

2026 TACCONF

TRANSPORTATION FOR A STRONG CANADA

» CALL FOR
PRESENTERS
GUIDE

WINNIPEG | OCT 4-7

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INTRODUCTION

This guide provides information on how to participate in technical sessions at the **2026 TAC Conference & Exhibition** as a presenter or panelist.

Conference sessions are organized into six tracks related to road and highway infrastructure and urban transportation. Within each track, sessions are organized by the Transportation Association of Canada's (TAC) volunteer committees (see Figure 1):

- **Presentation sessions** include multiple 25-minute slots for individual presentations. Presenters must submit slide decks for review and acceptance; accompanying papers are optional or required, according to the wishes of the session organizers.
- **Lightning sessions** include multiple (six to eight) 8-minute individual presentations. Presenters must submit slide decks for review and acceptance; papers are not required.
- **Panel discussions** vary in format according to the wishes of the session organizers. They may involve presentations by individual panelists, facilitated dialogue among panelists, and/or open-floor question-and-answer periods. Panelists may or may not be asked to use slide decks, but do not submit papers.

Not all TAC conference technical sessions appear in this guide. Many of TAC's committees are organizing other panel discussions or workshops and will use different channels to invite speakers to participate in those sessions.

Figure 1: TAC Conference Technical Session Tracks and Organizing Committees

					
ENV	INF	MOB	SAF	TEC	WOR
ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE	INFRASTRUCTURE & ASSET MANAGEMENT	MOBILITY	SAFETY, DESIGN & OPERATIONS	TECHNOLOGY	WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
Climate Change Integrated Committee Environmental Legislation Committee	Asset Management Committee Construction Committee Maintenance & Operations Committee Pavements Committee Soils & Materials Committee Structures Committee	Active Transportation Integrated Committee Mobility Management Committee Transportation Finance Committee Transportation Planning Committee	Geometric Design Committee Road Safety Committee Small Municipalities Integrated Committee Traffic Operations & Management Committee	Digital Applications Committee Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee Next Generation Transportation Integrated Committee	Education Committee Human Resources and Professional Development Committee

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN PRESENTATION SESSIONS

The submission process for presentation and lightning sessions has three phases: **Phase 1 – Abstracts**, **Phase 2 – Draft papers and/or decks**, and **Phase 3 – Final papers and/or decks**. See Figure 2 for details.

Figure 2: The Submission Process for Presentation Sessions and Lightning Sessions	
Phase 1 – Abstracts	
By January 27:	Submit your abstract for review
Mid-March:	TAC will notify you whether your abstract has been accepted or rejected If your abstract is: ☐ Accepted, you will proceed to Phase 2. ☐ Rejected, you will not proceed to Phase 2.
Phase 2 – Draft papers and/or decks	
By April 28:	If your abstract was accepted, submit your draft paper and/or deck for review You must submit a draft deck for all sessions. You must submit a draft paper for a “papers required” session. You may submit a draft paper for a “papers optional” session.
Mid-June:	TAC will notify you whether your draft paper and/or deck has been accepted or rejected If your draft deck is: ☐ Accepted, you will proceed to Phase 3 and are invited to present at the conference. You must register for the conference by June 25, 2026. You should consider reviewer comments and make revisions before submitting a final deck by September 23. ☐ Rejected, you will not proceed to Phase 3. Any draft paper you submit will also be rejected. If your draft paper is: ☐ Accepted, you will proceed to Phase 3. Your paper will be published on TAC’s website; you should consider reviewer comments and make revisions before submitting a final paper by September 23. ☐ Accepted with conditions, you will proceed to Phase 3. You must submit a revised draft paper by July 14 that meets reviewer conditions; otherwise, it will not be published on TAC’s website. ☐ Rejected, it will not be published on TAC’s website. For a “papers required” session you will not proceed to Phase 3 and your draft deck will also be rejected. For a “papers optional” session you will proceed to Phase 3 as long as your draft deck was accepted.
Phase 3 – Final papers and/or decks	
By July 14:	If your draft paper was accepted with conditions, submit your revised draft paper for review If your revised draft paper is: ☐ Accepted for publication, it will be published on TAC’s website. You should consider reviewer comments and make further revisions before submitting a final paper by September 23. ☐ Rejected for publication, it will not be published on TAC’s website. You are still invited to present at the conference.
Mid-August:	TAC will notify you whether your revised draft paper has been accepted or rejected for publication
By September 23:	Submit your final paper for publication and/or your final deck for presentation. Final slide decks are pre-loaded to the conference laptops in session rooms and may not be replaced after this date.

Before submitting an abstract

- Review the submission process in Figure 2, and the presentation session and lightning session descriptions starting on page 5.
- Seek approval of your employer, partners and/or clients (as applicable) for your intention to submit an abstract.
- Login to [TAC's conference submission portal](#) with your previous login credentials or create an account if you are a first-time user.
- Abstracts should be 200 to 400 words long and describe background information, key issues, objectives, methodology and conclusions.
- Ensure that you are prepared to:
 - Attend the conference in person, participate in your scheduled session, and bear all related costs.
 - Have TAC record your presentation and make it available to others.
 - **Register at a member or non-member rate for the conference by June 25, 2026.** You will not appear in the online conference program until you register, and you may be removed from the program if you are not registered by this date. *Note: TAC acknowledges that an employer's travel permission may not be obtained in some cases, and a flexible refund/cancellation policy will apply in those circumstances. See the cancellation policy for more details when registration opens in April.*

Abstracts, decks and papers

- Must be submitted via TAC's online conference portal by the deadlines; late submissions will not be accepted.
- Must be substantially different from any presentations or papers delivered through other organizations.
- Must not favour special interests, be of a commercial nature, or promote proprietary products or services.
- **Must adhere to TAC's [Guidelines for Presenters and Authors: Preparing Slide Decks and Papers](#).**

Other important information

- TAC will send a confirmation email to submitters when abstracts, deck and papers are received. If you do not receive a confirmation, contact tp-pt@tac-atc.ca.
- Submitted abstracts, decks and papers are reviewed by volunteers from TAC's councils and committees for quality, format, relevance to the session theme, general interest and overall significance.
- The conference schedule of technical sessions will be announced by mid-June 2026.
- The deadline for TAC to receive final presenter/author information and presentation titles for inclusion in the conference program is September 4, 2026. Program changes cannot be guaranteed after this date.
- Any conference presentation may involve a maximum of two co-presenters.
- Accepted papers will be published on TAC's website and added to TAC's Library catalogue and Transportation Research International Database (TRID).

Students!

