



Development of a New Edition of the *Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads*

Funding has been secured to proceed with a major project to develop a new edition of the *Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads*.

The current edition of the Guide, one of TAC's flagship documents, was published in 1999 and has been amended with numerous updates in the intervening years. A scoping study undertaken in 2011 recommended that a new edition be prepared for release as soon as possible.

Support for the project has been generous, with commitments made by twenty-five funding partners, including the federal government, every provincial department of transportation, two territorial governments, eleven municipalities and the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering. Funds accumulated through a surcharge on each copy of the 1999 guide that has been sold will also be allocated to the project. In aggregate, the funds available for this important initiative total nearly \$1.2 million.

In addition to refreshing the entire document, priority areas expected to be significantly updated or added in the new edition of the Guide include design exceptions, roadside design, human factors, intersections and modern roundabouts, and active transportation.

A steering committee is being formed with representatives of the project funding partners. The committee will be responsible for finalizing the

project scope in the coming weeks, selecting a consultant or national consortium to conduct the work and for overseeing the work through to its successful completion in three to four years.

Agencies interested in becoming involved in the initiative are welcome to contact Sarah Wells to discuss funding and participation terms.

The following agencies have committed funding to this project: **Alberta Transportation, British Columbia Transportation and Infrastructure, Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation, New Brunswick Transportation and Infrastructure, Newfoundland and Labrador Transportation and Works, Northwest Territories Department of Transportation, Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario, Prince Edward Island Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, le Ministère des Transports du Québec, Saskatchewan Highways and Infrastructure, Transport Canada, Yukon Highways and Public Works, the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering, Halifax Regional Municipality, Region of Waterloo and the cities of Calgary, Edmonton, Moncton, Montreal, Ottawa, Saskatoon, Toronto, Vancouver and Winnipeg.** 



2013 TAC Conference and Exhibition

Transportation: Better – Faster - Safer

September 22-25
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Hotels and travel, exhibition information and partnership and advertising opportunities are now posted on TAC's conference website. Lions' Den presenters are invited to submit their abstract to appear in the Lions' Den - Opening Plenary Session **no later than Friday, March 18.**

Hope to see you in Winnipeg!

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A Moment in Time – Historical Milestones in Transportation

As a prelude to TAC's centennial in 2014, A Moment in Time features historical anecdotes showcasing milestones in transportation. Montreal will host the Association's 100th birthday celebrations, providing an opportunity to highlight important Canadian achievements in the transportation sector.

The Alaska Highway was built in 1942-43 from Dawson Creek, British Columbia to Fairbanks, Alaska. In the face of a serious threat of a Japanese invasion, a preliminary road was rammed through forest wilderness and five mountain ranges in only eight months. The Alcan Military Highway ran 2333 km from Dawson Creek to Big Delta, Alaska.

On April 3, 1946, Canada took over the 1954-km portion of the road from Dawson Creek to the Alaska border. Canada paid the US \$108 million to cover airfields and flight strips, buildings, telephone systems and other assets, but not construction of the highway itself.

Opened to unrestricted travel in 1947, the road was re-graded and widened by Canadian army engineers during the next 17 years, until it was turned over to the federal department of public works in 1964, with maintenance of the highway within the Yukon devolved to the Territorial government in 1972. Hundreds of kilometres are bituminous surface-treated to carry the traffic, which ranges from 220 vehicles a day in isolated areas to 1700 a day near Whitehorse.

Although originally built for military purposes, the highway has helped the forestry, oil, mining, tourism and trucking industries. It provided an important impetus to the development of Edmonton as a supply centre and, as an enduring link to northern BC and the Yukon, has had the psychological benefit of ending the isolation of the North. (Source: the Canadian Encyclopedia) 



Photo: Alaska Highway, Kluane (Courtesy: the Canadian Encyclopedia)

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Send your story ideas and suggestions to news@tac-atc.ca

TAC is a national not-for-profit association with a mission to promote the provision of safe, secure, efficient, effective and environmentally and financially sustainable transportation services in support of Canada's social and economic goals.

