

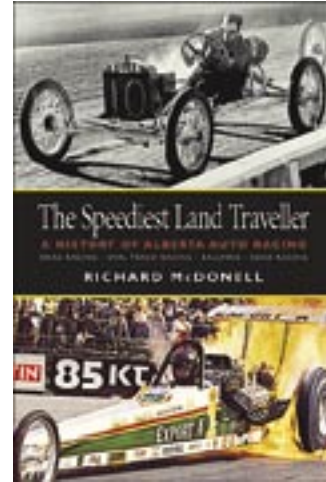
The Speediest Land Traveller

A History of Alberta Auto Racing

Richard McDonell

Wow! Richard McDonell has done a remarkable job of chronicling the complete history of racing in Alberta. From Barney Oldfield's barnstorming days to the Model T Fords, sprint cars, sports cars, stock cars, CAMRA modifieds, rally cars and dragsters, it's all here — tales of the cars, the tracks, and the people. As a bonus there's McDonell's sense of humour — it's rare to get a laugh out of a racing history book!

Don Radbruch, author of *Dirt Track Auto Racing 1919 to 1941* and *Roaring Roadsters*



Automobile racing, the world's fastest sport, began almost as soon as the first cars were built. It developed and thrived in the Province of Alberta, far removed from the world power centres of racing. Former race driver Richard McDonell spins a story of the heroes and geniuses who built and raced cars against the best on the planet, and of the developers, politicians, promoters and wheeler-dealers who gave them places to practise.

At times hilarious and others tragic, this book paints a memorable portrait of an exciting sport and the century of change in which it grew. This is must-have book for anyone with an interest in auto racing or Alberta history.

***The Speediest Land Traveller* tells the stories of the great, the near-great and the backmarkers that make up our sport. It becomes the document of record for people trying to understand auto racing and the contributions that Albertans have made.**

— George "TheCar" Daszkowski, Archives Chair,
Canadian Motorsport Hall of Fame, Toronto
www.cmhf.ca

***Richard McDonell* began racing in 1965 on ice and competed in sports car races for the next seven years. He took several class wins in various races, and in 1968 claimed second place in C Sedan Class in the Prairie Region Championship, driving a Ford Cortina graciously loaned to him by his new bride, Diane.**

In 1972, Dick left the sport to pursue various extracurricular activities such as a career, marriage, buying a house and raising children. In 1990, he returned to racing, this time on oval tracks. He raced I.M.C.A. modifieds for six seasons, and re-retired in September 1995 as Race City Speedway Champion.

Dick and his wife, Diane, live in Red Deer and have two grown children, Colleen and Andrew.

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