Your paper will be eligible for a Student Paper Prize, which recognizes the excellence of papers delivered by students at the TAC conference, if:

- The principal author is a full-time student registered at a recognized post-secondary institution.
- The submitter selects the Student Paper Prize option in TAC's online conference portal at the time of abstract submission.
- The paper is accepted without conditions (at Phase 2) for inclusion in a TAC conference presentation session, and for publication on TAC's website.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Some panel discussions being planned for the TAC conference are included in this guide, and organizers of those sessions invite potential panelists to identify themselves and their related experience. **Panelist applications must be submitted via TAC's online conference portal by January 27, 2026.** Applicants will be contacted by session organizers but may not be selected to participate.

Before submitting a panelist application:

- Review the panel discussion descriptions starting on page 5.
- Seek your employer's approval (if required) for your intention to submit a panelist application.
- Login to [TAC's conference submission portal](#) with your previous login credentials, or create a new account if you are a first-time user.
- Applications should be 200 to 400 words long and describe your interests, qualifications, and expertise relevant to the panel topic.
- Ensure that you are prepared to:
 - Attend the conference in person, participate in your scheduled session, and bear all related costs.
 - Have TAC record your participation and make it available to others.
 - **Register at a member or non-member rate for the conference by June 25, 2026.** You will not appear in the online conference program until you register, and you may be removed from the program if you are not registered by June 25. *Note: TAC acknowledges that an employer's travel permission may not be obtained in some cases, and a flexible refund/cancellation policy will apply in those circumstances. See the cancellation policy for more details when registration opens in April.*
- Be aware that panelists must not promote proprietary products or services.

Other important information:

- TAC will send a confirmation email to submitters when panelist applications are received. If you do not receive a confirmation, contact tp-pt@tac-atc.ca
- Panelist applications are reviewed by volunteers from TAC's councils and committees for relevance to the topic and fit with other panelists being considered.
- The conference schedule of technical sessions will be announced by mid-June 2026.
- The deadline for TAC to receive final presenter/author information and presentation titles for inclusion in the conference program is September 4, 2026. Program changes cannot be guaranteed after this date.
- The deadline to submit any slide deck you plan to use in your presentation is September 23, 2026.

QUESTIONS?

Contact tp-pt@tac-atc.ca

SESSION TOPICS

The following sessions are grouped under the principal organizing committee, although many are relevant to multiple tracks (as shown by the coloured icons).



ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

ORGANIZED BY THE CLIMATE CHANGE INTEGRATED COMMITTEE

Achieving Sustainable Decarbonization Goals in the Transportation Sector **Presentation Session (Papers Optional)**

ENV

Transportation is a major contributor to global greenhouse gas emissions, and achieving net zero emissions is crucial for a sustainable future. Making rapid and significant progress will require a commitment to different approaches, initiatives and priorities. This session will explore what organizations are doing to be on the path to net zero, with a focus on agency efforts to reduce operational, embodied carbon and community-wide emissions over ambitious timelines.

Adapting to Climate Change: The Role of Intelligent Transportation Systems in Highway Resilience

ORGANIZED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ITS COMMITTEE

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

ENV

TEC

This panel will discuss how intelligent transportation systems (ITS) can enhance the resilience and adaptability of highway networks. Experts will discuss innovative technologies that support proactive responses to climate-related disruptions. The session will highlight case studies, policy implications, new technology and collaborative strategies for integrating ITS into climate adaptation planning. Attendees will learn how data-driven strategies and smart infrastructure are shaping the future of highway systems.

Climate Vulnerability, Resilience and Emergency Preparedness: Getting Out in Front

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

ENV

Climate change is already challenging the ability of road and transit authorities to maintain their assets in a state of good repair, and many organizations are thinking proactively about preparing for future impacts and designing their assets to be more resilient. In this session, presenters will describe frameworks or tools that organizations are using to conduct quantitative, indicator-based assessments and ensure that transportation project deliverables are resilient to climate stressors. Presenters are also invited to share their experience with emergency preparedness planning, response and recovery in the context of a changing climate and dealing with severe weather events.

Reducing Embodied Carbon in Transportation Infrastructure Projects

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

ENV

Transportation infrastructure is a significant contributor to global greenhouse gas emissions, and achieving net zero emissions is crucial for a sustainable future. This panel discussion session will explore what agencies, organizations and industry are doing to move along the path to net zero, with a focus on how we can collectively reduce embodied carbon in transportation infrastructure projects that also contribute to nation-building through enhanced mobility, resilience and a strong Canadian economy.

Organized by the Environment & Climate Change Council

From Impact to Integrity: Emerging Topics in Environmental Assessment and Management

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)



This session will focus on opportunities and solutions to deliver environmental assessments more effectively and in a timely manner, including changes to federal legislation governing environmental impact assessment and management, experiences with the new *Building Canada Act*, transportation projects of national significance, and better integrating traditional knowledge throughout the environmental assessments. This session will provide innovative examples of environmental streamlining, practical use of technology (AI, drones, etc.), that will focus on building transportation infrastructure while maintaining environmental protections.

Organized by the Environmental Legislation Committee

Growing Roots and Routes: Lessons learned from Terrestrial and Wetland Mitigation and Offsetting Efforts

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)



Revegetation is a key strategy used to mitigate impacts of transportation infrastructure on terrestrial and wetland ecosystems through stabilizing disturbed lands, controlling erosion, and restoring habitat. There is an increasing need to provide compensation for transportation projects where mitigation alone is insufficient – such as through the enhancement, restoration or creation of new wetlands. This session will explore the best management practices for revegetation and related mitigation measures, including lessons learned from different ecosystems across Canada. The need for and approaches taken by different provinces to address compensation for wetland and other habitat types will also be explored.



INFRASTRUCTURE & ASSET MANAGEMENT

ORGANIZED BY THE ASSET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Beyond Pavement and Bridges: Addressing Gaps in Asset Management

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)



This session will explore strategies for the management of transportation assets such as gravel roads, geotechnical (earth) assets, small culverts, sidewalks, appurtenances, and other supporting assets which contribute to the safe and efficient operation of transportation networks. Presenters are invited to present and discuss the data collection, condition assessment, performance measures, targets, prioritization, and investment approaches for maintaining their supporting assets in a state of good repair.

Innovative Planning Strategies Across Asset Management

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)



This session will focus on practical ways to incorporate innovative planning practices into organizational planning processes to enhance collaboration, program effectiveness, and implementation outcomes. The innovative planning strategies are critical for the long-term reliability and efficiency of our infrastructure. It needs to align with organization-specific objectives, optimizing asset performance and maximizing value throughout the life cycle. Leverages emerging technology to deliver real-time insights into asset health and performance, predict failures, and support strategic investment decisions for a stronger Canada.

Innovative Technologies in Asset Management

Presentation Session (Papers Required)

INF
TEC

This session will highlight emerging technologies transforming infrastructure asset management. Submissions should explore practical applications of tools such as artificial intelligence, digital twins, remote sensing, automation, and advanced analytics that enhance performance, optimize investment decisions, and improve risk management. The focus is on real-world implementation, measurable outcomes, and transferable lessons. Submissions must demonstrate innovation, technical rigour, and relevance to transportation infrastructure rather than promotional content. Agencies, consultants, and researchers are encouraged to share evidence-based case studies and best practices that advance sustainable and data-driven asset management.