The Association is a neutral forum for gathering or exchanging ideas, information and knowledge on technical guidelines and best practices.

In Canada as a whole, TAC has a primary focus on roadways and their strategic linkages and inter-relationships with other components of the transportation system.

In urban areas, TAC's primary focus is on the movement of people, goods and services and its relationship with land use patterns.

Contribute to TAC's Centennial

In 2014, TAC will mark its 100th anniversary by celebrating the past, present and future of transportation in Canada!



Under the banner of *Transportation 2014*, TAC will create awareness about transportation with a year of activities and communication initiatives that will culminate at TAC's Conference and Exhibition in Montreal, September 28-October 1st, in 2014.

Transportation 2014 offers partners a wide variety of opportunities to increase their national visibility amongst transportation and roadway professionals and the broader Canadian public, including video vignettes; a transportation showcase; student fair; national lecture series and an e-book.

Interested organizations are now invited to consult the 2014 Partnership Opportunities Prospectus and submit their partnership agreement form to Gerald Cadet, *Transportation 2014* Project Manager at T2014@tac-atc.ca or call 613-736-1350, ext. 222.

For additional information on how you can participate in and promote *Transportation 2014*, including downloading free campaign logos and promotional materials to use in your area, visit the website at <http://www.transportation2014.ca/>

Mark your Agenda – April Spring Technical Meetings

TAC's 2013 Spring Technical Meetings will be held at the Novotel Ottawa Hotel and the Ottawa Convention Centre, April 11-15.

The Association's second-largest annual event offers excellent technical information exchange and valuable networking opportunities. Meetings are open to TAC members in general unless otherwise indicated on the event program.

A joint technical luncheon, hosted by TAC and the National Capital Section of the Canadian Institute of Transportation Engineers will be held on April 12. A presentation and Q&A session on *Sustainable Mobility: a Snapshot of Success and Innovation* will be delivered by ACT Canada's President, Sharon Lewinson. A member networking event, planned for April 13, will include brief remarks by TAC's President, followed by a reception. The TAC Board of Directors will also meet on April 15.



Spring & Fall Meetings Partnership Program

A partnership program is now available for organizations seeking opportunities for visibility at both TAC's Spring & Fall Technical meetings. Opportunities range from \$950 to \$1,500 and include such benefits as recognition on signage, programs and e-blasts to TAC committee members and providing corporate material to meeting participants.

More information is available on TAC's website under Events. Contact Erica Andersen or phone 613-736-1350, ext. 235 for more information. Non-committee TAC members are asked to confirm their attendance by emailing meetings-reunions@tac-atc.ca. 

Work Beginning on Canadian Roundabout Design Guide

A project to develop a Canadian roundabout design guide is being launched under the auspices of TAC's Geometric Design Standing Committee.

In recent years, a proliferation of roundabouts has been observed throughout Canada. To date, there is no single source of guidance regarding the design, construction, operation and maintenance of roundabouts for Canadian practitioners. Jurisdictions have sought guidance from a variety of sources, including references from other agencies and guidelines from other countries.

The primary goal of the TAC project will be to create a national, roundabout design guide.

Although work is getting underway, additional partners are still needed to fully fund the project. Agencies interested in contributing to, and

participating in the initiative may contact Sarah Wells at the TAC Secretariat.

Fourteen agencies already committed to the project are: **Alberta Transportation, British Columbia Transportation and Infrastructure, Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation, New Brunswick Transportation and Infrastructure, Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario, Prince Edward Island Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, le Ministère des Transports du Québec, the Cement Association of Canada, the Region of Waterloo** and the cities of **Calgary, Mississauga, Ottawa and Winnipeg**.

