



# Canadian Road Safety News Digest

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

For the Period April 1-30, 2018

## **Few details of how police will monitor high drivers once pot is legalized**

April 27, 2018, News 1130 (VICTORIA, B.C.)

Now that BC has a plan for regulating the distribution and sale of pot, questions remain about how to keep users from getting behind the wheel high.

It's something the province's public safety minister is urging Ottawa to figure out before the use of recreational marijuana is legalized sometime this year.

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## **Ontario Improving Cycling Across the Province New Action Plan, Network and Skills Guide Promote Safe and Convenient Cycling**

April 18, 2018, Ontario Ministry of Transportation (TORONTO, ONTARIO)

Ontario is improving cycling across the province by launching a number of new initiatives to encourage people to get around by bike, improve safety and provide more travel options.

Kathryn McGarry, Minister of Transportation and Daiene Vernile, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, were at the Ontario Bike Summit to announce #CycleON Action Plan 2.0, the new provincewide cycling network and the Cycling Skills Guide.

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## **Governments of Canada and PEI invest in safer and more efficient roadways**

April 13, 2018, Government of PEI (CHARLOTTETOWN, PEI)

Modern and efficient roadways are crucial to encouraging and supporting economic activity, facilitating trade, and creating well-paid, middle class jobs. The governments of Canada and Prince Edward Island are investing in infrastructure that will make it easier and safer to move people and products across the province, while supporting sustained economic growth...

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## **Nearly 40 per cent of 2018 road deaths linked to non-seatbelt use**

April 12, 2018, MPI (WINNIPEG, MANITOBA)

Nearly 40 per cent of drivers and passengers killed this year in public roadway crashes were not using a seatbelt at the time of the crash, according to preliminary fatality data from Manitoba Public Insurance.

After recently reporting that February 2018 was the second worst February for road deaths in two decades with nine lives lost, updated data from Manitoba's public auto insurer reveals a further five fatalities in crashes on public roads in March. This brings to 18 the number of Manitobans killed in motor vehicle crashes for the first three months of 2018...

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## **Expect more injuries after weed is legalized, U of A report says**

April 12, 2018, CBC News (CALGARY, ALBERTA)

Albertans can expect to see increased rates of injury – including impaired driving, burns and child poisonings – after recreational cannabis becomes legal, suggests a new report from the University of Alberta.

The report from the U of A's Injury Prevention Centre examined more than 10 years' worth of data from United States jurisdictions where recreational marijuana is legal, and found increased injury rates for a range of ailments and accidents.

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## Major Amendments to the Highway Safety Code

April 11, 2018, Government of Quebec (QUEBEC CITY, QUEBEC)

An Act to amend the Highway Safety Code and other provisions was adopted by the National Assembly of Québec on April 17, 2018. The new rules that have been introduced target all road users. They are based on five main objectives...

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## Canada needs stronger seatbelt laws for coach buses, safety council urges

April 10, 2018, Global News (TORONTO, ONTARIO)

The tragic crash that left 15 members of the Humboldt Broncos hockey team dead has sparked questions about bus safety in Canada.

Friday's collision, which also left 14 others injured, occurred when the bus collided with a truck on Saskatchewan's Highway 335. Both vehicles slammed into a ditch.

Retired RCMP collision analyst Rob Creasser says months of work could lie ahead for the experts starting an investigation into what caused the crash.

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## B.C. taking new approach to testing older drivers

April 9, 2018, CTV News (VICTORIA, B.C.)

Frank Harding is 98 years old and most days he drives his 1990 Volvo sedan to the Comox Recreation Centre where he works out.

One summer, the resident of Courtenay, B.C., said he drove across Canada four times from Vancouver Island to New Brunswick to visit relatives, although he doesn't drive that much any more.

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## Alberta adopts updated impaired driving law

April 9, 2018, CTV News (CALGARY, ALBERTA)

New impaired driving legislation went into effect on Monday that gives law enforcement the ability to issue an immediate 90 day licence suspension to impaired drivers.

Last November, the province passed Bill 29 to prepare for the legalization of cannabis and to create limits for licence suspensions.

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## Manitoba Public Insurance to provide funding for police to take aim at distracted drivers

April 5, 2018, MPI (WINNIPEG, MANITOBA)

With an average of one in three road deaths in Manitoba and thousands of collisions attributed to distracted driving annually, Manitoba Public Insurance is once again funding a highly successful road safety initiative aimed at drivers who continue to illegally use hand-held electronic devices while driving.

Manitoba's public auto insurer is providing approximately \$200,000 in funding to support enhanced police enforcement programs, which began earlier this month and will run throughout April. Additional campaigns are planned for July and the fall. The campaign launches on the heels of tough new distracted driving legislation announced last month by the Government of Manitoba.

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## Nova Scotia cannabis legislation sets fines, syncs weed and alcohol penalties

April 3, 2018, Globe and Mail (TORONTO, ONTARIO)

Proposed Nova Scotia legislation would see fines as high as \$10,000 for illegal marijuana sales or distribution to a person under 19, while impaired drivers will also face stiff penalties.

The fines are part of a series of penalties around the legal age, possession and cultivation of recreational cannabis included in the province's new Cannabis Control Act introduced Tuesday by Justice Minister Mark Furey.

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**The 10th International ACM Conference  
on Automotive User Interfaces and  
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