Strengthening Equity and Sustainability in Asset Management

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

INF

Asset management offers the opportunity to achieve greater social and environmental benefits through consideration of equity and sustainability in decisions related to how assets are built, maintained and upgraded over their service life. Presenters are invited to share their experiences in exploring and addressing disparities between communities in transportation infrastructure condition and services, as well as climate-readiness within a transportation context. A strong Canada can only be achieved by ensuring everyone has access to well-maintained assets that meet their transportation needs, while maintaining a strong transportation network that is resilient and adaptable in the face of climate risks.

Transit Asset Management and Electrification: Integrating Strategy, Technology, and Sustainability

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

INF
MOB
TEC

As transit agencies transition toward electrified fleets and modernized infrastructure, asset management practices must evolve to balance innovation, risk, and long-term value. This session will explore how organizations are integrating fleet electrification, charging systems, and facility upgrades into holistic asset management and capital planning frameworks. Panelists will discuss strategies for:

- Aligning electrification initiatives with organizational mandates, sustainability targets, and funding strategies;
- Incorporating lifecycle costing, risk management, and performance monitoring into decision-making;
- Leveraging data, technology, and cross-departmental governance to support program delivery and asset resilience; and
- Applying lessons learned from implementation across operations, maintenance, and capital delivery.

This discussion will emphasize program-level coordination, data-driven decision-making, and collaboration across stakeholders to build adaptable, sustainable, and fiscally responsible transit asset systems. Submissions from transit authorities, consultants, and technology providers are encouraged to share practical experiences, tools, and emerging best practices that advance resilient and future-ready transit asset management.

Unlocking the Power of Asset Management Data for a Strong Canada

ORGANIZED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GIS-T SUBCOMMITTEE

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

INF

The session will showcase practical approaches to build purpose-driven road, bridge, and transit asset inventories that serve operational, financial, and strategic needs. Panelists will examine appropriate levels of condition-data detail and highlighting trade-offs between cost, accuracy, and usability. Case studies will illustrate GIS integration, data governance, and workflows that convert inventory and condition information into actionable decisions to improve safety, resilience, service delivery, and long-term investment planning across Canadian transportation networks.

ORGANIZED BY THE CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

Engineering Services Procurement Practices for Mid-Level Capital Projects

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

INF
MOB

A lot of attention is (rightfully) paid to procurement methods and best practices for project delivery for major infrastructure projects. This panel discussion will discuss the practices across jurisdictions for procurement of engineering services for "mid-level" capital renewal projects. These "bread and butter" type road and bridge renewal projects generally require a consistent scope of services from Engineering Services Procurement (ESP), that can cost an agency much time and resources to procure. What are the options?

Opportunities for Cross-Jurisdictional Partnerships

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

INF

Topics may include example of known projects and or situations of partnership, lessons learned, information sharing, processes and policies. Other topics can include knowledge of funding and industry standards, innovative practices and methods of maximizing Canadian procurement and supply.

Successes and Lessons Learned from Alternative Delivery Models for Design and/or Construction

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

INF
MOB

An opportunity to hear from various jurisdictions on their experiences in development and/or implementation of alternative delivery models for construction and/or design. This may include Progressive Design Build, Construction Manager General Contractor (CMGC), or other Major Project delivery models in development or implemented.

ORGANIZED BY THE MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Public Engagement and Service Improvement

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

INF

This session will explore methods to strengthen public trust and satisfaction through clear messaging and innovative engagement, while balancing customer requests, public expectations, operational realities, and budget constraints.

Resilient Winter Maintenance Practices

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

INF

This session will discuss innovative strategies for managing extreme weather events, enhancing winter maintenance and best practices for snow removal and resource optimization.

Technology-Driven Improvements in Transportation Operations

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

INF
TEC

This session will discuss ways to leverage technology and data to optimize operations and reduce costs.

ORGANIZED BY THE PAVEMENTS COMMITTEE

A Changing Climate: Pavement Resilience in the Era of a Changing Global Landscape

Presentation Session (Papers Required)

INF

ENV

Presentations in this session may address topics such as:

- Quality management when designing pavements in remote areas
- New innovations in green pavement design and construction
- Management/maintenance of a pavement network in a changing global economy
- Climate change impacts on pavement design and roadway sustainability

The Road Ahead: Analyzing Futuristic Vehicle Technologies and Changing Traffic Impact on Pavement Life

Presentation Session (Papers Required)

INF

TEC

Presentations in this session may address topics such as:

- Impact of vehicle electrification on an existing pavement network
- Pavement design requirements to support connected and autonomous vehicles of the future
- Pavement design requirements to support changing traffic patterns (e.g. truck platooning) in an uncertain economy
- Case studies presenting pavement design projects involving balancing environmental stewardship in design versus pavement performance when considering future vehicle technology

ORGANIZED BY THE SOILS & MATERIALS COMMITTEE

Innovation in Roadway/Embankment Materials and Geotechnical Engineering

Presentation Session (Papers Required)

INF

Presentations in this session may address topics that focus on green technology in roadway/embankment materials and geotechnical engineering. Submissions could include:

- Advancements in the design and construction of road and bridge embankments
- Incorporating climate change considerations for geotechnical and pavement materials engineering
- Application of trenchless technology in constructing new infrastructure under existing roadways
- Remote sensing and drone use for geotechnical engineering

Innovations in Materials and Construction Methods for Pavement Sustainability

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

INF

This panel will showcase advancements in sustainable materials for pavement construction. Industry experts and researchers will present novel solutions, eco-friendly alternatives, recycled materials, and smart technologies that enhance durability while reducing environmental impact. The session will explore how these innovations contribute to lower carbon footprints, promote circular economy practices, and improve road infrastructure resilience. Attendees will gain insights into real-world applications, performance outcomes, and future opportunities for integrating sustainability into pavement construction.

ORGANIZED BY THE STRUCTURES COMMITTEE

Transportation Structures

Presentation Session (Papers Required)

INF

This session is seeking submissions on project case studies related to the conference theme "Transportation for a Strong Canada"

ORGANIZED BY THE UTILITIES MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

Use of Existing Standards in Utility Coordination

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

INF

This session will look at the use of different standards across Canada in the implementation of utility coordination and utility risk mitigation. Seeking submissions that include projects that have used recognized standards on projects to see what positive lessons learned have been enacted over the years from the release of the DBB and the P3 Guidelines to utility coordination and relocation. This may be a project that refers to the existing standards or uses other standards referred in the DBB or P3 guideline like ASCE 38 or CSA 250.



MOBILITY

ORGANIZED BY THE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION INTEGRATED COMMITTEE

The Active Transportation Integrated Committee seeks to host diverse and inclusive conference sessions. Women and those who identify as a visible minority, non-cis-gendered person, Indigenous person, or member of any other underrepresented group are invited to self-identify when submitting an abstract.

