, the first woman to hold the position of clerk of the course for Targa, has a long history with the rally going back 16 years. She started volunteering with stage operations back in 2008. Over the years, she served in every position in that group including leading a team and performing course car duties.

“I enjoy meeting people involved in rallies and other car races from all over the world,” she said. “I’ve been able to learn from their knowledge and wisdom and apply it to Targa.”

You could say Leah is a student of the art of racing and rallying. She’s studied Formula One, hill climbs and rally courses for marshaling and spends many hours reviewing how other rallies around the world operate so she can learn and apply the best practices from them. In addition to her work during Targa, she also helped edit and update the rules and regulations for the event.

As clerk of the course, Leah will be in charge of the entire event. She will oversee all aspects of the competition including course operations, timing of stages, event safety, and oversight of stage running conditions.

Wayne Lorenzen – From Racer to Registrar

Wayne Lorenzen has just about done it all when it comes to Targa. He’s been a co-driver, crew member, marshal, volunteer, and spectator since Targa first raced past his home in Gander more than 20 years ago. He brings the perspectives of both a competitor and organizer.

Growing up in Gander, famous for its airport and role in taking in thousands of stranded travellers grounded there after the 9/11 attacks, it’s perhaps only natural that he worked in the aviation industry for 37 years. Wayne says the emphasis on logistics and safety in aviation crosses over to racing.

As well as competing in Targa, he helped develop a training program for drivers and co-drivers. As registrar, he will oversee the registration process for Targa entrants and address participants’ inquiries

and issues related to registration, event details, and logistics. He's also coordinating the rally stages in Central Newfoundland.

"I love Targa. It's such a unique, dynamic motorsport event," said Wayne. "The location on the island of Newfoundland makes it different. It's not just about the stages and closed roads, it's the adventure, the scenery, and the people – the whole package. You're not going to find this anywhere else in the world."

Vince Chaulk – Technical Advisor

Targa's new technical advisor brings more than 40 years of mechanical experience and expertise to the role. Vince Chaulk knows how to wrench, and he knows racing.

Born in Gander and raised in Ladle Cove, he completed a motor vehicle repair course then worked at a couple different shops in St. John's before starting his apprenticeship at a Toyota dealer in 1986. There he earned his Red Seal certificate as a mechanic and advanced to professional technician level with hybrid certification. He is now retired and lives in Conception Bay South.

Vince is passionate about all forms of racing. "My interest in racing covers everything from rallying to F1 to IndyCar and NASCAR."

In his role as technical advisor, Vince will be responsible for checking things like brakes, tires, belts, roll cages, and other equipment to ensure the cars racing in Targa Newfoundland can operate safely for both the racers and spectators.

About Targa Newfoundland

Since 2002, Targa Newfoundland, the only tarmac rally in North America, has attracted professional and amateur racers from around the world. Competitors will cover over 2000 km (about 1240 miles) including about 500 km (310 miles) of closed courses on winding, narrow, public roads through spectacular scenery, towns and outports. The six-day competition will take teams from the historic capital city of St. John's to the charming fishing outport of Leading Ticks and about two dozen points in between. A two-day Bambina event is also an option.

Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada's easternmost province, is a land of adventure and breath-taking natural beauty. With rugged coastline, towering cliffs, and pristine wilderness, Newfoundland and Labrador is a paradise for outdoor enthusiasts and thrill-seekers alike.

Owned and operated by Newfoundland International Motorsports Limited, Targa Newfoundland is one of only three internationally recognized Targa motorsports events in the world.

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