



# Canadian Road Safety News Digest

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

For the period August 1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015

## **New road safety rules in effect September 1**

August 31, 2015, Ontario Ministry of Transportation (TORONTO, ONTARIO)

On September 1, 2015, the rules of the road will be updated to help keep Ontarians safe. Changes include tougher penalties for distracted driving, new rules to protect cyclists and measures to ensure the safety of tow truck drivers and children riding school buses.

Penalties for distracted driving will include an increased set fine of \$490\* and three demerit points upon conviction. Novice drivers will receive a minimum 30-day suspension for the first conviction and longer suspensions for subsequent convictions.

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

## **School's back: B.C. government, ICBC and police ask drivers and parents to keep kids safe on our roads**

August 28, 2015, ICBC (VANCOUVER, B.C.)

In B.C., 78 children aged five to 18 are injured in crashes in school or playground zones every year.\*

With children heading back to school, the B.C. government, ICBC and police are asking drivers to watch for children, especially in or around school zones and expect more traffic on our roads. Police and Speed Watch volunteers will be closely monitoring drivers' speeds in school zones across the province.

Parents are encouraged to review the rules of the road with their children and go over their daily route to and from school.

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

## Walk This Way program champions pedestrian safety

August 27, 2015, Parachute (TORONTO, ONTARIO)

With children getting ready to head back to school this September, Parachute and FedEx Express Canada are launching the Walk This Way program to keep our children safe...

...More than 25 children are killed and nearly 2,300 seriously injured in a typical school year and children aged 10-14 are at highest risk. Most incidents happen after 3 p.m., when drivers are coming home from work and children are walking home from school or after-school activities.

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

## Do rear daytime running lights cause accidents?

August 25, 2015, Globe and Mail (TORONTO, ONTARIO)

“Rear daytime running lights are now popping up on Volvos, Hondas & Toyotas. I witnessed an accident today in which a Honda Accord with these always-on red rear LEDs suddenly slammed on the brakes. I saw three cars consecutively abruptly stop. Then behind the third was a motorcyclist – it flipped he and his bike over. I am afraid these always-on rear lights serve to desensitize the actual braking when it occurs.” – John...

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

## Speeding - an issue this summer with police issuing more than 3,550 tickets

August 24, 2015, SGI (REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN)

With a record-breaking construction season in full swing, July’s traffic safety spotlight highlighted the need for motorists to slow down and exercise additional caution in work zones across the province.

In total, police recorded 3,5561 manually enforced speed-related offences in and out of work zones for the month of July, including:

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

## Car seat safety promoted at Back to School Safety Fair

August 19, 2015, Government of Yukon (WHITEHORSE, YUKON)

The Department of Highways and Public Works is inviting Yukon families to attend the Back to School Safety Fair on Thursday, August 20.

“Ensuring the safety of Yukon children is a collective responsibility and something we take very seriously,” Minister of Highways and Public Works Scott Kent said. “The Yukon Child Car Seat Safety Program provides drivers with the tools and knowledge they need to help keep our kids safe.”

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

## Province making Highway 5 safer; more investments to come

August 17, 2015, Government of BC (VICTORIA, BC)

British Columbia has invested over \$63 million in Highway 5 safety improvements between Kamloops and Tête Jaune Cache in the last 10 years and has plans to invest more in the next several years.

“My ministry is focused on highway improvements that make our roads, including Highway 5, safer for everyone,” says Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Todd Stone. “We are working closely with the District of Clearwater council and Mayor John Harwood to ensure that we continue to improve safety along this corridor.”

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

## Back to school - 12 tips for drivers

August 17, 2015, Canada Safety Council (OTTAWA, ONTARIO)

With children and youth returning to school in the coming weeks, the Canada Safety Council reminds drivers to be extra cautious on the roads during this busy time of year.

“We owe it to the young people in our communities to review and respect the rules around school zones,” says Jack Smith, president of the Canada Safety Council. “As the summer break come to a close, remember that extra traffic on the road means increased likelihood of collisions.”

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

## Slow down through work zone

August 13, 2015, Government of Saskatchewan (REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN)

With more than 30 major construction projects underway in Saskatchewan motorists are reminded to watch for workers and equipment and slow down through the work zone.

Virtually every area of the province has some type of road work underway. Ongoing work includes 50 kilometres of upgrades on various sections of Highway 1 and grading, paving and bridge and culvert repairs throughout the province. When passing through work zones drivers need to obey the posted speed limits of 60 km/hr. This is for the safety of motorists and highway workers.

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

## Impaired driving charges up in GTA, OPP says

August 12, 2015, CBC News (TORONTO, ONTARIO)

Ontario Provincial Police say they're laying more drunk driving charges in the Greater Toronto Area.

They say they have caught more than 1,000 impaired drivers in the GTA since January, compared to less than 800 during the same period last year.

But they also say there's been a 40 per cent decrease in alcohol-related fatalities in the first seven months of this year. According to the OPP, there were 34 such deaths in the first seven months of 2014 compared to 19 since January 2015.

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

## First leg of Province-wide bicycle route opens

August 6, 2015, Government of Nova Scotia (HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA)

The plan to connect the entire province through a network of bicycle routes, using trails and roads, reached a major milestone today, Aug. 6, as the first section was opened in Pictou.

This first segment stretches around 60 kilometres, taking riders from Pictou to East Mountain (Bible Hill). The route combines different riding conditions, including a short, hard-surfaced trail segment, a paved-shoulder bike route, and a shared lane on a quiet secondary highway. Heading out of town from Pictou, the landscape shifts from open, mixed forests dotted with farmlands along the West River, to quiet evergreen forests with several climbs and descents going past Mount Thom on the way into Truro.

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

## Regina bypass will improve safety and save \$380 million

August 5, 2015, Government of Saskatchewan (REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN)

The Government of Saskatchewan announced it is investing \$1.88 billion to build the Regina Bypass, the largest infrastructure project in Saskatchewan's history. This includes the cost of design, construction, finance, operations, and maintenance over the life of the contract in today's dollars. By using a public-private partnership (P3) model the government will save \$380 million, or 16.8 per cent.

In recognition of the bypass' important contribution to improving public safety and supporting continued economic growth in Saskatchewan, the Government of Canada, through PPP Canada, is investing up to \$200 million in the project.

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

## Canadian Events & Conferences in 2015

arrive alive DRIVE SOBER and the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police Traffic Committee bring you a Workshop on: **Impaired driving as defined in the criminal code (plus an AGM, and a special focus on Social Media)**

Delta Ottawa City Centre,  
Ottawa, Ontario

September 27-29, 2015

[Learn more...](#)

Transportation Association of Canada  
**2015 Conference and Exhibition**

**Theme: Getting You There Safely**

PEI Convention Centre

Charlottetown, P.E.I.

September 27-30, 2015

[Learn more...](#)

**Toronto Centre for Active Transportation (TCAT) 8th Annual Complete Streets Forum – Registration Now Open!**

Hart House, St. George Campus, University of Toronto

Toronto, Ontario

October 1, 2015

[Learn more...](#)

**Road Safety at Work**

**Complimentary Workplace Road Safety Workshop - Introducing Road Safety Tools and Resources for Your Workplace**

Victoria - October 1, 2015

Nanaimo - October 2, 2015

For more information/to register, contact:

(604) 770-2500 or

[angelina.robinson@roadsafetyatwork.ca](mailto:angelina.robinson@roadsafetyatwork.ca)