

MARCH 2022

# XPRESSIONS

## NEWSLETTER



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# Highway Heroes

It is with great pride that we get to celebrate the courageous and selfless acts of not one, but FOUR of our fellow drivers, who in the face of an emergency, were quick to jump to the aid of others.

In the first act of heroism, an XTL teammate was involved in a serious accident while en route to deliver a shipment. Three members of our Airdrie, AB driving force rushed to help when this happened.

## Baron Smith

Baron is one of XTL's Driver Mentors. His industry experience spoke volumes as he took control with first aid and coached others on how to help. He was the point of contact for emergency personnel and stayed behind for police and towing crews to clear the scene. After everything was taken care of, he even delivered the shipment that was in transit.

## Rupinder Singh

Rupinder was the eyes on the ground. He assisted by taking all necessary photos and videos and sending them to his Safety Manager at the terminal to keep the team updated on the situation.

## Bill Gordon

Bill supported by gathering blankets and keeping his teammate warm until the emergency crew arrived.

Another demonstration of our team's heroism took place a few months later as a fourth member of our driving force jumped into action after witnessing an accident along a Quebec highway.

## Nicolas Collin

Nicolas, another Driver Mentor at XTL, quickly reacted on the scene by blocking traffic for safety purposes before going to the rescue of those involved. Nicolas proceeded to stay on site for over 2 hours while emergency crews arrived and were able to clear the area.

We can't conclude our Highway Heroes segment without taking a moment to also recognize the citizens of Hope, BC, for all their support during the catastrophic flooding late last year. A special thank you goes out to the Shxw'õwhámel First Nation and Camp Hope who opened their doors to our stranded drivers, providing them with food and checking in on their well-being!

We could not be more grateful for these courageous drivers' efforts and the entire team that we have here at XTL. We hope you enjoy the rest of this newsletter as we continue showcasing moments of excellence and the deep pride we share as XTLiens.

**To all brave, selfless XTL drivers and staff, thank you for being part of the team.**

**"How important it is for us to recognize and celebrate our heroes and she-roes!"**

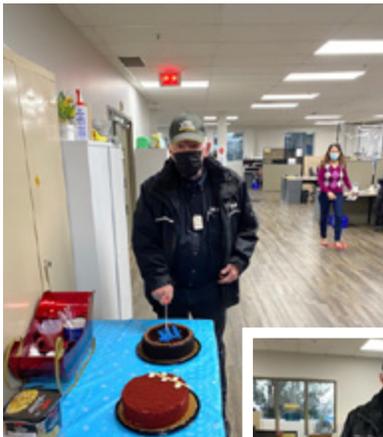
- Maya Angelou



# Let's Celebrate!



February 7<sup>th</sup> marked the 1-year anniversary of Savoie Express Inc. joining the XTL family!



## Best Wishes to Papa Jack ON HIS RETIREMENT

We're wishing Jacques "Jack" Lacelle all the best as he embarks on this next chapter in life!

A long-time driver with XTL, Jack has always been someone you could rely on. Always investing the time and care to do things right, Jack has mentored other drivers and served as a great example of professionalism.

An avid golfer, Papa Jack would regularly spend his vacations down south on the course. Now in his retirement, he will get to take advantage of the beautiful weather and extended golf seasons of sunny South Carolina, where he has moved in with his son.

Papa Jack's friends in Ops will miss his calls regarding all "this computer stuff" as he trades in People Net for golf clubs!

**From the entire XTL family, congratulations and best wishes, Jacques!**





# 20 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

## THE BIG 2-0!

It's hard to believe it has been 20 years since XTL Logistics opened its doors on Jan 2, 2002!

Looking back through the Xpressions archive, we stumbled upon an old interview with none other than COO, Craig Germain, who helped bring the vision of XTL Logistics to life as the company's President of Logistics.

Introduced as a "value chain solution for strategic allies," the vision for XTL "to create a collaborative value network through the integration of global supply chain partners" still rings true to this day. A division that started out as a single office of 4 now has established operations in Etobicoke, Vaudreuil and Airdrie.