A Multi-Generational Approach to Project Planning and Delivery

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

Transportation projects are at their best when they are developed with the input of people with a wide variety of skills and lived experiences. This session will focus on how transportation projects can be improved by incorporating the knowledge of people of different generations, focusing on how younger staff have improved a project and how the presence of more experienced staff supports pragmatic innovation. The goal is to have presentations be delivered by both a senior staff and an early career professional to identify how their differing levels of expertise and expectations created a better outcome for a project.

Active Transportation in Rural Areas, Small Municipalities, and Indigenous Communities

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

SAF

Active transportation (AT) in small municipalities, rural areas, and Indigenous communities can present challenges and opportunities distinct from larger urban centres. While smaller communities (population below ~100,000) often have fewer staff resources, limited funding, and infrastructure originally designed for lower density/vehicle-oriented travel, their strong local connections create unique opportunities to integrate AT into daily life. This session will explore how practitioners are advancing AT in non-urban contexts through adaptable design, partnerships, and community-driven approaches. Presentations may include best practices for community AT master planning, planning/designing/funding AT infrastructure in Indigenous communities, and success stories for AT in the vicinity of rural roads/highways.

Addressing Universal Accessibility at Unsignalized Roadway and Bikeway Crossings

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)



This session is about the challenges and solutions for making unsignalized crossings on roadways and bikeways more universally accessible. This includes but is not limited to the challenges faced by visually impaired users in determining when it is safe to cross in the absence of auditory signal and other auditory cues that are usually present at a signalized intersection. The challenges faced by younger children, older adults, people with limited mobility or wheelchair users at unsignalized crossing can also be considered.

Creating Strong Communities through Active Mobility and Placemaking Projects

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.



This panel explores how active transportation and placemaking can serve as powerful economic drivers, shaping healthier, more connected communities across Canada. Framed within the conference theme “Transportation for a Strong Canada”, the discussion would aim at contrasting bottom-up, community-led approaches to creating vibrant, people-centered places with top-down, large-scale infrastructure planning. Panelists could include a mix of economists, transport planners, and local advocacy leaders to debate how local perspectives on walkability, cycling, and public space design can complement or even outperform centralized strategies in achieving sustainable mobility, economic vitality, and social resilience. The session invites dialogue on aligning grassroots innovation with national transportation goals.

Designing and Building Low-Speed Corridors

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)



Designing low speed corridors with a target speed of 30-40 km/h or lower poses unique challenges for practitioners, particularly in retrofit scenarios. This session will showcase innovative approaches to achieving low speeds on new or retrofit local, collector or arterial projects to realize widespread safety benefits such as creating a complete street in a constrained setting, promoting green infrastructure development and much more. Showcase your transformational low-speed corridor project! Before and after data is an asset.

Emerging Ideas from Emerging Leaders

Lightning Session (No Papers)



This session provides an opportunity for those in the early stages of their careers to share their ideas, project work or passion projects with others. This session is meant to provide a stage for young professionals to talk about ideas, innovations, concepts or projects that they see as important for advancing the transportation profession. Accepted submissions will be supported through presentation coaching from experienced presenters, helping young professionals to hone their communication skills.

Pedestrian-Centered Design

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)



Cycling is often the focus of active transportation work, but almost every trip, cycling or not, begins and ends with pedestrian travel. This session is looking for presentations to address pedestrian-specific planning/design considerations. This might include understanding how the unique needs and operational characteristics of pedestrian's users impact facility planning/design, how pedestrian volumes shapes design, and design/operational considerations for pedestrian-only spaces such as plazas or car-free streets in both ultimate and pilot configurations. Presentations may also look at our understanding of the broad range of users and needs represented by the term ‘pedestrian’ and how designs can create accessible and quality experiences for a diverse user group.

Stories from the Juncture: Intersections and Crossings

Lightning Session (No Papers)

MOB

Intersections and crossing points present unique challenges for practitioners. Many jurisdictions are implementing their first protected intersections, installing modal filters, and adjusting approaches to determining the type of crossing. Challenges can include constrained space, capacity constraints, closely spaced signals, complex desire lines and more. This session invites practitioners to bring their exciting and innovative stories on solving a crossing problem. Each presenter will have eight minutes to showcase a specific location, describe the challenge, the ultimate result, the decision-making process, and a lesson learned.

A Debate on Mixing Zones, Sidewalks, Pathways and More

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

MOB

SAF

A growing body of tools has been developed for separating facilities for pedestrians and people cycling. This conversation is heavily influenced by speeds, spatial need, operations, and, most prominently, accessibility. The latest toolbox includes such approaches as separating cyclists and pedestrians at intersections, using detectable and traversable separation between cycling and pedestrian facilities mid-block, and exploring different tools for providing positive guidance for users and clarifying expected behavior. At the same time, separating users can be challenging in space-constrained locations or where desire lines are complex. Mixing zones and combined-use facilities remain in the toolbox for most practitioners. The key question is: When should we use which approach? Are all facilities always needed? How do we effectively weigh the inevitable trade-offs? Seeking friendly debaters for this exciting topic.

ORGANIZED BY THE MOBILITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Digitizing the Mobility Space—A Data First Approach to Transportation

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

TEC

Presentations should explore how a data-first approach is revolutionizing the mobility sector. By harnessing digital technologies such as IoT sensors, real-time analytics, and cloud platforms, transportation systems are becoming smarter, more efficient, and user-centric. We will discuss the transformation of traditional mobility into connected ecosystems, the role of data in enabling predictive maintenance, optimizing traffic flow, and enhancing passenger experiences. The session will highlight real-world examples and best practices for integrating data-driven decision-making into public and private transportation projects, paving the way for sustainable, resilient, and future-ready mobility networks.

Indigenous Communities and Transportation

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

History has shown a noticeable lack of representation and discussion on Indigenous issues in transportation. This session aims to open the conversation, recognizing the importance of engaging Indigenous voices and perspectives in mobility planning, policy, and project delivery. This topic invites attendees to share experiences, identify challenges, and explore solutions for more inclusive, equitable, and culturally informed transportation systems. We welcome interest and input, seeking to gauge how best to support Indigenous communities and reflect their needs in our work.

Mobility Shout Outs, Gripes, and Hot Takes

Lightning Session (No Papers)

MOB

In this dynamic session, we invite mobility professionals to share their unfiltered “shout outs, gripes, and hot takes” in the fast-paced PechaKucha (PK) format. Inspired by the popular PK Slam at the MPACT conference, this is your chance to express your deepest passions, frustrations, and creative ideas about transportation. Whether it’s “My Lessons Learned from Biking in a Canadian Winter” or “My Favourite Transit Maps,” all perspectives are welcome. PechaKucha presentations are concise, visual, and energetic. Join us for an engaging, community-driven exchange!

