



RVDA of Alberta Monthly E-Newsletter

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March 2017 RVDA of Alberta E-Newsletter

Please enjoy this edition of the RVDA of Alberta's Monthly E-Newsletter. If you have any questions or concerns, please reply to [Carrie Nelson](mailto:Carrie.Nelson@rvda-alberta.org) or call 780-455-8562.

The RVDA of Alberta is on Facebook and Twitter so please feel free follow us on Facebook and tweet events and pictures as we will retweet to support our members.



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Upcoming Industry Events:

2017 Calgary / Edmonton RV EXPO & Sale Updates:

The 2017 Calgary/Edmonton RV EXPO & Sales were both a HUGE success!

Calgary RV EXPO & Sale was at the BMO Centre at the Stampede Grounds on January 26-29, 2017 and hosted 13 dealerships. The total attendance was up from last year at 14%! The bulk booth display winners were: 1st Place – Rangeland RV & Trailer Sales, 2nd Place – Woody's RV World and 3rd Place – Fraserway RV...congrats to all!

Edmonton RV EXPO & Sale was at the Northlands EXPO Centre on February 9-12, 2017 and hosted 16 dealerships. The total attendance was up from last year at 12%! The bulk booth display winners were: 1st Place –

Carefree RV, 2nd Place – Outback Country RV and 3rd Place – All Star RV...congrats to all! For pictures please go to our website at [RVDA of Alberta](#) or our Facebook Pages for [Calgary](#) or [Edmonton](#).

2017 Calgary RV EXPO & Sale - Morley Peacock Awards:



1st Place Morley Peacock Award for Bulk Booth Display: Rangeland RV & Trailer Sales



2nd Place Morley Peacock Award for Bulk Booth Display: Woody's RV World



3rd Place Morley Peacock Award for Bulk Booth Display: Fraserway RV

2017 Edmonton RV EXPO & Sale - Morley Peacock Awards:



1st Place Morley Peacock Award for Bulk Booth Display: Carefree RV



2nd Place Morley Peacock Award for Bulk Booth Display: Outback Country RV



3rd Place Morley Peacock Award for Bulk Booth Display: All Star RV

2017 RV Learning Weekend:

RV Learning Weekend will once again be held at [Ol' MacDonalds Resort](#) near Stettler, AB on May 26th – 28th. RVDA of Alberta offered a 25% discounted price for adult seminar registrations only onsite at the Calgary/Edmonton/Red Deer RV Shows and had a great response! There is now a Facebook Page created for [RV Learning Weekend](#) so please feel free to check it out!

Upcoming Education Training:

SAIT Apprenticeship Training Schedule:

For the SAIT 2016-2017 Recreation Vehicle Service Technician Apprentice Training Schedule please click on the links: [Alberta Innovation and Advanced Education-Apprenticeship and Industry Training Schedule](#) or [www.sait.ca.](#)

For employer and apprenticeship financial assistance programs [CLICK HERE](#)

2016-2017 NTP - Stag RV Technician Bursary:

RVDA of Canada will award eleven bursaries valued at \$1000 each and one bursary at \$1500 to eligible RV technicians in all Canadian Provinces who have enrolled in RV apprenticeship or related education programs. The eligible training period for consideration of the 2016-2017 bursaries is from **August 1, 2016 to May 31, 2017**. Bursaries will be awarded to students with a serious interest and acute desire to succeed in the RV industry as demonstrated by successful program completion with higher than average grades. We would like to thank NTP-Stag Canada for their sponsorship as well as their continued support of the Canadian RV industry. Encourage your technicians to apply now and here is the [complete application package](#)! The application form, employer reference and essay must be received **ON or BEFORE June 1, 2017** and the RVDA of Canada is **FIRM** with the **deadline**. Send all applications via email to contactus@rvcareers.ca.

CAREERS: The Next Generation- Skilled Trades Events:

CAREERS: The Next Generation Skilled Trades Events will be on April 5th at St. Joseph High School and on April 12th at Jasper Place High School in Edmonton, AB both from 6pm-8pm. CAREERS has invited the RVDA of Alberta and any dealership that would be interested in attending the event. The RVDA of Alberta, along with RV Technicians from Go RV in Leduc, will be attending on April 5th to promote the Recreation Vehicle Service Technician trade for the Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) to high school students, parents and supporters. If you would like to register your dealership for the Skilled Trades Events, please see the attached [Registration and Information Form](#). If you have any questions regarding the event or any other upcoming Career Fairs, please contact Carrie Nelson at carrie@rvda-alberta.org.

