



Report to Standing Committees September 2017

This report highlights news and activities of the TAC Board of Directors, its councils and committees, and the secretariat. For more information on any of these items, please contact lmustafa@tac-atc.ca.

More information and resources are also available at [TAC-SHARE](#) or online at <http://tac-atc.ca/en/councils-and-committees/operating-information>. Committee members are encouraged to access documents there.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND TECHNICAL MEETINGS

- About 380 attendees participated in the 2017 Spring Technical Meetings. A similar number are anticipated at about 45 meetings being held as part of the Fall Technical Meetings.
- The conference technical program will include more than 50 sessions, panels, and workshops, featuring more than 200 speakers who represent more than 130 organizations. Some posters will also be offered.
- Two international speakers are receiving financial support to participate in panel discussions during the conference. The panels are 'Infrastructure and Land Use Planning to support CAVs', and 'Drones: Applications of UAVs in Transportation'. The speakers are **Dr. Lewis Fulton**, Sustainable Transportation Energy Pathways (STEPS) program within the Institute of Transportation Studies at the University of California and **John Minor**, Provost of Unmanned Vehicle University (UVU).
- A grant has been awarded that will cover travel and registration costs for a student attending the conference this year. The recipient is Sara Maltese, Civil Engineering, University of Toronto.
- New to the conference this year:
 - A special conference registration rate (25% discounted) for young professionals is offered this year. 59 delegates have registered thus far under using this rate.
 - TAC's first Young Transportation Professional Award will be conferred at the Monday lunch.
 - A Poken (www.poken.com) USB, a digital business card and briefcase that facilitates networking and information exchange will be given to each delegate and exhibiting company.
 - A new conference app will be easier to access, use and update both as a download and online. Also, a flyer style (rather than a full booklet) printed program will be provided to delegates in order to continue encouraging access of information electronically.
- Conference registration is a little lower than in recent years, but a total of approximately 600 delegates are expected to attend; the Exhibition has sold out.
- 'Call for Topics' has been issued for the **2018 Conference & Exhibition**, September 30-October 3 in Saskatoon with the theme **Innovation and Technology: Evolving Transportation**. Conference topics are due **October 30 2017**.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In April 2017, the Board of Directors approved [TAC's Strategic Plan](#). The plan will guide TAC's work as it moves into the future and strives to support its members, encourage collaboration and harmonization, and facilitate knowledge building and sharing for the betterment of Canada's road and urban transportation systems. The plan incorporates new vision and mission statements, key focus areas, and strategic priorities. Aligned with [TAC's vision](#), **focus areas** are the over-arching tenets that influence the Association's technical work and describe core interests of TAC's councils and committees. They are:

Safety
Mobility
Infrastructure and Asset Management
Environment and Climate Change
Technology
Workforce Development

Strategic priorities describe how TAC intends to fulfill its [mission](#). These priorities, and their associated objectives and actions are reflected in detail in the Association's operational plan which was also approved by the Board in April 2017. The strategic priorities are:

Collaborate and Communicate
Build Knowledge
Disseminate Information
Develop our People
Manage Effectively, Now and for the Future

A Town Hall Meeting will be convened on Tuesday afternoon, September 26th during the Annual General Meeting. Members of TAC's Board will provide an update about the plan and encourage discussion with members about the Association's priorities.

At the September 2017 meeting, the Board will continue discussion of emerging issues in transportation. A summary of the discussion and recommended courses of action to address any issues that are raised will be shared subsequently with councils.

COUNCILS AND TASK FORCES

Council meetings are open to interested TAC members; agendas are available on the TAC SharePoint forum and online at: <http://tac-atc.ca/en/councils-and-committees>.

Chief Engineers' Council

- Continued discussion about successful strategies for GHG emission reduction as well as initiatives related to automated and connected vehicles.
- Discussed with the Urban Transportation Council development of the project about lessons learned in public-private partnerships, its scope and expected outcomes.
- Completed review and approved new *Canadian Guide to Traffic Calming*, which resulted from a joint project with the Canadian Institute of Transportation Engineers (CITE); the Guide will be published in both TAC and CITE names.
- Approved awarding the 2017 Road Safety Engineering Award to the British Columbia Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure for its variable speed limit system.

- Fall meeting will include presentations about nighttime road construction, pavement marking longevity, animal-vehicle collision mitigation, connected and automated vehicles, vision zero initiatives by the City of Montreal and the City of Vancouver as well as cycling strategies.

Education and Human Resources Development Council

- Continued review of its terms of reference and initiated discussion about the work plan and required adjustments to align with TAC's priorities as highlighted in the Association's new Strategic Plan.
- Initiated discussions on mental health awareness in the workplace.
- Approved awarding the 2017 Educational Achievement Award to Stantec for its Project Management Bootcamps Training Program.
- Fall meeting will include discussions on employee engagement practices, mentoring, and mental health awareness in the workforce.

Environment Council

- Received updates from Transport Canada and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on key changes to the *Navigation Protection Act* and *Fisheries Act*.
- Received information from the Canadian Environment Assessment Agency about the review process for the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) 2012*, and associated Section 67.
- Approved awarding the 2017 Environmental Achievement Award to the City of Toronto for its clean roads to clean air program.
- Fall meeting will include presentations about climate change and northern infrastructure, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* and environmental initiatives in Newfoundland and Labrador, as well as discussions about environmental assessment requirements.