Rapid Transit Systems as a Catalyst for Last-mile Mode Integration

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

Significant investment has been made (and is continuing to be made) into rapid transit systems through the country, such as the Winnipeg BRT, York VIVA network, and REM in Montreal. Facilitating convenient last-mile mode connections (e.g. bicycles, shared mobility services, etc.), such as through a mobility hub, can enhance the user experience and ensure we get the most out of these investments. This session will focus on best practices and real-world examples of how last-mile modes have been or can be integrated into rapid transit systems (BRT, LRT).

Seamless Mobility through User-Pay Systems

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

This session invites submissions on integrated fare payment systems that enable passengers to travel seamlessly across multiple transit agencies and modes, including intercity and air connections. Topics may explore how unified, user-pay platforms enhance mobility, accessibility, and passenger experience, while supporting resilient and connected transportation networks.

Solutions for Providing Access to Transportation in Rural and Smaller Communities

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

TEC

Providing access to transportation services, such as conventional transit, is challenging in rural and small communities due to factors such as lower population densities. Better access to mobility in these areas can improve equity as, for example, a large proportion of Canada's Indigenous population lives in rural areas. New transportation technologies or services, such as shared mobility services, create opportunities to improve transit and mobility access. This session will focus on practical examples of solutions to improve transportation access in rural and smaller communities, especially solutions that include new technologies or novel applications, such as shared mobility services or on-demand transit. Indigenous perspectives welcome.

State of the Industry for Electric Vehicles

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

MOB

The adoption of electric vehicles (EV) has faced a series of challenges including changes to funding programs, charging infrastructure location and availability, policy mandates and public concerns, amongst others. Adoption figures across the country continue to fluctuate and the vehicle manufacturing industry continues to give mixed messaging regarding direction and level of commitment. This panel will feature experts in the field of EV infrastructure and adoption and discuss the challenges facing the sector in the short- and long-term adoption of electric vehicle technology.

Transportation Demand Management—Case Studies and Best Practices through an Interactive Jeopardy Game

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

MOB

This session will highlight coast-to-coast case studies and best practices in the ongoing evolution of Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies, with a focus on their interactions with transit services and their integration with micromobility options. The TDM case studies and best practices will be presented as categories in the Jeopardy-style game, providing an engaging, interactive format for the audience.

ORGANIZED BY THE TRANSPORTATION FINANCE COMMITTEE

Alternative Finance and Delivery Models for Major Transportation Projects— Lessons Learned

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

MOB

Delivery of major transportation capital projects is inherently challenging. High construction cost escalation, scarcity of labour, and a shifting tolerance in the market for risk has left governments and public agencies searching for new strategies to deliver effective projects. Knowledge sharing and learning will be essential to helping to ensure that the ambitious pipeline of major transportation projects can be delivered in the face of the present challenges. This panel will assemble speakers from different jurisdictions to share their experiences delivering major transportation projects. The discussion will focus on procurement model selection (including project financing strategies), risk management, and project governance.

Spread too Thin—Doing More with Less in Capital Projects

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

MOB

Is funding too constrained to support all the big, high-profile capital projects in your program? Are you struggling to prioritize and equitably distribute capital investments across your city or region to achieve multiple objectives? What partnerships can be leveraged for implementation or to address funding constraints? Seeking submissions that share lessons learned and practical experiences on:

- Capital program prioritization
- Managing project scope while achieving multiple objectives and synergies

ORGANIZED BY THE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING COMMITTEE

Complete Networks: Fitting into the Bigger Picture

ORGANIZED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION INTEGRATED COMMITTEE

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

SAF

This session will highlight plans, policies, programs and projects that support the transformation of “complete streets” into “complete networks” – moving beyond one corridor towards a seamlessly connected and integrated system. Presenters may address topics including:

- Visionary policies to enable the shift “at scale” to transit, shared mobility, active transportation, and electric vehicles.
- Integrated transportation plans that identify critical gaps for vulnerable road users and transit networks and propose actions and metrics to build a resilient network.
- Examples of coordinated project and program management to plan networks that are aligned from the scale of a neighbourhood to that of an entire city or region.

Deciding Our Preferred Mobility Futures and Making Them So

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

MOB

This session will highlight the paradigm shift we could make in transportation planning from the predict-and-provide approach to a more determined decide-and-provide approach. Rather than relying on the traditional transport modelling approach, heavily influenced by past car-centric behaviours, to determine our future infrastructure needs, presenters will share a vision-led approach to mobility planning, centred on future mode-share goals and the proactive integration of land use. Presenters will also share how choosing a preferred accessible future of mobility better accommodates uncertainty than the predict-and-provide approach by offering more mobility choices for people.

Decision Making, Evaluation and Monitoring

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

This session will explore approaches to decision making, evaluation and monitoring in transportation planning. Presentations may address best practices of decision-making processes, case studies, monitoring protocols, data collection, modelling and plan/program and project assessments. Topics may include (but are not limited to):

- Innovative, successful transportation projects
- Measuring success and evaluation methods in transportation planning
- Best practices in transportation business cases
- Decision making during extreme events (e.g. wildfires)
- Measuring and monitoring of greenhouse gas emissions and energy
- Impacts of major transportation projects
- Uncertainty and resiliency in decision making

Doing more with the space we have

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

Urban streets have many competing demands for limited space. This presentation session will discuss ways to optimize road space and prioritize the many competing demands on the roadway. This could include projects on curbside management, transit priority, or complete streets. We want to ask the question: how do you weigh trade-offs when the outcomes are fundamentally different?

Health and Equity in Transportation

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

Transportation planning and health practitioners are increasingly called on to advance equity in Canada. This session will explore case studies and policy-driven strategies that embed equity into transportation systems and decision-making. Topics may include (but are not limited to):

- The relationship between equity, health, and pressing transportation issues such as affordability, aging in place, climate resilience, housing policy, mental health, and social connection
- Equity and safety concerns for vulnerable road users in rural, northern, and urban contexts
- Strategies to integrate equity into project scoping, prioritization, and implementation processes
- Perspectives of equity-deserving groups and diverse mobility needs based on age, ability, culture, gender, income, language, and race
- Embedding equity into procurement, financing frameworks, and policy development to ensure fair distribution of benefits and burdens
- Innovative approaches to prioritize equity in transit expansion, active transportation networks, and multimodal connectivity for underserved communities

Innovations in Transportation Modelling

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

This session will explore innovative approaches in macroscopic, mesoscopic and microscopic transportation modelling of human or freight movements. Presentations may address topics including:

- Calibration and validation methodologies to improve model accuracy and reliability
- Techniques and tools for effective analysis and visualization of modeling outcomes
- Modeling the impact of disruptors such as shared mobility services or automated vehicles
- Approaches for quantifying and predicting transportation emissions and other environmental impacts
- Applications, challenges and innovations in leveraging data for transport models
- The use of AI to enhance model accuracy, efficiency and adaptability

