

# Automotive Transportation Service Superintendents' Association

**Est. 1938**

[www.atssa.ca](http://www.atssa.ca)



## ABOUT THE ATSSA



### MISSION

**To provide a congenial networking and educational forum for commercial vehicle Fleet Supervisors and their industry colleagues, in order to enhance and influence environmentally sound, safe, reliable and cost effective maintenance practices.**

### FORMATION-ATSSA

The Automotive Transportation Service Superintendents' Association ('ATSSA', sometimes referenced as simply the 'ATS') was formed in 1938, was incorporated on March 20, 1940; which in turn gave birth to the Canadian Fleet Maintenance Seminar in 1963.



In 1938 Ted Ashworth (pictured), who was actively involved in the mechanical end of fleet operations, felt the need for forming some kind of organisation of fleet maintenance supervisors with similar interests and objectives. He assembled nine of his colleagues and they discussed forming a 'Club' or 'Association' dedicated to the mutual benefit of personnel directly responsible for the maintenance of truck fleets. Thus the ATSSA was formed in Toronto and by March of 1940 the Toronto chapter received the ATSSA charter. These shop maintenance

supervisory founding members are categorised as 'Full' members. Membership continued to grow and in 1943 it was decided to expand membership to OEM businesses and later still, the aftermarket.

### CANADIAN FLEET MAINTENANCE SEMINAR

It was the introduction of the Canadian Fleet Maintenance Seminar that really gave the ATSSA national and indeed continental wide exposure. The CFMS was formed to further the reach, aims

and objectives of the ATSSA. The Canadian Fleet Maintenance Seminar was the 'brainchild' of Mike Laurie, Editor of 'Bus and Truck' magazine, and Peter Hunter, Fleet Superintendent at Oshawa Wholesale Ltd. Following extensive meetings between the Toronto ATSSA and 'Bus & Truck', it was agreed that the CFMS would be initially 'sponsored' by 'Bus & Truck'. Thus was born the inaugural seminar in 1963 which turned out to be an outstanding, and thus encouraging, success attracting over 400 delegates. The following year it was agreed between the ATSSA and 'Bus & Truck' that the ATSSA would assume full



responsibility for the CFMS, and ever since has been governed by the ATSSA Toronto Executive Committee. Gordon Carr (pictured), a member of the Toronto ATSSA, became the first Manager of the CFMS, and was in the post from 1964 to 1986.

The Automotive Transportation Service Superintendents' Association is a not-for-profit organisation

ATSSA: The home of Fleet Maintenance Supervisors

**AWARD-CANADIAN FLEET MAINTENANCE MANAGER of the Year-(Volvo)**

This award arose out of a conversation at the CFMS in 1988 between Kurt Beyeler, President of Volvo Canada at the time and Stan Williamson, then General Manager of the CFMS. The first such annual (and most prestigious) award was presented in 1989 to Luc Rivard of Intercan Leasing of Montreal. This award remained an integral and exclusive part of the CFMS until 2016.

**BRANCHES**

To broaden the reach and opportunities, a network of branches was established. Such ATSSA approved affiliated branches would be an independent arm's length franchised based entity operating in accordance with ATSSA by-laws. Accordingly, on October 30 1945, the first ATSSA branch was established in Hamilton; Harry Cousins became their first President. At its peak the ATSSA included the Toronto Chapter and seven affiliated branches. Unfortunately, in more recent times there has been a rupture within the branch network.

**GOVERNANCE-ATSSA**

The ATSSA is governed by by-laws, with a stated mission and objectives, which guides its Executive Committee and membership accordingly, and includes the election criteria for the all-volunteer governing Executive Committee. The most recent by-laws underwent a thorough sixteenth edition up-date effective January 1, 2016. The Executive Committee is preoccupied with finding the formula for refreshing the ATSSA to become more relevant and attractive to new members, given the sweeping changes computers have wrought on society, including the impact on our industry's product, maintenance, and administration.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in the ATSSA is open to an individual in a supervisory role directly involved in a recognised repair facility, and to allied industries. Truck maintenance supervisors, as the founding members, form the core group of the ATSSA and are designated 'Full' members. The allied industry is represented by 'Associate' members, comprised of 'OEM' businesses; and by 'Affiliate' members, comprised of 'Aftermarket' businesses or individuals.



**GENERAL MEETINGS & EVENTS**

A key objective of the ATSSA is to keep its core membership as up to date and as effective as possible in their maintenance practices. To achieve this objective, the ATSSA holds meetings as often as possible wherein industry suppliers and other managerial, governmental and technical experts address the membership. Funding for meetings is based on hosting sponsorships, wherein good attendance fosters sponsorships. There are also various events, such as Training programs, Trade Shows, Golf and Ladies Night Banquet.

**PURSUIITS**

The ATSSA functions as a steward for the commercial vehicle mechanics trade. Promotes apprenticeships, sponsoring truck & coach apprenticeship programs (MAP). Liaise with OEMs', Aftermarket & other industry entities to ensure kept updated on technical & other trends, product, methods and resources. Promote sound, safe and efficient maintenance practices by liaising with other trucking organizations; lobbying & working with government ministries.