



# Canadian Road Safety News Digest

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

For the Period July 1-31, 2024

## **UN launches global road safety campaign in US with goal of halving the number of victims by 2030**

July 1 2024, CityNews Toronto

The United Nations on Monday launched its global road safety campaign in the United States, which aims to halve the number of road-related victims worldwide by 2030.

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## **Summer impaired driving campaign launched to ensure safe roads**

July 2 2024, Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Richmond RCMP, in collaboration with ICBC, is launching its 2024 summer campaign to combat impaired driving. This initiative emphasizes the importance of responsible driving during the summer months, focusing on reducing incidents of impaired driving to safeguard all road users.

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## Manitoba shifts EV purchase rebate into drive

July 3 2024, Winnipeg Free Press

The NDP government's rebate program for electric vehicles, disclosed in its April budget, came into effect July 1, with the hope it will give the sale of zero-emission vehicles a charge in Manitoba.

A \$4,000 purchase rebate can apply to any new electric vehicle (EV) or plug-in hybrid that costs \$70,000 or less. There is a \$2,500 rebate on pre-owned EVs.

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## 55 New Projects Receive Funding Through Provincial Traffic Safety Fund

July 4 2024, Government of Saskatchewan

Grants totaling more than \$1.3 million have been awarded to 55 projects that will improve traffic safety in 49 communities across Saskatchewan.

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## Nearly 18K charges laid in Canada Day week campaign

July 4 2024, BayToday.ca

The Ontario Provincial Police reports it was a busy start to summer as officers conducted their Canada Day Week campaign by targeting poor behaviours on roads, waterways and trails across the province.

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## Manitoba Government Launches Public Consultations to Improve Highway Safety

July 5 2024, Province of Manitoba

Manitobans are invited to provide feedback on a functional design study to improve safety at the intersection of the Trans-Canada Highway and Provincial Trunk Highway (PTH) 5 near Carberry, Transportation and Infrastructure Minister Lisa Naylor announced today.

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## Operation Safe Driver Week tackles rising transport truck fatalities in Ontario

July 7 2024, StThomasToday.ca

Ontario Provincial Police report a disturbing rise in fatal collisions involving transport trucks, with these heavy vehicles implicated in nearly 20% of this year's deadly crashes within OPP jurisdictions.

So far, 31 lives have been lost, highlighting the critical need for improved road safety practices.

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## The next era of truck driver training

July 9 2024, Truck News

Ontario has a long, proud history of being one of the safest jurisdictions in North America from a truck safety perspective. We'd like to keep it that way, but to do that, we, as an industry, need to evolve and there are ways to achieve this.

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## Drivers, cyclists and the City: We have work to do

July 11 2024, Bay Ward Bulletin

Walking, biking, scooting, driving - we all want to stay safe on our roads, no matter our mode of travel. But we are more vulnerable to severe injury from vehicle collisions when we are pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists. Adults over 65 and children under 15 are also more at risk.

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## Transportation advocates split over e-scooter trials in B.C.

July 14 2024, CBC

Three years into a City of Vancouver trial testing the use of electric kick scooters, transportation advocates are split on how they're regulated.

Vic Leach, a member of the pedestrian advocacy group Walker's Caucus, told On the Coast he's concerned how e-scooters are affecting pedestrian safety.

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## Maritimes miss the mark on road safety according to new study

July 16 2024, CTV News

When it comes to safe roadways, the Maritimes just haven't met the mark; in fact, a new study (opens in a new tab) deems the provinces as the top three most dangerous in Canada for car crashes.

Preszler Injury Lawyers (opens in a new tab), personal injury lawyers in Ontario, looked into the latest data from Transport Canada, which showed the number of car crash deaths per 100,000 people in 2021.

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## Monthly Road Report for June highlights enhanced enforcement and education initiatives

July 17 2024, Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Richmond RCMP continues its commitment to ensuring safer roads for all users through comprehensive enforcement and public education. In June, our efforts resulted in the issuance of 753 traffic tickets, with 729 of these under the Motor Vehicle Act.

