



# Canadian Road Safety News Digest

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

For the Period February 1-28, 2026

## Are adaptive cruise control and lane-keeping assist safe to use on winter roads?

February 1, 2026, The Globe and Mail

On slick winter roads, driver-assistance technologies don't always make for a safer drive.

"These features can sometimes react in ways that reduce driver control," said Carl Nadeau, a driving expert with Michelin and a former race car driver. "For example, adaptive cruise control may apply the throttle unexpectedly when climbing a hill, which can cause the wheels to spin on icy surfaces."

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## You could get a ticket for doing this at a red light in Ontario

February 5, 2026, INSAUGA

It's widely known that using your phone while driving is an offence and could lead to significant penalties in Ontario. Some individuals, however, may be unaware that even touching their phone while stopped at a red light could result in those same penalties.

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## Lorraine Explains: Cars need buttons—and a major safety regulator agrees

February 9, 2026, Driving.ca

Euro NCAP says carmakers shouldn't bury essential functions on a screen, but companies seem intent on cramming even more features in there.

Did you know that back in 1986, the Buick Riviera came with a touchscreen display? “In addition to the usual driver information center functions like fuel mileage and trip computer, drivers could control actual vehicle functions.

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## Cannabis-Impaired Driving: Emerging Risks and Research Insights

February 12, 2026, Carsp.ca

Cannabis-impaired driving remains a critical road safety issue in Canada. Recent trends show a significant increase in cannabis edible consumption, particularly among youth, raising new challenges due to the delayed onset and prolonged effects of edibles. A University of Saskatchewan study, funded by CAA, found that driving performance was significantly impaired after consuming cannabis edibles, with collision risk peaking at 58% four hours post-consumption. In response, CAA launched a national campaign targeting young Canadians, emphasizing the importance of planning a safe ride home.

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## Feeling discomfort driving at night? It's not you – it's the bright headlights, experts say

February 16, 2026, CBC

Saskatoon optometrist Rachael Berger has seen an increase in the number of patients concerned about their vision when driving at night.

“I'm seeing an alarming number of perfectly young, healthy individuals coming in and saying, ‘I'm having a hard time seeing at night, what's going on,.’” she told *The Current* guest host Peter Armstrong.

She tells patients it's not them – it's the LED headlights increasingly used on vehicles.

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## E-bikes rankle some, but are they causing many pedestrian injuries?

February 17, 2026, BAYTODAY

Amid growing concern from some politicians about the alleged risks e-bike and e-scooter riders pose to pedestrians, new data obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request shows that few micromobility users have been charged with serious driving offences in Toronto in recent years.

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## City-wide red light right turn ban creates ‘potential safety impacts’: Ottawa staff

February 18, 2026, CTV News

City of Ottawa staff are hitting the brakes on the idea of a blanket ban on right turns at red lights at all intersections, saying it could create “potential safety impacts, concerns and increased traffic congestion.”

In response to an inquiry from Coun. Ariel Troster, staff said the city will implement right turn on red light restrictions at intersections on a “case-by-case basis,” looking at the design of the intersection, safety concerns, traffic flow and pedestrian and cyclist activity.

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## Monthly Road Report: Richmond RCMP highlights high-risk driving trends as pedestrian collisions rise

February 18, 2026, RCMP

Richmond RCMP is urging drivers to slow down and stay alert as officers continue to see high-risk driving behaviours contributing to serious collisions, including an increase in pedestrian-involved incidents since December. Short daylight hours, rain, and fog continue to create challenging winter conditions for all road users.

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## Fatal crashes in Alberta this winter spur police reminder about road safety

February 21, 2026, CBC

The number of road fatalities across Alberta continues to climb this winter, as police and road safety advocates point to challenging driving conditions caused by snow and icy roads, impaired driving and risky behaviour behind the wheel as key contributors.

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## Right turns on red – it's time for a change

February 23, 2026, Winnipeg Free Press

Over the past two years in Winnipeg, 25 pedestrians or cyclists have been killed in vehicle collisions.

More than one per month. On average, every second day in our city, a pedestrian or cyclist is struck and injured seriously enough to be reported to police. Every third day, one of those victims is sent to hospital.

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## 10 most dangerous cities for driving in Ontario

February 25, 2026, INSAUGA

Toronto-based insurance rate comparison website MyChoice revealed its updated list on Tuesday. “Using over 200,000 car insurance quotes collected through MyChoice.ca since 2020, including detailed accident and infraction records, we updated our rankings to identify where drivers face the highest and lowest levels of risk across the province in 2026,” the company said.

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## Toronto traffic calming measures after speed camera removal could take 13 years, cost \$52M: report

February 25, 2026, CBC

Toronto's infrastructure committee has referred a report to city council that says it could take 13 years and approximately \$52 million to install traffic calming measures in the wake of the provincial government's decision to remove speed cameras in Ontario.

The staff report says there are 612 kilometres of local roads and 163 kilometres of collector roads that fall within school zones across the city that could potentially receive speed humps or cushions.

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## All Distractions Are Not Equal When It Comes to Teen Drivers

February 27, 2026, The Globe and Mail

Distracted driving remains a leading contributor to road deaths in North America according to official statistics. New research from the Traffic Injury Research Foundation USA, Inc. analyzed results of a national survey of 1,217 youth from 26 states. It investigated how risky behaviors evolve as teens age and they gain driving experience, taking a closer look at age-related patterns in teen smartphone use, risk perception, and social influences to target prevention strategies.

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# Canadian Events & Conferences in 2026

Ontario Traffic Council Events

[Learn more](#)

January 1, 2026 - March 31, 2026  
[2025/26 Road Safety Initiatives - Winter Update](#)

January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2026  
[2026 Road Safety Events Calendar](#)

February 20, 2026 - May 22, 2026  
[Concussion Research Rounds - Winter/Spring 2026](#)

March 1, 2026 - March 31, 2026  
[#BuckleUpBC Campaign](#)

March 20, 2026  
[CCMTA Request for Proposals](#)

March 26, 2026  
[Call for Presenters: Transport Canada's Vehicle Cyber Security Conference](#)

March 27, 2026  
[2026 Call for Proposals Now Open: Road Safety Research Partnership Program \(RSRPP\)](#)

April 1, 2026 - April 2, 2026  
[National Road Safety Symposium](#)

April 28, 2026  
[9th Ontario Road Safety Forum](#)

May 12, 2026 - May 15, 2026  
[10th Student Safety Technology Design Competition](#)

May 12, 2026 - May 15, 2026  
[International Technical Conference On the Enhanced Safety of Vehicles](#)

June 4, 2026  
[13th Annual Concussion Research Symposium](#)

August 11, 2026 - August 13, 2026  
[11th International Conference on Managing Fatigue](#)

September 1, 2026  
[Call for Presenters - Canadian Traffic Safety Conference \(Regina, September 2026\)](#)