Association Information:

Stolen RV Report Information:

Unfortunately, we are approaching the 2017 camping season which will result in stolen RV's and units. RVDA of Canada and RVDA of Alberta like to get this information out to the members as soon as possible in case the perpetrator(s) is trying to sell/trade the unit or have it serviced. Attached is a copy of the 2016 RVDA of Alberta [Stolen RV's List](#) for you to use at your discretion in your offices and a 2017 one will be created as the reports come in. If you have become a victim of theft and require a copy of the Stolen RV Report Form, please contact Carrie Nelson at carrie@rvda-alberta.org or (780) 455-8562/1-888-858-8787 as soon as possible. All members must fill out this form so we can have the correct information to notify the members.

Federated Insurance Article:

This month's article from Federated Insurance:



**KNOWING YOUR
BUSINESS MATTERS**

Data Protection on Business Trips

by Alex Callahan, DIRECTOR, CLIENT STRATEGY & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT | www.federated.ca



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**As a business traveler, you
are most concerned about
bringing your passport,
exchanging currency and
packing your luggage
efficiently and you may
forget an important security
measure – backing up and
securing your work data.**

While the Internet has made it a lot easier to attend virtual meetings with global offices, or communicate with off-shore vendors, there are still instances when you'll be required to travel for business. And if you are like most business travelers,

your laptop and smartphone will always be close at hand.

Here are a few things you can do to help protect your data while you are travelling for business.

1. Backup before you leave:

If you are like most of us, you keep "everything" on your laptop. So if you have not backed up your data in a while, you may want to do so before you leave on your trip. Your business automatically backs up server files? That's great – but keep in mind that the files you have on your desktop may not be included. You can upload them to the server before you go or store them on an external drive and lock it in your desk drawer.

2. Consider ensuring your laptop has a virtual private network (VPN) installed:

A VPN creates a secure connection between your local computer and a remote computer (i.e. your company's network) via the Internet. Any information that is sent while you are using a VPN connection is encrypted, so even if an outsider intercepts information, it cannot be read.

3. Ensure sensitive information is protected with adequate encryption:

Many enterprises will not provide employees with a laptop without full disk encryption today. Full disk encryption ensures that, if the laptop is stolen, the thief only gets to have the hardware and not the data stored on it. If you do not have full disk encryption, you can still use commercial and open source tools to encrypt files or folders that are most sensitive to you, your company and your clients.

4. Ensure anti-virus and firewall software is installed and up-to- date:

This applies to both your laptop computer as well as your smartphone. There are a number of good mobile security and anti-virus apps available for mobile devices. Where possible, ensure you have enabled your local firewall in the operating system on your computer. This is another layer of defense to help resist attackers from connecting to your computer.

5. Never leave your laptop or mobile device unattended:

Not even if you're setting it down "just for a second." Thousands of laptops and mobile devices are lost or stolen at airports each year alone – do not let yours be one of them. If you're staying at a hotel and you are heading out for

dinner, store your laptop out of sight in your hotel room or in your room safe if you can fit it.

6. Use password protection during inactivity time-outs:

Whether you are working on a PC, Mac or Linux computer, you can set a screen saver password, which locks your computer whenever you are using the screen saver. Be sure to enable password protection on your mobile devices as well.

7. Make sure your passwords are extra strong:

While you should already be using strong passwords, the fact that you are travelling is a good reason to update them. A strong password should be at least eight characters long, should not contain your name or company name (in fact, avoid using any complete words in your password altogether). Make sure it is completely different from your previous password. And finally, use a mix of upper and lower case letters, numbers and symbols. If you have a 4-digit password for your mobile phone, do not use easy combinations like 1234 or 1111.

8. Do not use public Internet connections to do your online banking

or shopping: While it might be tempting to take advantage of a coffee shop's or airport's free Wi-Fi to catch up on your online banking or to make a quick purchase, these Internet access points are not always trustworthy and may not even be provided by a legitimate business.

9. Switch off your wireless connection when not in use: Your computer will seek out Wi-Fi access points, broadcast all the ones it knows and try to associate with them. Do not make it easier for anyone around you to gather that information. Prevent illicit access to your mobile devices by disabling Wi-Fi and Bluetooth when they are not in use. You can put your phone on airplane mode to disable connectivity altogether.

10. Be aware of your surroundings: Situational awareness is always important for your own safety when travelling. Watch out for that 'shoulder surfer' trying to see your smartphone PIN or password. Don't reveal your company or personal information on your screen if possible by using a privacy screen. Avoid carrying your laptop in dangerous areas or where others aren't already doing the same. Do not stand out as a target!

11. Research the destination before you go:

Should you even be bringing those high tech valuables with you? Consider looking for a means to send the data ahead securely so that it is at your destination when you arrive without risking losing it along the way.

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MISSION STATEMENT

RVDA of Alberta is a group of independent businesses that promotes the growth, quality and awareness of the RV Industry and RV Lifestyle. We provide leadership, education, training and support to our members and Industry partners to help them exceed consumer expectations.

VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is to enhance current services, opportunities, quality, awareness and influence future growth within the RV Industry and Lifestyle.