Integrated Transit and Multimodal Corridor Planning: Advancing Transit Implementation in Canadian Cities

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

SAF

Canadian municipalities are striving to deliver sustainable, inclusive, and efficient transportation networks that prioritize transit while balancing active transportation, goods movement, and general traffic. This session will explore integrated planning and design approaches for public transit and multimodal corridors, highlighting implementation strategies and lessons learned. Attendees will gain practical insights into holistic corridor planning and collaborative design solutions that prioritize transit and improve safety for all users, while navigating urban constraints, funding, and public engagement. Topics may include (but are not limited to):

- Strategic corridor planning and prioritization for BRT and multimodal networks, including data-driven approaches and equity considerations
- Design integration with existing roadways and active transportation infrastructure to create complete, connected networks
- Designing active transportation infrastructure and safe access around transit stops and mobility hubs
- Coordinating across jurisdictions to align land use, mobility, climate resilience, and transit-oriented development goals
- Construction phasing, innovative delivery models, and funding strategies for complex urban corridors
- Leveraging technology and analytics (e.g., digital twins, AI-based modeling) to optimize corridor design and performance
- Lessons learned from Canadian and international BRT and multimodal corridor projects, including public engagement and risk management

Integration Excellence in Transit

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

MOB

Delivering and operating transit requires close collaboration between transit agencies, road authorities and operators. This panel discussion between transit delivery entities (e.g. Metrolinx, TransLink, BC Transportation Investment Corp, etc.), road authorities (e.g. municipalities, Ministries of Transportation), and transit operators will discuss the challenges and governance problems involved in delivering and operating integrated transit infrastructure.

Learning from Failure

Lightning Session (No Papers)

MOB

Project cancellation, public blowback, distressed projects. At some point, all transportation professionals deal with challenging projects. We don't usually trumpet our hardest times at conferences, but they are important experiences for learning and professional growth. In this lightning session, we will talk about some of our hardest professional experiences, what went wrong, and how we survived.

Strategic Transportation and Land Use Planning

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

As many municipalities revisit their transportation/infrastructure master plans over the coming years to accommodate planned growth, there is an opportunity to share lessons learned and a variety of approaches. There is also an opportunity to highlight good examples of integrated processes where the relationship between transportation and land use planning have an opportunity to positively (or negatively) impact one another. This topic will be showcasing Transportation/Infrastructure Master Plans, Secondary/Neighbourhood Plans, or Transit Oriented Developments.

The Great Canadian Transportation Debate: Listening and Understanding Opposing Views

Panel Discussion – *To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.*

MOB

In a world of increasing polarization, transportation professionals can still hear opposing views to challenge our thinking and create understanding. The transportation debates will provide a forum for hearing opposing views in a fun and interactive setting.

Resolutions:

1. Image-capturing enforcement systems, such as red-light cameras and photo radar, should be used for traffic violations to improve compliance and enhance road safety.
2. Urban municipalities should not create bike lanes on arterial roadways if vehicle traffic is not expected to operate at acceptable levels after the alterations.
3. Since it is often more economical and easier to implement, Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) should be considered over Light Rail Transit (LRT).
4. Urban planners play a critical role in transportation engineering and should be actively involved in all stages of major infrastructure projects.
5. Urban municipalities should avoid roundabout designs in areas with high pedestrian and cyclist activity, as these intersections compromise comfort and perceived safety for non-motorized users.
6. Transportation planning should move away from reliance on traditional four-step, vehicle-demand forecasting models, focusing instead on prioritizing non-automobile modes to achieve sustainable mobility goals.

Panelist applications should indicate their preferred resolution, their position (affirmative or opposing), and provide a brief position summary. Alternative resolutions can be submitted but two opposing panelists must submit together.



SAFETY, DESIGN & OPERATIONS

ORGANIZED BY THE GEOMETRIC DESIGN COMMITTEE

All Highways Great and Small: Interchanges, Major Facilities, and Two-Lane Highways

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

No job is too big and no project too small for this session. Have you worked on a sustainable major project? Or something of a more modest scale that delivered a real improvement for the people nearby? Come tell us about the details and the challenges of your design, we're looking for a diverse cross section of projects.

Confined Corridors and Intersections

ORGANIZED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION INTEGRATED COMMITTEE

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

MOB

This session will spotlight transportation projects with a focus on confined corridors or intersections, where spatial constraints required difficult decisions to balance multiple transportation needs. Presentations will explore the decision-making process used to allocate space for various facilities, such as bike lanes, sidewalks, and vehicle lanes, highlighting any formal methodologies or criteria developed. Presenters can discuss the role of traffic analysis in guiding design choices, examining whether data supported or challenged proposed changes. Attendees will gain insights into how traffic impact assessments, community input, and design constraints were managed to create safe, accessible, and efficient transportation infrastructure in tight spaces.

Unconventional Intersections and Roundabouts

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

The predictable, intuitive design of intersections and roundabouts helps users navigate the built environment, but sometimes a conventional design just won't meet the needs of the traveling public. Have you worked on a project that strayed from the norm and transformed an ordinary intersection into something unique? Come tell us about your journey designing an unconventional intersection or roundabout.

Urban Design Challenges—Accessibility, Vision Zero and Complete Streets

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

The urban environment presents many challenges and constraints for practitioners trying to transform our car-centric roadways into sustainable complete streets that align with our goals of accessibility and vision zero. Come tell us about the nuances of the design of a project you worked on.

ORGANIZED BY THE ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE

Challenges in Sustainable Implementation of Vision Zero Initiatives

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

SAF

Across Canada, many municipalities have adopted Vision Zero strategies, but putting these plans into action remains a challenge. This panel will explore the key barriers local governments face in moving from commitment to implementation, including limited funding and staff capacity, the need for political and public support, knowledge gaps, and inadequate collaboration across departments and partner organizations. Recent policy changes, such as the pause on Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) programs in provinces like Ontario, have further strained municipal budgets. With one of the few dedicated funding sources for safety initiatives now uncertain, municipalities are under increasing pressure to find sustainable ways to advance their Vision Zero goals. This panel will discuss how federal and provincial governments can help bridge these gaps through consistent funding, training, and technical support. Topics may address lessons learned from multiple levels of government and municipalities at different stages of their Vision Zero journey, exploring emerging needs, and ideas to strengthen road safety implementation for a safer, stronger Canada.

Prioritizing Road Safety in Smaller Communities while Supporting Nation Building Projects

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

SAF

As road infrastructure expands to enable nation building projects, ensuring that the transportation mobility and safety needs of the communities these roads pass through are addressed in a meaningful way will be critical. Increased truck traffic, higher traffic volumes in general, and the wider roads to support them can make roads less safe for all users so there must be an emphasis on ensuring these corridors allow smaller communities to thrive. This topic will be explored by looking at the unique needs of smaller communities, how safe transportation can help them flourish, and how unsafe transportation holds them back.