Chilliwack Safer City Promotes Traffic Security

Editor's Note: In this contribution to TAC News, Rod Sanderson, Manager, Transportation and Drainage, City of Chilliwack, writes about the City's traffic safety program and how communities can apply principles in their own towns and cities. Proposed by TAC's Small Municipalities' Task Force, this feature is one in a series of articles profiling issues and challenges faced by small communities. Interested organizations are encouraged to contact the newsletter editor to submit an article.

The City of Chilliwack, located in British Columbia, operates a traffic safety program which embodies a number of programs and projects to reduce traffic accidents on public roads in this small community.

One of the largest initiatives the Safer City team undertakes is the *Back to School Program*. The team expands the project annually in an effort to increase safety and to prevent tragedy in school zones.



Photo: Back to School Program at the City of Chilliwack

Kick off events during the first week of school were held at two of the largest elementary schools, which included the RCMP safety bear and

enforcement personnel, City staff and Speed Watch program volunteers. In total, enforcement initiatives were held at 18 elementary schools across the community. Variable message signs on trailers were deployed to add special traffic safety messages directed at drivers and pedestrians. These events were aggressively scheduled during the first three weeks of the school year, focusing the efforts of participants, and soliciting appreciation from parents and school staff.

Many of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) interactions with motorists are intentionally configured to be educational, increasing voluntary compliance to safer driver behaviour. In addition and where education was not appropriate, violation tickets were issued. This program resulted in 242 tickets or official warnings issued in school zones. Utilizing the resources of City, RCMP, ICBC and volunteers, the City of Chilliwack holds meetings throughout the summer to plan events, locations and special features to raise the profile of traffic safety in school zones.

Articles were featured in local newspapers, adding public awareness to the list of program benefits. In addition to running the programs and projects of Safer City initiatives, team members assist other communities on applying principles in their own towns and cities.

Readers are encouraged to visit the City of Chilliwack's website for additional information and contact details.



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Guidelines for Transit Priority Measures Coming Soon

A new TAC publication entitled *Guidelines for the Planning and Implementation of Transit Priority Measures* will be released in the coming months.

Recently approved by TAC's Chief Engineers' Council, the document will provide practitioners with the required tools and a framework for selecting appropriate transit priority measures. Guiding principles include safety, delay, disruption to road users, consistency, conspicuity and pragmatism. A six step implementation process and a decision support tool are also presented as part of the guidelines.

The guidelines resulted from a funded project that included a review of current literature as well as the processes used to select the most appropriate transit priority measures. A survey to gauge end users' experience was also conducted in various jurisdictions across Canada.

Focusing primarily on transit priority measures for bus operations, the guidelines can also be applied to light rail transit and streetcars. The application and design for other forms of transit are not provided in the document.

The guidelines, which will be sold through TAC, will be complemented by a background information report that will be accessible through the TAC Library.

The project work was carried out by IBI Group in collaboration with GENIVAR.

Project funding partners were **le Ministère des Transports du Québec, Transport Canada, Metrolinx, la Société de transport de Montréal, the Toronto Transit Commission, TransLink, the Canadian Institute of Transportation Engineers, the Canadian Urban Transit Association, the cities of Edmonton, Hamilton, Montreal, Ottawa, Surrey and the Halifax Regional Municipality.**

Call for Nominations - 2013 Canadian Transportation Awards

Nominations for the 2013 Canadian Transportation Awards Program (CTAP) are now being sought for the following four award categories:

- ◆ Transportation Person of the Year
- ◆ Award of Excellence
- ◆ Award of Achievement
- ◆ Award of Academic Merit

Nominations must be received online **no later than Friday, May 24.**

This Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) awards program recognizes leadership, excellence and achievement in all modes and segments of the transport sector.

The CTAP awards will be conferred during the closing event of the 2013 TAC Conference & Exhibition in Winnipeg, on September 25.

For more information on the program and to submit a nomination, consult the CTAP Awards section of TAC's website.

TAC thanks the following partners of the CTAP program for their support.



