BUSINESS CONNECT

SAAR Conference, AGM and Banquet 2026

24 Fairford Street East Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan S6H 0C7, Canada

Scan for live agenda

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

Risk Management and Insurance Need to Know

09:00AM – 10:00AM

Temple Gardens Hotel & Spa - Skywalk Room - 24 Fairford Street

In this presentation you will learn how to potentially cut your insurance costs by as much as 10% while at the same time getting a better understanding of what insurance coverage you really need.s presentation you will learn how to potentially cut your insurance costs by as much as 10% while at the same time getting a better understanding of what insurance coverage you really need.

POWERED BY

SPEAKER

Doug Taylor, Taylor Risk Management

SPEAKER

Andy McDougall, HK Henderson Insurance

ADAS Calibration Demonstration by PGW Auto Glass

09:00AM – 12:00PM

Peacock High School, 145 Ross Street, Moose Jaw, SK. (Body Shop door on Caribou Street)

PGW Auto Glass is proud to sponsor this event and will show case the Autel ADAS calibration system. This training event will help shops to understand the issues that can affect ADAS calibrations for goof or for bad results. In addition, if you know how many vehicles you calibrate each month you can come up with a business case to bring that work in house instead of subletting it out.

SPEAKER

PGW Auto Glass

Health Break

10:00AM – 10:30AM

Temple Gardens Hotel & Spa - Skywalk Room - 24 Fairford Street

Driving Financial Performance - We have the Keys to Your Success

10:30AM – 12:00PM

Temple Gardens Hotel & Spa - Skywalk Room - 24 Fairford Street

The morning consists of an informal discussion on how Norm made his adjustment to financial literacy after hearing Tom speak at a SAAR event almost 10 years ago. Then get into the nitty gritty of what numbers you need to know and understand to maximize your financial performance. This will be an interactive event that will have numerous AHA! Moments that will make you mad while at the same time opening your mind.

SPEAKER

Tom Parnell, PPG Performance Program Manager

SPEAKER

Norm Bruneau, St Claude Auto Body

Lunch - Plastic Welding by Betag and Color Compass

12:00PM – 01:00PM

Peacock High School, 145 Ross Street, Moose Jaw, SK (Body Shop door on Caribou Street)

SPEAKER

Color Compass

Come and Go Social Event. Join us for some great networking, drinks and excellent food!

05:30PM – 08:30PM

Bobby's Place - 63 High Street

SATURDAY MARCH 14

Hot Breakfast

07:00AM – 08:00AM

Main Ballroom

SAAR AGM

08:00AM – 08:30AM

Main Ballroom

All events in the main ballroom hosted by **Ari Avivi.**

Meet Ari Avivi - Your Next Unforgettable Event Host!
When it comes to bringing energy, laughter, and unforgettable moments to any event, Ari Avivi is in a league of his own. Best known for The Comedy Plt and the wildly entertaining Really Bad Advice Podcast, Ari combines sharp wit, quick improvisation, and infectious charm to keep audiences fully engaged from start to finish.

As an event host, Ari doesn't just guide the day - he owns it. Whether it's a corporate gala, private celebration, or a live show, he strickes the perfect balance between professionalism and hilarity, turning every event into an experience guests rave about. Expect smart humor, seamless transitions, and the kind of spontaneous fun only Ari Avivi can deliver.



SPEAKER
Ari Avivi

SPEAKER

Bryan Leier, President

SPEAKER

Tom Bissonnette, Executive Director

Succession Planning - Keynote Speaker: Tom Deans

08:30AM – 10:00AM

Main Ballroom



SPEAKER

Tom Deans

Dr. Thomas William Deans is an author and full-time professional speaker. Having delivered more than 2,000 speeches in 28 countries on 4 continents, he is widely considered the preeminent thought leader and speaker on generational wealth.

Health Break

10:00AM – 10:30AM

Main Ballroom

Panel Discussion: Tom Deans and Darren Ulmer

10:30AM – 11:30AM

Main Ballroom



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SPEAKER

Darren Ulmer - White Owl Financial

Darren Ulmer was born and raised in Saskatchewan. He developed a close bond to the city and the people in the community. His philosophy in life is to be honest and keep his word, and he lives by this philosophy in his business, which has helped him achieve success.

Darren and his team work with smart business owners to make WISE decisions about there ongoing business planning, business sale or succession to family members.

As a cancer survivor, he believes insurance and investment planning is too important to be left to chance. This is why it is important to recommend financial solutions that are suitable for you, so that you can make informed decisions.

When he's not working, Darren enjoys giving back to his community by volunteering for various local organizations. Darren is also a global international speaker and children's book author.

Darren is proud to hold the following designations:

-CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER®

-Certified Health Insurance Specialist (CHS™)

-Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU®)

Scott Sinclair, I-CAR Canada

11:30AM – 12:00PM

Main Ballroom



SPEAKER

Scott Sinclair

Scott Sinclair is a seasoned collision industry professional and senior leader with extensive experience driving strategic growth, technical training adoption, and operational alignment across Canada's Collision Repair ecosystem.