### **BUT THAT'S NOT ALL!**

This fall, **we welcomed CBT Inc.** out of Oakwood, GA to the family with our second acquisition. CBT brings a wealth of refrigerated knowledge and logistics expertise to the team and will be an integral part in helping achieve our logistics goals.

Next stop, British Columbia, where we are actively growing the logistics team out of our Delta, BC distribution center that opened last March.

### **KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED FOR MORE TO COME AT XTL**

# The Next Generation Class of 2021



The Next Generation Certificate program, offered by the Ontario Trucking Association (OTA), was developed as an intensive leadership communication course for the future leaders of the trucking industry. It has served as a valuable platform for young professionals in the industry to connect and build relationships, network and meet other likeminded individuals while learning valuable tools to improve their leadership communication skills in the workplace.

This year, 10 XTL members graduated the program and our very own Bharath Palaniswamy gave the graduation speech on behalf of the whole class at the OTA's annual convention at the Ritz Carlton in downtown Toronto.

**Congratulations to our graduating class of 2021. Your leadership is valued across our organization!**

**Annmarie Perreira**

**Audrey Belair**

**Ayaz Munaf**

**Bharath Palaniswamy**

**Butch Galbraith**

**Jim Moffatt**

**Joelle Francoeur**

**Olivier Lavigne**

**Patrick Grimard**

**Sumit Verma**

# Welcome New Driver Interns

We're excited to welcome our two newest driver interns to the team, **Safouet Ben Abdallah** and **Marc-André Boucher!**

Although AZ or Class 1 drivers are in high demand, XTL has an ongoing waitlist for our intern program. With safety at our core, we will not compromise quality or safety to fill a truck. When XTL accepts a candidate into our program it is because we see qualities beyond their license to drive. Safouet and Marc-André impressed us as responsible drivers who will deliver safe, professional services for XTL and our valued customers.

At XTL, we're committed to providing a fulfilling, comfortable work environment with opportunities for growth. We're thrilled to have Safouet and Marc-André on board and look forward to seeing what they achieve with us!

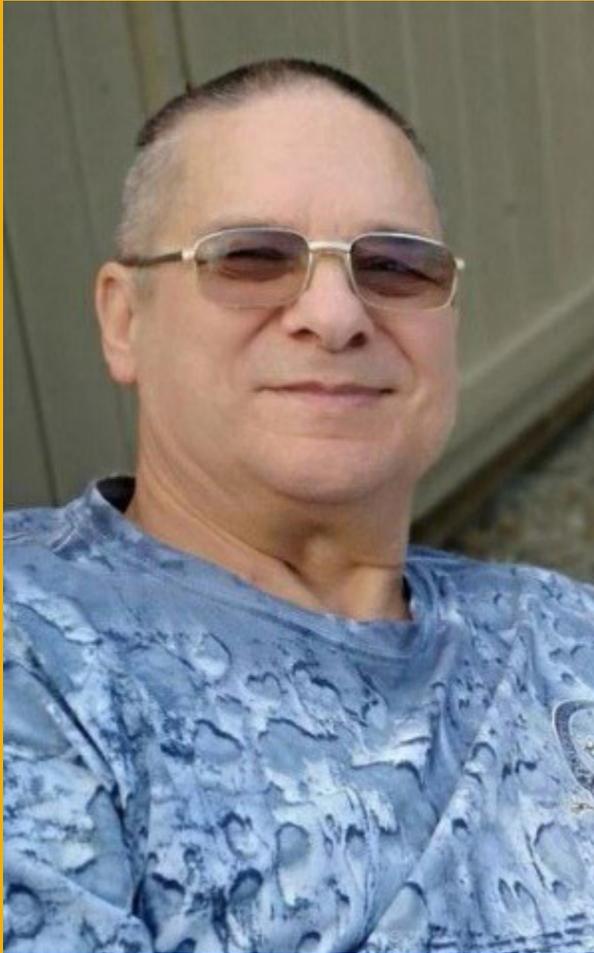


*Mentor Mathieu Proulx with Marc-André Boucher*



*Mentor Philippe Benoit with Safouet Ben Abdallah*

# GRATITUDE, PERSEVERANCE AND REMEMBRANCE



One definition of community is: *a unified body of individuals* - and what a community we have!