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Stop Sign Usage at Railway Crossings in MUTCDC

Revisions to TAC's *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Canada* (MUTCDC) to address stop sign usage at railway crossings have been approved by TAC's Chief Engineers' Council.



Discrepancies regarding the recommended placement of stop signs at unrestricted grade crossings existed between Transport Canada's RTD-10 (Canadian Railway-Roadway Grade Crossing Standards) and the current MUTCDC. Through a volunteer project under the auspices of TAC's Traffic Operations and Management Standing Committee, practices were reviewed and, as a result, it is recommended that both publications be revised to ensure consistency.

A standard for stop signs at railway crossings, including sightline restrictions, will be included in a forthcoming revised edition of the Manual. It will clarify that if a stop sign is used at a railway crossing, it should be mounted directly below the railway crossing sign on the same post.

An update has also been proposed to Transport Canada's Railway-Roadway Grade Crossings Policy. It would indicate that stop signs used in conjunction with railway crossings are the responsibility of the railway company because they are mounted on the railway's infrastructure.

A publication notice will be featured on TAC's website when the MUTCDC update is issued. 

TAC to Release Canadian Guide for Greener Roads

The *Canadian Guide for Greener Roads* has been approved by TAC's Urban Transportation Council and Chief Engineers' Council. To be published by TAC in the coming months, the Guide will enable users to self-evaluate and improve sustainability benefits of an existing or potential road project.

Transportation agencies delivering essential transportation services throughout Canada are facing declining material resources, climate change, greenhouse gas emissions, and a societal movement supporting sustainable development. Tools are needed by practitioners to support the development and implementation of green practices and "green" roads. Over thirty sustainability practices and an interactive tool for filtering and linking information will accompany the forthcoming TAC Guide.

Respecting traditional design objectives for safety, efficiency, capacity and maintenance, the Guide will also integrate objectives relating to compatibility, livability, universal accessibility, modal equity, conservation of resources, affordability on a full life-cycle basis, and environmental protection.

Jurisdictional requirements, technical standards and guidance documents, as well as professional judgement must be considered when applying the information provided in the Guide.

The Guide was prepared by MMM Group Limited under the direction of a project steering committee. Final editing of the publication is underway by Noxon Associates.

Funding partners of this project were **Alberta Transportation, British Columbia Transportation and Infrastructure, Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation, Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario, Prince Edward Island Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, le Ministère des Transports du Québec, Saskatchewan Highways and Infrastructure, Transport Canada, Canadian Ready Mixed Concrete Association, the Cement Association of Canada, ColasCanada, the Ontario Hot Mix Producers Association, the Halifax Regional Municipality, the Regions of Halton, Peel, York and Waterloo, and the cities of Calgary, Edmonton, Hamilton, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto and Winnipeg.** 



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The Impacts of Climate Change on Road Safety

Editor's Note: In this contribution to TAC News, Jean Andrey, Professor, Department of Geography and Environmental Management, University of Waterloo, discusses how significant changes in climate contribute to roadway collisions and driving risks, resulting in a more hazardous operating environment. Proposed by TAC's Climate Change Task Force, this feature is one in a series of articles profiling climate change-related initiatives of TAC and its member organizations. Interested organizations are encouraged to contact the newsletter editor to submit an article.

Each year, more than 2,000 Canadians die from injuries sustained in motor vehicle collisions, and approximately 500 people are injured for every billion vehicle-kilometres of travel.

Many factors contribute to roadway collisions. Weather is one of these factors. Weather that reduces road friction, impairs visibility and makes vehicle handling more difficult contributes to a more hazardous operating environment. Precipitation is the most important weather-related driving risk in Canada, in large part because precipitation occurs 10 to 20 percent of the time in most regions of Canada.



Significant changes in climate are expected to unfold over the next half century. Increased concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are associated with the warming of the oceans, which in turn lead to increased water vapour in the atmosphere and changes in precipitation. Some changes are already evident; analysis performed over Canada from 1950 to 2003 shows that the number of days with precipitation, especially heavy precipitation, has increased. Also, more precipitation is falling as rain and less is falling as snow¹.