As Business Development Manager at I-CAR Canada, Scott leads national initiatives to expand industry engagement with Gold Class, Platinum, and Training Alliance programs—bridging the gap between evolving OEM repair standards, technician development, and organizational performance.

A certified Journeyman Auto Body Technician (RSE, BSE), Scott brings a strong technical foundation and a consultative, data driven approach to advancing repair capability and safety outcomes across the industry. His work supports stakeholders, including insurers, MSOs, educators, and industry networks, in adopting scalable, standards-based training infrastructures that meet both compliance and performance objectives.

Scott is also recognized for his ability to translate complex industry needs into strategic action plans, deliver measurable outcomes, and build high-trust partnerships across all levels of the collision sector. Whether guiding multi-site operators through credentialing pathways or supporting industry partners in strengthening workforce capability, his focus remains on enabling sustainable, future ready workforce development.

Lunch Break

12:00PM – 01:00PM

Main Ballroom

Industry and Education Partners

01:00PM – 01:30PM

Main Ballroom

Koos Reineking sharing his collision industry career

01:30PM – 02:30PM

Main Ballroom



SPEAKER

Koos Reineking

Koos Reineking is Vice President at Lift Auto Group, bringing extensive experience in performance management and technical service leadership.

Within Lift Auto Group, Koos previously served as Manager, Performance. Their background reflects a strong focus on technical and service management, demonstrated through their tenure at AkzoNobel. During their time with AkzoNobel, Koos progressed to Manager, Technical & Services (Canada), overseeing technical support and service delivery within the manufacturing environment. Earlier, they served as a Services Consultant, contributing to service optimization and client support initiatives. Their work history includes a diploma and M.U.L.O. in Bedum.

Norm Bruneau and Tom Bissonnette discuss Parts Autonomy

02:30PM – 03:00PM

Main Ballroom



SPEAKER

Norm Bruneau

Norm Bruneau is an experienced owner with a diverse history within the automotive collision repair industry. He graduated from Red River College with an inter-provincial Red Seal for Collision Repair & Refinishing, an is an active member of the ATA as past-President with a passion for continuous learning and self improvement.



SPEAKER

Tom Bissonnette

Tom is the former owner of Parr Auto Body in Saskatoon. He's had over 3 decades of experience working and training in the Auto Body industry. He became president in 2018 and has already grown SAAR exponentially.

Health Break

03:00PM – 03:30PM

Main Ballroom

Ciaran Downes - SGI

03:30PM – 04:30PM

Main Ballroom



SPEAKER

Ciaran Downes

Ciaran Downes serves as the Senior Director for Salvage, Appraisals & Technical Research Services with Saskatchewan Government Insurance, having started with the organization in May 2007.

During his tenure at Saskatchewan Government Insurance, Ciaran has held various roles including Director of the Appraisal Transition Project and Manager of both Driver Development & Safety Services and Vehicle Standards & Inspection.

Prior experience includes positions at SaskPower as a Specifications Engineer and Design Engineer in Fleet Services from May 2000 to May 2007, and an Engineering-in-Training role at Lafarge Canada from May 1999 to April 2000. Ciaran holds an Executive MBA from the University of Regina and a B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering (with Distinction) from the University of Saskatchewan.

President's Dinner

06:00PM – 12:00AM

Main Ballroom

Improv Comedy with Don't Mind Us 07:30PM – 12:00AM

Main Ballroom

Mark Schweighardt and Lee Bells are the experienced Saskatchewan comedians who make up **Don't Mind Us Comedy**. Canadian events planners with the Royal Bank, Crown Life, Sask Tel, Investors Group, Meyers-Norris Penny, Saputo, the Canadian Wheat Board, Alberta Fire Chies and many, many others have been impressed with **Don't Mind Us Comedy's** hilarious, tasteful and customized shows. Experienced Canadian Comedians, **Don't Mind Us** has starred on NOW TV's Comedy Street. Mark and Lee were heard 4 times nationally acclaimed radio show *Madly Off In All Directions*. **Don't Mind Us Comedy** has appeared on stage with Catherine O'Hare and Red Green, and opened up for Weird Al Yankovic.
Don't Mind Us Comedy performs frequently in Alberta and Manitoba, and have also travellled to the North West Territories, British Columbia and North Dakota for clients.
Don't Mind Us Comedy has authored T*he Wedding MC Jokebook*, availabile Internationally.
Mark and Lee have written comedy and political satire for CBC radio, including *Don't Shoot the Beaver,* a 25 minute radio comedy for the Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta Morning Editions.
Audiences love **Don't Mind Us Comedy** for their improvised and spontaneous comedy; their intellegent, tasteful style; their interaction with audience members; and their excellent ability to customize and tailor their show to the group they are

performing for.