Ahead of the holidays, we circulated fundraisers to rally around two of our drivers who were involved in serious accidents.

Despite everything going on around us, we came together for the families of our two friends and colleagues, and we are blown away by the support! Employee led, we successfully raised a phenomenal \$15,065.25, and our efforts did not go unnoticed. Moved by our overwhelming generosity, XTL is not only ensuring we hit the goals we set to achieve, but is also matching our efforts. We could not have done this without everyone's support, so the sincerest of thanks goes out to all of you!

Maninder has shown great strength and perseverance in his healing journey and we are cheering him on as his road to recovery continues.

George, who was known as an easy-going and fun-loving man, was laid to rest on Dec 4th, 2021. "His zest for life carried to the open road where he found a love for long haul truck driving." Deeply missed by all who knew him, George lives on in our hearts. Rest in peace, George.

## REST IN PEACE, GEORGE.

"His zest for life carried to the open road where he found a love for long haul truck driving."



# How a load of Chickens and a \$6 Bet Revolutionized Refrigerated Transportation

In honour of Black History Month, we're celebrating the life and achievements of self-taught engineer, inventor and Thermo King co-founder, Frederick McKinley Jones, who designed the first portable air-cooling unit for trucks.

From a childhood job in an auto garage to becoming recognized as one of America's greatest inventors, Frederick McKinley Jones has over 60 patents and became the first African-American to receive the National Medal of Technology. Read his story [here](#).

As a refrigerated carrier, we wouldn't be able to do what we do today without Jones' innovation. His contribution revolutionized the transportation industry, making it possible to transport temperature-sensitive products all around the world!

Click [here](#) to see how it all began with a load of chickens and a \$6 bet on a golf course.

# Sharing the Warmth

## XTL's Winter Food & Clothing Drives

A few XTL elves made their rounds over the holidays to deliver the food and winter essentials items that were donated across our terminals.

Thanks to all who opened their hearts, their cupboards and their closets to spread some warmth this past holiday season!

Check out the links below to learn about the organizations we proudly support that are making an impact in our communities.

### QUEBEC

Food drive: **L'Actuel**  
Winter essentials drive: **L'Actuel**



### ONTARIO

Food drive: **Daily Bread Food Bank**  
Winter essentials drive: **New Circles Community Services' GLOW clothing bank**



### ALBERTA

Food Drive: **Airdrie Food Bank**  
Winter essentials drive: **WINS (Women in Need Society)**



### BRITISH COLUMBIA

Food drive: **Surrey Food Bank**  
Winter essentials drive: **Lookout Housing + Health Society**



# Saving Lives

Savoie mechanic, Sylvain, is involved in a non-profit organization, Les Chevaliers de Colomb. Through this organization, he was made aware of Héma-Québec's blood bank needs. Recently, Sylvain completed his 23<sup>rd</sup> blood donation, which means he has saved up to 92 lives!

His desire to save lives motivated Sylvain to challenge the Savoie team to go and give blood. During a recent blood drive, seven new donors showed up and of the seven, four were from the Savoie team! We are proud of Sylvain's clever idea and plan to return to save more lives in future blood drives!

**Will XTL employees accept this challenge too? Stay tuned!**



Lee



Sylvain



Virginie



JT



JP



Caroline

# XPRESSIONS

NEWSLETTER



“ People with great passion can make the impossible happen. ”

- anonymous

We'd love to hear your feedback! If you have any ideas on how to improve our newsletter or suggestions for the next issue, email [xpressions@xtl.com](mailto:xpressions@xtl.com)



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