Since both the type and intensity of precipitation affects risk, changing weather patterns have implications for road safety in Canada. Work completed for TAC's Climate Change Task Force and Road Safety Standing Committee estimates weather-related collision risk both under current climate and for the 2041-2070 period. This is the first large-scale assessment of the implications of climate change for road safety in Canada, and one of the first in the world.

Information on the data, methods and results will be provided in TAC's upcoming publication, *Climate Change and Road Safety: Projections within Urban Areas*.

At present, collision rates are 13 percent higher on days with rainfall than when the roads are dry, on average, and 40 percent higher on snow days. The risk of injury is similarly elevated—12 percent higher on rain days and 22 percent higher on snow days. There is also a progression in risk: days with light rainfall are not associated with significant increases in collision rates, but on days with 10 mm or more, the number of collisions resulting in injury increases by nearly 25 percent. All days with snowfall tend to be associated with higher crash rates, regardless of the snowfall amount, but there is also a progression in risk as snowfall amount increases; on days with 10 cm or more of snowfall, collision rates are 35 percent higher than on winter days when the roads are primarily dry.

Changes in precipitation are expected across the country. In the coming decades, most parts of Canada are likely to experience fewer days with snowfall and more days with heavy rain. Since these have offsetting safety effects, the net effect depends on the exact mix of weather events and local sensitivity to these conditions. For example, Vancouver is expected to see a small increase in weather-related injury collisions because of more heavy rains, whereas Calgary is expected to have fewer snow days, translating into a small but positive safety benefit.



TAC's publication will also provide insights into those collision types that are over-represented in weather-related crashes and areas to target in the future.

A notice will be posted on TAC's website when *Climate Change and Road Safety: Projections within Urban Areas* becomes available. 

(Footnotes)

¹ Vincent, LA., Mekis, É. 2006. Changes in daily and extreme temperature and precipitation indices for Canada over the twentieth century. *Atmosphere-Ocean* 44:177-193.

Green Light for Synthesis of Environmental Management Practices

TAC has received the go ahead to release a new publication entitled *Synthesis of Environmental Management Practices for Road Construction, Operation and Maintenance*.

The recently-completed project, conducted under the auspices of TAC's Environment Council, collected and synthesized environmental practices from stakeholders across Canada to present the "state-of-play" for environmental management.

Now approved by both the Environment Council and the Chief Engineers' Council, the two-volume set includes practices on how to avoid, minimize and mitigate negative environmental effects of road construction, operation and maintenance. They may be used by Canadian transportation practitioners to develop their own standard operating procedures, specifications, checklists and contract documents.

The synthesis of practices was prepared by MMM Group Limited. AME Materials Engineering is editing the final document prior to its release, anticipated before the end of 2013.

The following funding partners contributed to this project: **Alberta Transportation, British Columbia Transportation and Infrastructure, Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation, New Brunswick Transportation and Infrastructure, Newfoundland and Labrador Transportation and Works, Northwest Territories Department of Transportation, the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario, le Ministère des Transports du Québec, Saskatchewan Highways and Infrastructure, Transport Canada, Yukon Highways and Public Works** and the **City of Montreal**. 

Workshops and Seminars Launching in March and April

A new seminar based on TAC's *Guide to Bridge Traffic and Combination Barriers* will be presented for the first time in conjunction with TAC's upcoming Spring Technical Meetings in Ottawa on Monday, April 15.

Led by Keith Holmes of MMM Group Limited, key author of the national guide, this one-day course will highlight barrier performance and warranting, conceptual design issues, vehicle-structure interaction, structural adequacy, combination systems, and end treatments. To ensure an effective day of learning, the workshop will use a variety of active strategies including group activities, video analysis, case-study discussion, worked examples and participatory question and answer sessions.