Safe Land Use Planning

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

This session will focus on the role that land use planning plays in safe systems. In the Safe System Approach, land use planning should enable reduced travel by private cars, create safe conditions for vulnerable users, and adequately separate high-speed roads from mixed land uses. Additionally, since public transit is associated with substantially lower injury rates than other modes of travel, planning to support effective transit service is critical. Submissions on the how the application of land use policy has been integrated into broader community planning to influence travel patterns and the attractiveness of different modes would be relevant to this topic as would studies of how land use planning has influenced past safety performance.

Safe Road Design

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

This session will focus on the role that road design plays in Safe Systems. In the Safe System Approach, roads are designed, operated, and maintained to reduce the risk of collisions occurring and the severity of an injury in case of a collision. Relevant presentations might include how road infrastructure can promote safety by 1) Separating different modes – Risks arise when road users with different speed characteristics and design envelopes share the same space. A Safe System Approach separates user types and includes safer routes for more vulnerable users. 2) Separating traffic streams – Traffic moving in different directions or at different speeds is separated (e.g. using barriers to divide higher-speed two-way roads). 3) Designing for safe speed limits – The road environment is designed to minimize injury severity and protect the most vulnerable road users. 4) Designing self-explaining roads – Roads are designed so drivers understand what is expected of them and can respond appropriately. Road designs are easy to understand and consistently applied, reducing road user stress and potential error.

Safe Road Users

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

This session will focus on the role that road users play in Safe Systems. The Safe System Approach addresses human behaviours that result in collisions and focuses on strategies to combat contributing human factors such as distracted and aggressive driving. It emphasizes a philosophy of shared and proportionate responsibility and considers the needs and vulnerabilities of each road user group, including emerging micromobility modes. Relevant topics would include designing and building safe roads to minimize human error, and strategies for encouraging road users to comply with the rules of the road.

Safe Speeds

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

This session will focus on the role that speeds play in road user safety. In the Safe System Approach, speed management is critical for aiding collision avoidance and respecting the human body's limit for physical trauma. Submissions may focus on any of the various ways that vehicle speeds influence road user safety. Relevant topics might include: 1) Establishing appropriate speed limits – Speed limits should reflect road features and functions, and the known physical tolerances of road users. 2) Engineering roads for the appropriate speed limit – The transportation system should be planned and designed for survivable speeds that are appropriate for the context and anticipated road users. 3) Enforcing speed limits – Partnerships with police can develop and evaluate speed enforcement, and automated speed detection devices can help monitor vehicle speeds. 4) Educating road users – Road users need to understand the impact of travelling at unsafe speeds. Educating drivers can result in increased speed limit compliance.

Safe Vehicles

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

This session will focus on the role that vehicles play in Safe Systems. The Safe System Approach advocates that vehicles should be regulated, designed, and built to minimize the occurrence and consequences of crashes, with an emphasis on crash survivability. Vehicles of different sizes, speed capabilities, and operating characteristics have implications for crash outcomes. Technology and roadworthiness are the two main elements of vehicle safety, and vehicles, as well as roads, will increasingly be managed through intelligent transportation systems, including automated driver assistance systems and smart, connected infrastructure. Submissions related to the impacts of vehicle technology, fleet characteristic, design standards, and regulations on safety outcomes are examples of relevant content.

The Role of Post-Crash Care in Road Safety

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

This session will focus on the role that post-crash care plays in Safe Systems. While most injury control strategies focus on primary prevention (e.g. preventing the occurrence of injuries or minimizing their severity), the Safe System Approach recognizes that collisions will occur, and secondary prevention (e.g. providing adequate emergency medical response to enhance treatment) can minimize the harm that follows an injury (e.g., disability or premature death). Prompt delivery of emergency medical care and rapid movement of injured casualties to a hospital can save lives, while effective trauma care and rehabilitation can reduce the incidence of short-term disability and dramatically improve long-term outcomes. Submissions on planning for, or delivery of, post-crash care and the influence on casualty rates and costs are relevant to this topic.

ORGANIZED BY THE SMALL MUNICIPALITIES INTEGRATED COMMITTEE

Road Safety and Speed Management Strategies for Strong Neighbourhoods

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

Small municipalities are faced with the challenge of limited staff resources and budgets making it difficult to research new traffic calming and speed management strategies and determine what are the most effective tools that can work to address issues in their residential neighbourhoods. Presentations will focus on sharing examples of road safety, traffic calming and speed management projects that have been completed in small municipalities across Canada, along with the types of tools and measures that have been used. Presentations will highlight how well different types of measures worked, results achieved, implementation costs, public feedback received and any lessons learned that other municipalities can use in developing their own plans.

ORGANIZED BY THE TRAFFIC OPERATIONS & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

#Innovative Traffic Control

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

This session will focus on innovation in traffic operations and management across the country. The intent is to highlight practical examples that demonstrate new ways to solve traffic engineering challenges across the country. Topics could include non-typical intersection configurations or methods of handling multimodal traffic.

Next Generation Multi-Modal Intersections

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

MOB

TEC

Next-generation mobility provides more options of sustainable and convenient ways of moving around. This session will focus on transportation technologies and adaptations to provide multi-modal accommodation through intersections. The session includes examples of recent projects where modifications to typical configurations were required to enhance accessibility and reduce conflict between different user types.



TECHNOLOGY

ORGANIZED BY THE DIGITAL APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Artificial Intelligence to Enhance Digital Applications

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

TEC

Artificial Intelligence is rapidly reshaping digital applications in transportation, enabling smarter design, predictive analytics, and enhanced decision-making. Presenters will share how AI is being integrated into tools such as BIM, digital twins, or transportation analytics and visualization tools, highlighting the challenges faced, solutions developed, and measurable benefits achieved.

BIM Projects and Use Cases

Lightning Session (No Papers)

TEC

Building Information Modeling (BIM) is transforming how transportation and infrastructure projects are designed, delivered, and managed. This session will feature a series of concise presentations showcasing real-world BIM applications across diverse projects. Presenters will highlight how BIM has been used to improve collaboration, streamline workflows, enhance asset management, and deliver measurable value throughout the project lifecycle.

Digital Twinning for Transportation Assets

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

TEC

Digital twins are rapidly emerging as powerful tools for managing transportation assets, enabling real-time monitoring, predictive maintenance, and data-driven decision-making. Presenters will share insights on how digital twins are being applied to improve planning, operations, safety, and asset management. Topics can include lessons learned from pilot programs, strategies for integrating data sources, and approaches to addressing governance, security, and interoperability challenges. Attendees will gain a clear understanding of the tangible benefits and future potential of digital twinning in transportation infrastructure.

