



Canadian Road Safety News Digest

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

For the Period October 1-31, 2023

Wawanesa introduces new telematics program

October 03 2023, Insurance Business (WAWANESA, MANITOBA)

Wawanesa has launched a new app-based telematics program to improve road safety and reward responsible driving habits.

The Drive Change program offer a wide range of incentives, including an automatic 10% discount upon enrollment and renewal discounts of up to 25% based on driving behaviour.

The program monitors driving information through a smartphone application and is currently available across Ontario for private personal auto.

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As traffic in Wales slows with new speed limit, critics say symbolic red dragon replaced by a snail

October 04 2023, CBC News (WALES, UK)

Off the motorway near Cardiff, a giant red metal dragon looms over Wales's main convention centre – but there's now a joke that the country's famous national symbol has been usurped by a new creature: the snail.

Wales, one of four countries that make up the United Kingdom, has become the first to drop the speed limit from 30 mph to 20 mph, or roughly 32 km/h, in most built-up areas.

Critics complain that the measure has slowed traffic to an unbearable snail's pace.

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Data and design are key to preventing collisions, Hamilton officials say after annual road report

October 08 2023, CBC News (HAMILTON, ONTARIO)

A new annual report shows there are fewer collisions on Hamilton's roadways, but city staff acknowledge more must be done.

In 2022, there were 16 fatal collisions in the city, the same number as in 2021. From 2018 to 2022, an average of one fatality occurred every 23 days.

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Reporting tool makes traffic complaints easy to lodge

October 06 2023, Salute this week (SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO)

Five months after its launch, the City of Sault Ste. Marie's online traffic reporting tool is proving to be a valuable resource.

Introduced at the end of April, the reporting tool offers a means for local residents to share concerns with the City's traffic management team via the engineering department.

The online form allows users to select from several specific issues, including speeding, high volume of traffic, collision concerns, cut-through traffic, pedestrian safety, traffic signal or sign, and parking, or they can "request traffic calming." The form also asks what times of day and in which seasons the issue is most problematic.

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2023 National Teen Driver Safety Week focuses on empowering youth to improve road safety

October 10 2023, CISION (TORONTO, ONTARIO)

Canada's national injury prevention organization, Parachute, presents the 11th annual National Teen Driver Safety Week (NTDSW) from October 15 to 21, 2023. This awareness week builds public awareness of young driver safety issues and encourage communities to be part of the solution. This year's NTDSW will focus on youth as changemakers, to highlight and support young Canadians' role in improving road safety, using the theme #OurFutureRoads.

As part of NTDSW this year, Parachute launched the Youth Road Safety Grant Program. It encourages youth to take the lead on road safety awareness and advocacy by supporting local, engaging, youth-initiated projects that educate young people and community members on pressing road safety issues and safe driving behaviour or advocate for positive change in their communities.

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Quebec rejects coroner's recommendation to look at .05 blood alcohol limit

October 10 2023, CBC News (QUEBEC, CANADA)

A Quebec coroner is recommending the province study reducing the legal blood-alcohol concentration for drivers to .05, but Quebec's transport minister says lowering the limit is not in the plans.

Coroner Yvon Garneau's recommendation comes in a report made public today into the 2021 death near Drummondville, Que., of Stéphanie Houle, a passenger in a vehicle driven by someone whose blood-alcohol level was nearly double the Criminal Code limit of .08.

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USask researcher says learning from Saskatchewan's safest intersections can improve road safety

October 11 2023, University of Saskatchewan (SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN)

A College of Engineering master's student, Shaheli Senanayake's project takes a unique approach to road safety research. It offers an original perspective that focuses on what Saskatchewan's best-performing intersections are doing right to help improve safety.

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Town halts e-scooters until traffic safety act amended

October 11 2023, Penticton herald (STRATHMORE, ALBERTA)

The Town of Strathmore has chosen to delay any further discussions regarding the potential introduction of e-scooters and e-bikes around town.

It was recommended to council by administration that the town refrain from amending the local Traffic Bylaw until the Province of Alberta makes changes to the Alberta Traffic Safety Act.

It was also recommended that council direct town staff to use a Request for Proposals process to consider private providers of an e-scooter rental service in town, which would allow for the increased administrative and enforcement costs to be covered by the successful provider.

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Safety study examines modern cars and Ontario drivers 65-plus approaching licence renewals

October 13 2023, Global News (HAMILTON, ONTARIO)

The modernization of cars and changing driving habits of those over 65 are the subject of a road safety study underway in Hamilton, Ont.

Electronic monitoring is set to capture data on healthy drivers between ages of 65 and 79 years in an effort to open up conversations about how their driving has evolved amid the computerizing of motor vehicles.

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Paying the price of road safety: Ottawa expands traffic-calming measures, but they come at a cost

October 16 2023, Capital Current (OTTAWA, ONTARIO)

Many Ottawa drivers will be familiar with traffic-calming measures, such as squeezing between upright posts as you drive along a road like Riverdale Avenue in Old Ottawa South. It can be tight and often feels like your vehicle won't be able to wriggle through.

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CAA-Quebec says 7 road violations occur every minute in Quebec school zones

October 27 2023, City News Everywhere (QUEBEC, QUEBEC)

CAA-Quebec says it found a concerning number of “risky behaviours or breaches” from drivers while in school zones.

On Thursday, officials toured nine Quebec school districts and noted 425 Highway Safety Code breaches – speeding, crosswalk violations, and traffic sign violations – in the hour before school started.

CAA-Quebec says that means in the morning rush, there was an average of seven misconducts every minute.

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Canadian Events & Conferences in 2023 and 2024

CARSP Fall webinar series

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Ontario Traffic Council Events

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MTO 2024 Road Safety Events Calendar

January 1- December 31, 2024

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ITE Canada Conference 2024

June 9-12, 2024

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CARSP Conference 2024

June 16-19, 2024

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