Registration for the event is required and can be completed via TAC Online.

Ambitious Seminar Program for 2013/2014

Also new in TAC's seminar program are sessions about best practices for the technical delivery of long-term transportation studies. First offered in Edmonton and Calgary in March, these two-day courses address the needs of medium and smaller municipal agencies in Canada and are

relevant to professionals involved in the delivery of periodic transportation planning studies for mobility, land access or transportation service.

These courses will form part of the ambitious seminar program planned for 2013/2014 with events offered across Canada. Other new courses will focus on the forthcoming *Pavement Asset Design and Management Guide*, the construction and operation of winter roads, as well as the development and management of infrastructure in permafrost regions. Where demand warrants, repeat sessions of TAC's popular courses about accommodating cycling facilities or erosion and sediment control will be offered.

Plans for the year ahead are built upon the successful past year, which was TAC's most active in this area in recent history. A total of six different courses were offered through 15 separate events, with four more being planned before the Spring Meetings. Over 300 professionals participated in these development activities.

For the current course schedule or to find out about commissioning a specific course, visit TAC's website at <http://www.tac-atc.ca/english/seminars/schedule.cfm> 



**Welcome
Grant Lachmuth**

Urban Systems - A growing community

Urban Systems welcomes a new senior government advisor to our team. Grant A. Lachmuth, ASct, RTMgr joins our Kelowna office after a well established 36-year career with British Columbia's Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

Grant will leverage his in-depth and insightful knowledge of Design-Build and P3 procurement models, infrastructure management, and leadership for the benefit of the communities we serve. This integration with Urban Systems' local government, engineering, and planning practices means a holistic approach to facilitating effective partnerships and generating community-driven solutions.

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TAC is pleased to welcome the following new members:

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Bridgewater, NS
Justin Penny, GIS/Engineering Technician

University of Alberta

Edmonton, AB
Tony Qiu, Professor, Transportation Engineering

TAC Foundation - Call to Scholarship Application Reviewers



With the TAC Foundation scholarship application deadline now past, volunteer reviewers will soon have the rewarding but challenging task of rating submissions from over 100 applicants again this year.

The Foundation anticipates awarding approximately 45 scholarships valued at over \$150,000 in 2013. The Scholarship Committee chair, Eric Hildebrand, assigns one or more reviewers to each application to examine the submission, apply rating criteria and review the information provided.

New volunteer reviewers are always needed. Individuals interested in participating as a reviewer are invited to contact Eric Hildebrand at edh@unb.ca.

The results of the scholarship process will be announced in mid-summer and recipients will be acknowledged at Tuesday's Lunch at the Winnipeg Convention Centre, held in conjunction with the 2013 TAC Conference & Exhibition, September 22-25.

Recognizing Individual Contributions via a Named Scholarship

Did you know that TAC Foundation donors committing at least \$5,500 per year for a minimum of three years are provided the opportunity to name the associated scholarship for an individual, company, association or other group?

An increasing number of TAC Foundation donors are indeed naming their scholarship to help recognize an individual who has made a significant contribution to the success of their organization. Not only is the individual's name included in the scholarship title, but a brief acknowledgement of the individual's contributions can be immortalized as part of the overall scholarship description.

For more information about becoming a TAC Foundation donor or volunteer, visit www.tac-foundation.ca or email foundation@tac-atc.ca.



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MEMBERSHIP HAPPENINGS

Vancouver's **Urban Systems Ltd.** won the top award for Design and Contract Preparation, Roads, at the 9th annual Deputy Minister's Consulting Engineers Awards. The engineering work affected approximately nine kilometres of Highway 97 within the District of Lake Country – upgrading it from two to four lanes, two highway bridges and two vehicle underpasses. Urban Systems provides strategic planning, engineering, environmental science and urban design services throughout Western Canada.

