



Canadian Road Safety News Digest

A monthly compilation of national, provincial and local news stories on road safety

For the Period January 1-31, 2020

Drug-impaired driving increases slightly, overall impact of cannabis 'lower than expected': City report

January 31, 2020, Edmonton Journal (EDMONTON, ONTARIO)

Edmonton police have seen a slight increase in drug-impaired driving since cannabis was legalized but its overall impact has been lower than expected, says a report going to the community and public services committee.

The report looking at the impact and costs of cannabis legalization and said Edmonton police arrested 134 drug-impaired drivers in 2019 up to Nov. 10, compared to 115 during the same 10-month time period in 2018.

[Continue reading this post...](#)

Tougher distracted driving fines take effect Feb. 1

January 30, 2020, SGI (REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN)

February's Traffic Safety Spotlight is focused on distracted driving - just as fines are set to increase Feb. 1, 2020.

"Distracted driving is a serious safety concern in our province, and on roads all over the country," said the Honourable Joe Hargave, Minister Responsible for SGI. "We hope by introducing tougher penalties - and especially strong penalties for repeat offenders - it will mean fewer people driving distracted and fewer tickets issued."

[Continue reading this post...](#)

Saskatchewan posts lowest number of road fatalities since records started

January 27, 2020, OHS Canada (REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN)

Saskatchewan's Crown insurer says fewer people were killed on the province's roads in 2019 than in any year since records started being kept in the 1950s.

Saskatchewan Government Insurance says preliminary statistics indicate 71 people were killed in collisions – down from 129 in 2018.

The insurer says the 71 deaths compare with an average of nearly 140 road fatalities annually in the previous 10-year period.

[Continue reading this post...](#)

Majority believes Toronto's not doing enough to make streets safer, survey suggests

January 23, 2020, CBC News (TORONTO, ONTARIO)

70% say city not doing enough, 80% support building more bike lanes.

More than 400 people were killed while walking or cycling on Toronto's roads over the last decade – and a new survey suggests a majority of residents don't believe city officials are doing enough to make streets safer.

The finding comes from a poll of roughly 800 randomly selected Toronto adults, commissioned by the David Suzuki Foundation and provided to CBC Toronto.

[Continue reading this post...](#)

Manitoba group addresses road safety for workers

January 20, 2020, OHS Canada (WINNIPEG, MANITOBA)

A new initiative implemented by SAFE Work Manitoba aims to help employers make driving safer for their workers.

From 2014 to 2018, one in five work-related deaths reported to the Workers Compensation Board of Manitoba were caused by vehicle collisions, and the number of Manitobans killed each year while driving for work has been climbing steadily over that period of time, according to a news release.

[Continue reading this post...](#)

Vehicle safety technology is 'not a panacea' - Desjardins

January 20, 2020, Insurancebusinessmag.com (TORONTO, ONTARIO)

As exciting as vehicle safety technology seems, Canadians aren't quite ready to rely on automatic emergency braking, adaptive cruise control, lane departure warnings, and other tech enhancements in their cars.

A study published by Desjardins Insurance and conducted by Ad Hoc Research revealed that almost half of Canadian drivers have second thoughts about the usefulness of such systems. Though 51% of the 3,050 respondents said that these safety features are needed to make roads safer, 48% of drivers think that vehicle safety technologies pose a risk to road safety. Nearly half of the drivers (46%) also believe that Canadians are over-reliant on vehicle safety technologies.

[Continue reading this post...](#)

48 communities to benefit from Traffic Safety Fund grants

January 9, 2020, SGI (REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN)

Traffic safety projects in 48 communities across Saskatchewan have been approved for funding from the proceeds of photo speed enforcement (PSE). The PSE Committee has awarded the second round of Provincial Traffic Safety Fund grants, providing a total of \$500,000 to improve safety in Saskatchewan. These include intersection and crosswalk improvements, speed display signs, pedestrian crossing signals, school zone beacons and other speed-reduction initiatives.

[Continue reading this post...](#)

Why do Canada's drunk drivers get endless second chances?

January 4, 2020, The Globe and Mail (TORONTO, ONTARIO)

By the grace of the Canadian justice system, you essentially have the freedom to get drunk and get behind the wheel as many times as you wish - until you finally kill someone.

On your third or 13th impaired-driving conviction, you will be forced to pay a fine and spend at least 120 days behind bars, after which you technically won't be allowed to drive for a few years...

[Continue reading this post...](#)

Traffic foundation survey finds increasing number of Canadians admit to driving after drinking

January 3, 2020, News 1130 (VANCOUVER, B.C.)

A surprising number of Canadians are admitting to getting behind the wheel when they suspect they are over the legal limit - and those numbers are increasing.

The Traffic Injury Research Foundation conducts surveys of Canadians yearly - gauging their thoughts on drunk driving.

[Continue reading this post...](#)

Canadian Events & Conferences in 2020

Canada's Safest Driver Contest – By Parachute

Canada-wide
April 6-May 31, 2020
[Learn more...](#)

Ontario Road Safety Forum – 7th

Toronto, Ontario
April 30, 2020
[Learn more...](#)

CCMTA Annual Meeting

Charlottetown, PEI
May 31-June 3, 2020
[Learn more...](#)

CARSP/PRI 2020 Joint Conference

Montreal, Quebec
June 15-18, 2020
[Learn more...](#)

6th International Symposium on Highway Geometric Design

Amsterdam, The Netherlands
June 28-July 1, 2020
[Learn more...](#)