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## Video technology considers “near misses” in New West road safety review

July 18 2024, New West Record

New Westminster used an “emerging technology” as part of its assessment of safety at East Columbia and Brunette Avenue - and hopes it may be used for future traffic assessments.

On July 8, council supported recommendations aimed at improving the safety at East Columbia and Braid Street, a location where a pedestrian was killed in February 2023.

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## How a new 911 system in Ontario could improve public safety

July 19 2024, CTV News

An upgrade to 911 systems in Ontario is setting the stage for more efficient emergency responses, in what one official calls “public safety’s Halley’s comet moment.”

The new system - called Next Generation 9-1-1 - replaces decades-old analog technology in emergency communication centres with a digital network, allowing dispatchers to get to urgent calls faster and laying the groundwork for receiving texts, photos, and videos from callers in the future.

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## Ottawa's new road safety campaign says 'everyone' should be alert at intersections

July 24 2024, CTV News

The City of Ottawa's new road safety message for the summer is calling on all road users, including drivers, cyclists and pedestrians, to be alert at intersections.

A 31 second advertisement posted on social media, YouTube and the city's website called "All paths cross at intersections " has the caption, "Who should be most alert at intersections? Everyone."

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## Unifor launches new Safe Rates campaign page leading up to weeklong actions by ITF

July 24 2024, Unifor

Unifor is proud to support the International Transport Federation (ITF)'s global campaign to create awareness around safe rates, which improve wages and conditions for road transport drivers to make roads safer for all drivers, leading up to weeklong actions the last week of August.

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## **Manitoba Government Implements Pre-Clearance Program for Heavy Commercial Trucks**

July 24 2024, Province of Manitoba

As part of its ongoing work to promote safe, sustainable operations on the provincial highway network, the Manitoba government is implementing an electronic pre-clearance program for heavy commercial trucks, Transportation and Infrastructure Minister Lisa Naylor announced today.

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## **Crackdown on unlicensed ride-hailing operators continues**

July 25 2024, Royal Canadian Mounted Police

In a continued effort to ensure public safety and maintain the integrity of licensed transportation services, Richmond RCMP Road Safety Unit (RSU), in collaboration with the Passenger Transportation Branch (PTB), conducted a targeted Joint Forces Operation (JFO) on July 15 and 16, 2024. This operation focused on identifying and apprehending unlicensed ride-hailing operators in the City of Richmond.

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## Drunk driving is trending up in Ontario

July 28 2024, CBC

After two people in Ontario were killed in less than two weeks by alleged drunk drivers, family members left behind are asking: Why do people still drink and drive?

"There's no excuse these days. Everyone knows drinking and driving is wrong and it kills," Rodney Rousell, a grieving father, told CBC Radio's Metro Morning in a recent interview.

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## Push. Pray. Walk: After yet another death, should Toronto replace these dangerous pedestrian crossings?

July 30 2024, Toronto Star

There's a certain anxiety that activates when some of us pedestrians push the button to activate one of Toronto's standalone pedestrian crossings.

You take a deep breath as the overhead orange flashing lights activate. You try your best to make eye contact with any approaching drivers. If you're pushing a stroller, you grip the handles tightly.

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## **Pedestrian scramble crossing debuts at Granville and Robson intersection**

July 30 2024, City of Vancouver

Today, the city activated a pedestrian scramble at the intersection of Granville and Robson External website, opens in new tab streets that will increase pedestrian priority at the location.

The pedestrian scramble at Granville and Robson has signal phasing that offers people the ability to cross simultaneously in all directions, including diagonally, while vehicle movement is stopped in all directions.

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## **US says 51 million air bag inflators pose safety risks despite automaker objections**

July 31 2024, Yahoo Finance

A U.S. regulator said on Wednesday it still believes that air bag inflators in 49 million U.S. vehicles assembled by 13 automakers pose serious safety risks and it is considering issuing a recall.

The issue has been linked to one U.S. fatality and seven injuries following an eight-year government investigation. If the recall proceeds, it would be the second-largest in U.S. history.

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# Canadian Events & Conferences in 2024

## Ontario Traffic Council Events

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## TAC Conference 2024

September 22-25, 2024

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## MTO 2024 Road Safety Events Calendar

January 1- December 31, 2024

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