ISL Engineering and Land Services Ltd. was voted 9th on the list of the 2013 Best 50 Small and Medium Employers in Canada. This marks the fourth time in five years ISL has made the top ten Best Employers list, published annually in PROFIT Magazine. This engineering consulting firm delivers quality planning and design solutions for transportation, water and land projects.

Rope Access Maintenance, specializing in rope access and alternate access equipment, introduced Safespan at TAC's 2012 Conference in the first edition of the Lions' Den. When a crane struck the Brooklyn Bridge scaffolding, damage was contained to a small area. Safespan was cut where the crane boom went through but the structure did not fall apart. Conventional products could not withstand this type of impact.



Photo: Crane Strikes Brooklyn Bridge Scaffolding, Claudio Papapietro, Wall Street Journal, March 14, 2012

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Tom Kazmierowski, a prolific contributor to TAC's conferences and long-standing member of numerous committees, has retired from the Ontario Ministry of Transportation after 37 years of service, but will continue his technical involvement in the pavement/materials engineering industry.

Darren Carter was named Chair of TAC's Environment Council in mid December.

Tim Grant is now Deputy Solicitor General for the Province of Alberta.

Alan Humphries has been appointed Acting Deputy Minister of Transportation.

Frederick G. (Bud) Wright is the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials' (AASHTO) new Executive Director. John Horsley, who led AASHTO since 1999, officially retired in February.

Peter Hillier has been appointed Market Leader for Transport in Canada for GHD.

Norm Brown, TAC's and CCMTA's Executive Director from 1987 to 1995, passed away in early December. Before becoming Executive Director, Mr. Brown served as Director of Administration, coordinating non-technical activities including publications, general communications, membership and forums.

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TAC Launches 2013 Partnership and Advertising Program

TAC is proud to launch a new partnership and advertising program for 2013 encompassing a range of opportunities to help organizations communicate with TAC's audiences, and align their interests with their corporate objectives.

Designed to increase visibility and networking opportunities among transportation and roadways professionals, partners and advertisers can now become partners in a variety of events and activities including the TAC Conference & Exhibition; TAC and Canadian Transportation Awards; Spring & Fall Technical Meetings; and

Transportation 2014, or advertise in various TAC printed and online publications.

Interested organizations are invited to complete the online agreement form to secure their partnership or advertising selection(s).

Early-Bird Conference Partners

The following partners will be front and centre at the 2013 TAC Conference & Exhibition, *Transportation: Better – Faster – Safer*, from September 22-25 in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

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Dillon Consulting Limited

Don't miss your opportunity to capitalize on TAC's organizational strength and respected brand! Visit the Conference section of TAC's website to view remaining partnership and advertising opportunities or contact Erica Andersen at eandersen@tac-atc.ca.

Geometric Design for Special Roads Synthesis Approved by Letter Ballot

A synthesis of practices, experiences and lessons learned about geometric design for special roads has been approved by TAC's Chief Engineers' Council. Resulting from a project originally recommended by the Geometric Design Standing Committee, the document addresses roads not otherwise covered in the current edition of TAC's *Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads*.

"Special roads" is a category for roads that tend not to fit into the standard definition for either urban or rural roadways. In design guidelines and research publications, special roads are often referred to as "low-volume roads", although volume is only one criterion for designating a roadway as special. Other important criteria include function, seasonality, traffic composition and roadway structure. Examples of other sub-classes include recreational roads, resource access roads and winter roads, which are also referenced in the document.

To be published in the coming months, *Geometric Design for Special Roads* will include results of special roads surveys conducted throughout

Canada and the United States, as well as an extensive review of related research publications.

An important component of this study was to compare current, Canadian jurisdictional documents and those presented in TAC and AASHTO geometric design guidelines. This process helped identify which geometric features of special roads are already addressed in Canadian design guidelines, which topics have not been addressed and which issues require specific attention and additional investigation.

Exp Services Inc. carried out the work for this project.

