



# TAC's Technology Council: Get Involved!

## Introduction

Canada's transportation sector is being disrupted on several fronts: rapidly changing traveler and consumer demands; emerging mobility services and business models; the need to reduce environmental and climate impacts; and new threats to public safety and security. Technology is a contributor to these disruptions, and will also be fundamental to a successful response.

Advanced technologies will enable new approaches to planning, designing, operating, maintaining and regulating transportation systems and assets. They will allow transportation agencies to reduce the cost of construction and maintenance, improve efficiency, and generate new revenue streams associated with digital services and solutions.

To help keep its members abreast of developments, and to offer a forum for collaboration, the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) has created a new **Technology Council**. The Council will provide an opportunity for TAC member organizations to come together with new partners, share information, build mutual understanding, and develop valuable guidance and tools for the benefit of Canadians. The Council's Terms of Reference and Executive are available [here](#).

## Scope

Some topics that the Technology Council could address are described below.

- **Vehicle technologies.** Uncertainties persist around the timing and public acceptance of connected and autonomous vehicles and electric vehicles, the need to upgrade infrastructure in support of those vehicles, and the potential impacts on safety, congestion, sustainability, and equity.
- **Intelligent transportation systems.** Agencies face many opportunities and challenges related to traffic control equipment, transportation management centres and traveller information systems that can support new vehicle technologies, increase safety and improve efficiency.
- **Data management.** Mobile technologies have enabled new business models (e.g. ride-hailing, dynamic transit, car/bike/scooter sharing) that raise the question of how to effectively share data between private companies and public agencies.
- **Cyber security.** As transportation agencies and private enterprises collect, store, exchange and analyze transportation data, they must protect the public from cyber-attacks on vehicles and traffic control systems.

- **Smart cities.** As the availability of transportation data continues to grow, so does the potential for smart city strategies to encompass mobility systems, leveraging big data and the “Internet of things” to improve services while boosting productivity and competitiveness.

## Objectives

The Council’s inaugural meeting will be on April 4, 2020 at TAC’s [Spring Technical Meetings](#) in Ottawa. During its first year, the Council will:

- Seek wide-ranging representation from TAC member organizations
- Seek prospective TAC member organizations to participate as observers
- Identify priority issues and develop a strategic framework
- Consider the formation of technical committees
- Start to develop technical projects

## Join us

The Technology Council invites the participation of transportation authorities, consultants, academics, contractors, partner associations, planning and economic development agencies, new mobility enterprises, electrical and communications utilities, land developers, and the automotive, logistics, information and communication technology industries.

TAC member organizations can appoint one voting member who must attend at least one semi-annual meeting each year; they can also appoint auxiliaries who receive meeting information but for whom participation is optional. Non-member organizations may participate in Council meetings as observers, at the discretion of the Chair. To identify a member and/or auxiliaries from your organization, or to obtain more information, please [contact the TAC Secretariat](#).