



Canadian Road Safety News Digest

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

For the Period September 1-30, 2023

Traffic Safety Act changes protecting roadside workers take effect Sept. 1

September 1, 2023, Lethbridge Now (LETHBRIDGE, ALBERTA)

Changes to roadside safety rules in Alberta take effect on Friday, September 1, 2023.

The province announced changes to the Traffic Safety Act earlier this year to better protect all roadside worker vehicles with flashing lights stopped on the side of the road.

Under the new rules, drivers in lanes closest to roadside worker vehicles are required to slow down to 60 km/h or the posted speed limit if slower, or move to the far lane if safe to do so.

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

Here's what people say they would need to feel safe with driverless cars on B.C. streets.

September 4, 2023, CTV News (VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA)

New research shows what people in B.C. say they would need to feel safe sharing the road with self-driving cars - and having a human behind the wheel is high on the list.

The project out of the University of British Columbia's Research on Active Transportation Lab first set out to see how people perceived the impact of self-driving cars on pedestrian safety and comfort and how that could shape policy.

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

Quebec's proposed safety rating index could cause nightmares

September 6, 2023, TruckNews.com (QUÉBEC CITY, QUÉBEC)

Road safety is an admirable goal by every measure, and the measures applied to meet that goal evolve over time. Evidence can be found across every truck that travels a Canadian highway, from the daytime running lights, to antilock brakes, underride guards, reflective markings, and even seatbelts. There was a time when freight moved without any of them.

Safety-related measures are not limited to vehicles alone, of course. Quebec's new Road Safety Action Plan includes commitments to lower speeds in school zones, increase the use of photo radar, and boost the training needed to earn a Class A licence.

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

New "Safety Index" for Heavy Vehicles to Be Developed by Quebec

September 13, 2023, Lakeland Today (QUÉBEC CITY, QUÉBEC)

Recently, the Quebec Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility unveiled the 2023-2028 Road Safety Action Plan for the province. The Road Safety Action Plan sets out priority actions directed at protecting vulnerable road users like pedestrians and cyclists. One of these actions is to have the Quebec Standards Bureau develop a new safety index designed to measure the safety level of heavy vehicles from the standpoint of the safety of pedestrians and cyclists with whom they may share the roadway. The idea is to reduce the risk of collisions by encouraging the use of safer vehicles.

The goal is to publish the new safety index in November 2024. It will address a number of vehicle-related safety elements including the driver's field of vision, indirect vision (mirrors, camera systems or other detection devices) and the use of other safety equipment (alarms, lights, indicator panels, side bars or any other system designed to improve road user safety).

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

Province's new traffic safety rules under fire

September 14, 2023, Lakeland Today (LAKELAND, ALBERTA)

While a veteran tow truck operator and a leading protective services manager in the region rage against the UCP's new traffic safety rules, Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors Devin Dreesen says he won't budge on the dialed back new controversial road legislation.

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

New educational option helps commercial drivers avoid hefty fines

September 20, 2023, Edmonton Police Service (EDMONTON, ALBERTA)

The new Commercial Vehicle Alternative Resolution Program was created to educate first-time offenders better, specifically those operating commercial vehicles between 4,500 and 11,793 kg, who are not typically affiliated with major transportation carriers or have access to their specialized training programs.

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

California bill to have human drivers ride in autonomous trucks is vetoed by governor

September 23, 2023, Toronto City News (SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA)

California Gov. Gavin Newsom has vetoed a bill to require human drivers on board self-driving trucks, a measure that union leaders and truck drivers said would save hundreds of thousands of jobs in the state.

The legislation vetoed Friday night would have banned self-driving trucks weighing more than 10,000 pounds (4,536 kilograms) – ranging from UPS delivery vans to massive big rigs – from operating on public roads unless a human driver is on board.

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

Pedestrian safety on sidewalks prompts discussion about e-scooters in B.C.

September 29, 2023, BIV.com (NEW WESTMINSTER, BRITISH COLUMBIA)

A New Westminster city councillor wants the city to see what can be done to prevent sidewalks from being “super highways” for electric scooters.

Coun. Daniel Fontaine said he’s heard from a number of seniors who are concerned about the increasing numbers of e-scooters, e-skateboards and other electric mobility devices that are on sidewalks.

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

Canadian Events & Conferences in 2023

CARSP Fall webinar

October 12, 2023

[Learn more](#)

Ontario Traffic Council Events

[Learn more](#)