Urban Transportation Council

- Initiated discussion about curbside management, Vision Zero Program, asset management, rapid transit, pedestrian strategies and electrification of vehicles.
- Discussed with the Chief Engineers' Council development of the project about lessons learned in public-private partnerships, its scope and expected outcomes.
- Approved awarding the 2017 Sustainable Urban Transportation Achievement Award to the City of Calgary for its 20th Avenue Street Lab Party.
- Fall meeting will include presentations on estimating the impact of transportation systems on health and an update on Education and Human Resource Development Council activities, as well as discussions about automated and connected vehicles.

Integrated Committee on Climate Change

- Began collecting information about climate change issues in transportation; planning to develop a map of active organizations addressing climate change issues in Canada to understand the current status of work in this area.
- Interested TAC members with expertise in climate change matters are encouraged to attend committee meetings.

Small Municipalities Task Force

- Reviewed its membership and confirmed growing interest in participation and activities of the Task Force.
- Continued discussion about speed management measures and speed limit practices.
- Contributed TAC News articles that profiled some projects and initiatives undertaken in small municipalities in Canada.

- Fall meeting discussion will focus development of transportation master plans for small municipalities.

Governing Task Force, Canadian National Committee of the World Road Association

- Continued receiving reports about work underway by the World Road Association technical committees on which Canadians participate. Reports are being shared at meetings and via TAC's SharePoint Forum.
- Encouraged committee members to become engaged with related TAC technical committees.
- Invited World Road Association Technical Committee C2 on the design and operation of safer road infrastructure to meet in Ottawa in April 2018 in conjunction with TAC's spring technical meetings; confirmation of arrangements is expected soon.

TAC LEARNING PROGRAM

- Delivered four webinars since April 2017. Over 130 professionals participated in these events. Topics covered were:
 - New content in the 2017 edition of [the Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads](#)
 - LED street lighting colour temperature and health impacts
 - Design, construction and inspection of mechanically stabilized earth walls
 - Traffic monitoring practices for Canadian provinces and municipalities
- [Registration](#) is open for seminar series about what's new in the 2017 edition of the *Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads*. The first seminar will be offered on September 28 in St. John's followed by 12 events scheduled across the country.
 - Exploring opportunities to deliver the seminar in French
- Other seminars being planned in 2017/18 include:
 - One-day session on pavement asset design and management (in French)
 - Two-day session on foundations of the *Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads*
 - Two-day advanced sessions on the *Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads*
- Other webinar topics being planned in 2017/18 include:
 - Design and implementation of transit services for smaller communities
 - LED street lighting colour temperature and health impacts
 - Speed display devices
 - Speed management practices in small municipalities
 - Road safety
- Councils and committees are encouraged to suggest webinar topics using [TAC's Webinar Proposal Form](#).

TAC PROJECTS

- Funding partners are being sought for five pooled fund projects in development; detailed information is available at <http://www.tac-atc.ca/en/projects/seeking-funding>
 - Best Practices for Evaluating Soil and Material Stabilization Products
 - Best Practices for Pothole Repairs in Canada
 - Canadian Road Safety Engineering Handbook Scoping Study
 - Performance-Based Decision Making – Lessons Learned and Practitioner Toolkit
 - Synthesis of Cross-Asset Optimization Practices in Transportation Asset Management.
- Funded projects in progress as listed below; each described at <http://tac-atc.ca/en/projects/progress>

- Best Management Practices for Compliance with the *Migratory Bird Convention Act and Regulations*
- Goods Movement 101
- *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Canada: 6th Edition*
- Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon Warrant
- Risk Analysis and Responding to Climate Change Tool
- Safety Impacts of Bicycle Infrastructure in Canada
- Strategic Opportunities for Integrating Transportation and Health
- Wider Pavement Markings for Standard Applications
- Information about volunteer projects in progress is available at <http://www.tac-atc.ca/en/projects/volunteer-projects>

TAC SECRETARIAT

- Released TAC's new Strategic Plan and shared it with members and stakeholders.
- Three English publications, the full 10 chapters of the *Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads*, and one French publication were released April through August 2017 as listed in the TAC's publication report; French version of the *Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads* is anticipated for release in spring 2018.
- The project to implement a new customer relationship management (CRM) system for TAC continues and is expected to launch late this fall. The cloud-based platform is expected to offer improved functionality for members and staff and should result in more user-friendly and seamless interactions for members and customers.
- TAC's Transportation Information Services has:
 - Added 18 records to the [TAC Research Bulletin](#), which highlight newly-published reports and articles from around the world with relevance to road transportation in Canada;
 - Added 15 TAC and 73 non-TAC records to the TAC library catalogue;
 - Provided support to pooled fund project research;
 - Led webinar describing new features and [library catalogue](#) search capabilities;
 - Continued use of social media to share information about library developments.

In addition to traditional borrowing library collection, members can request a literature search on a research subject at tis@tac-atc.ca.

UPCOMING TECHNICAL MEETINGS

April 18-23, 2018: Ottawa, Ontario
 September 27-October 1, 2018: Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
 April 3-9, 2019: Ottawa, Ontario
 September 19-23, 2019: Halifax, Nova Scotia

FUTURE TAC CONFERENCES

September 30-October 3, 2018: Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
 September 22-25, 2019: Halifax, Nova Scotia