Funding partners of this project were **Alberta Transportation, Manitoba Floodway East Side Road Authority, Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation, New Brunswick Transportation and Infrastructure, Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, Northwest Territories Department of Transportation, le Ministère des Transports du Québec, Saskatchewan Highways and Infrastructure, Transport Canada, Yukon Highways and Public Works**, and the cities of **Calgary** and **Edmonton**.

COMING EVENTS ~ 2013

Technical Conference and Exhibition of the Institute of Transportation Engineers

March 3-6
San Diego, California
Tel. (202) 785-0060
<http://www.ite.org/meetings/index.asp>

95th Annual Conference of the Canadian Construction Association

March 3-7
La Malbaie, Québec
Tel. (613) 236-9455
www.cca-acc.com/en/annual-conference

Annual Conference of the Association québécoise des transports

March 25-27
Montréal, Québec
Tel. (514) 523-6444
<http://www.aqtr.qc.ca/index.php/fr/congres-annuel/congres-2013>

Annual Conference of the Canadian Institute of Transportation Engineers

April 7-10
Calgary, Alberta
Tel. (202) 289-0222
<http://www.cite7.org/Calgary2013/index.php>

TAC Spring Technical Meetings

April 11-15
Ottawa, Ontario
Tel. (613) 736-1350
<http://www.tac-atc.ca/english/events/spring.cfm>

CCMTA Annual Meeting

May 5-8
Iqaluit, Nunavut
Tel. (613) 736-1003
<http://www.ccmta.ca/english/events/annualmeeting/annualmeeting.cfm>

Annual Conference of the Intelligent Transportation Systems Society of Canada

May 26-29
Toronto, Ontario
Tel. (905) 471-2970
http://www.itscanada.ca/events/acgm_2013.html

Annual Conference of the Canadian Society for Civil Engineers

May 29-June 1
Montréal, Québec
Tel. (514) 933-2634
<http://www.csce2013.ca/>

Annual Conference /Trade Show of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities

May 31-June 3
Vancouver, British Columbia
Tel. (613) 241-5221
<http://www.fcm.ca/home/events/2013-annual-conference-and-trade-show.htm>

Annual Conference of the Canadian Transportation Research Forum

June 10-12
Halifax, Nova Scotia
Tel. (519) 421-9701
www.ctrf.ca/

6th International Symposium on Strait Crossings

June 16-19
Bergen, Norway
www.SC2013.no

Annual Conference of the Canadian Institute of Planners

July 6-9
Vancouver, British Columbia
Tel. (613) 237-7526
<http://infuse2013.ca/>

TAC Fall Technical Meetings

September 19-24
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Tel. (613) 736-1350
www.tac-atc.ca

TAC Conference & Exhibition

September 22-25
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Tel. (613) 736-1350
<http://tac-atc.ca/english/annualconference/>

Coming Soon: Guidelines for Underground Utility Installations Crossing Highway Rights-of-Way

Guidelines to assist road authorities in establishing and administering reasonably uniform criteria for the accommodation of utilities crossing highway and freeway rights-of-way have been approved by TAC's Chief Engineers' Council.

Emerging from a volunteer project of the Public Utilities Management Sub-Committee under the auspices of TAC's Maintenance and Construction Standing Committee, the guidelines complement the 2011 *Guide for the Accommodation of Utilities within Freeway Rights-of-Way*.

Utility companies often install their facilities within the rights-of-way of public roads rather than purchasing separate land, which would drive up the overall cost to the utility company and in turn increase the cost to the public.

The responsibility of road authorities includes operating highway rights-of-way in a manner that ensures the safety, traffic-carrying ability and physical integrity of their installations. The presence of a utility within the right-of-way can affect these characteristics, so it is necessary for road authorities to reasonably regulate the presence of utilities.

The guidelines are aimed at managers in the public and private sectors, consulting engineers practicing in the highway/utility field, and individuals entering the highway/utility field.

A notice will be posted on TAC's home page once *Guidelines for Underground Utility Installations Crossing Highway Rights-of-Way* are published.



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