From Vision to Reality: Operationalizing AI and Data in Transportation

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

TEC

Transportation agencies are moving beyond strategy to implementation—transforming AI and advanced data into practical solutions that deliver improvements in operations and decision-making. This panel will feature practitioners who have successfully deployed AI-driven tools and integrated new data sources to address real-world challenges. They will share how they identified opportunities for innovation, navigated the complexities of moving from concept to operational deployment, and overcame obstacles along the way.

Transportation Data and Analytics

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

TEC

INF

Data is at the core of modern transportation systems, powering decisions that improve safety, efficiency, and asset performance. This session will highlight how innovative approaches to data governance and analytics are transforming the transportation sector. Submissions will explore emerging data governance strategies and cutting-edge applications of transportation data, from advanced visualization and predictive modeling to integrated asset management strategies.

Transportation Models as Legal Documents: Understanding Their Role and Impact

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

TEC

MOB

Transportation models are often seen as technical tools, but in many contexts, they function as binding references that shape decisions, agreements, and accountability. When a model carries legal weight, its assumptions, data, and outputs become part of formal processes such as contracts and funding agreements—impacting project delivery and stakeholder obligations. This panel will explore what it means for a model to serve as a legal document, how this role influences project risk, transparency, and collaboration as well as practical strategies for ensuring models are clear, defensible, and aligned with commitments.

ORGANIZED BY THE INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS COMMITTEE

Innovations in Intelligent Transportation Systems

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

TEC

MOB

INF

SAF

The rapid evolution of intelligent transportation systems (ITS) is reshaping the way we think about mobility, safety, and environmental resilience. With groundbreaking advances in technology, the ITS industry is enabling innovative solutions that address not only traditional challenges like congestion management but also emerging concerns in areas such as wildlife safety, environmental hazard detection (floods, wildfires, avalanches), and enhanced decision support through AI. New applications, including drone-based inspections and digital twin technologies, are revolutionizing how transportation systems are monitored, managed, and optimized. This session will delve into the transformative innovations in ITS that go beyond conventional objectives to explore proactive approaches to mobility, safety, and environmental sustainability.

Intelligent Transportation Systems and Climate Change

ORGANIZED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CLIMATE CHANGE INTEGRATED COMMITTEE

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

TEC

ENV

Climate change will have diverse implications for mobility, and technology can play a significant role in addressing these implications. Several examples illustrate how technology can be leveraged in this context:

- Real-time data collection systems, such as sensors and cameras to monitor and gather data, weather conditions, water levels, and traffic flow to anticipate and respond to flood events promptly.
- Deployment of traffic management systems enables rapid mitigation of flooding impacts, including remote gates and warning signs activation to close roads. This system can remotely detour vehicles, preventing access to flooded zones and reducing damage claims against municipalities or provinces while enhancing safety.
- Advanced traveler information systems, such as mobile apps and roadside technologies, enhance road authorities' ability to manage extreme weather conditions. These systems provide updated guidance to citizens for safe and efficient evacuation during events like wildfires, hurricanes, and snowstorms.

Intelligent Transportation Systems and Event Management

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

TEC

MOB

Major events such as the FIFA World Cup, large-scale music festivals, and sold-out concerts like Taylor Swift's Eras Tour create extraordinary demands on transportation networks. These occasions require innovative and adaptive solutions for planning, logistics, and real-time operations. This session explores how intelligent transportation systems (ITS) can transform event management by optimizing traffic flow, enhancing real-time communication, and ensuring seamless coordination across multiple transportation modes. From integrating transit systems and implementing dynamic congestion management to supporting rapid emergency response, ITS technologies play a crucial role in maintaining safe, efficient, and responsive mobility during high-demand periods. The panel will feature 3 to 4 experts with direct experience in transportation logistics for major international and local events, sharing best practices, lessons learned, and forward-looking strategies for using ITS to keep the crowds — and cities — moving smoothly.

ORGANIZED BY THE NEXT GENERATION TRANSPORTATION INTEGRATED COMMITTEE

Automated Vehicles are Here: What Do We Do?

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

TEC

As the footprint of automated vehicles (AVs) continues to expand in North America in various forms, infrastructure owners and operators (IOOs) in Canada are considering what actions to take. The goal of this panel is to discuss the latest market trends in AV technology, what does "AV readiness" mean, what has been done to prepare Canada for AVs, IOO experiences to date, and how IOOs can effectively leverage AV technology to meet their mobility goals.

Lessons Learned from Next Generation Transportation Projects

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

TEC

The objective of this session is for presenters to discuss case studies, goals, challenges, and lessons learned for projects involving next generation transportation in Canada. While other topics are welcome, key topics include connected and automated vehicles, micro-utility devices, and drone technology. In keeping with the conference theme "Transportation for a Strong Canada", emphasis will be placed on transferability to other parts of Canada (e.g. different geography, weather, governmental structure).

Next Generation Transportation in Academia

Lightning Session (No Papers)

TEC

The goal of this session is for students to present their research on next generation transportation projects in Canada. Key themes include cutting-edge technologies, unique methods, and transferability to other parts of Canada.

ORGANIZED BY THE TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

Transportation Technology—State of the Nation

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

TEC

As transportation technology continues to evolve and bring new opportunities and challenges to the sector, this panel will bring together leaders in the industry to discuss disruption, emerging trends and what is around the corner. Topics of discussion will include connected vehicles/automated vehicles, micro mobility, artificial intelligence, eVTOLs, drones and other emerging technologies.



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

ORGANIZED BY THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Best Practices to Engage Secondary School Students in Transportation Initiatives

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

WOR

This session will explore effective strategies for engaging secondary school students in transportation planning and engineering careers. The objective is to identify and share best practices used by NGOs and different levels of government in Canada and potentially the United States to raise awareness and interest in transportation professions. Focus areas include structured outreach programs, experiential learning activities, and partnerships with schools that demonstrate measurable impact. Submissions should emphasize evidence-based approaches, comparative insights between Canadian and American methods, and practical frameworks that can be adapted by practitioners. The goal is to advance academic engagement and inspire the next generation of transportation professionals.

People are your Assets

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

WOR

In today's dynamic professional landscape, the true strength of any organization lies in its people. This panel will explore how investing in human capital drives growth and resilience, especially in technically demanding environments. Panelists will share insights on:

- Navigating Technical Challenges: Strategies for managing increasing workloads, adapting to evolving regulations, and balancing the needs of multiple clients.
- Empowering Newcomers and Young Professionals: Approaches to developing accessible technical language and fostering inclusive learning environments.
- Bridging Differences: Building cohesive, high-performing teams by promoting collaboration and celebrating successes.
- Join us for an engaging conversation on how organizations can thrive by recognizing and nurturing their most valuable asset—their people.

Post-Secondary Education Practices in Applied Surveying Using Drones in Civil/Transportation Engineering

Presentation Session (Papers Required)

WOR

TEC

This session will explore how post-secondary programs are integrating drone technology into applied surveying education and whether these practices are being assimilated into civil engineering curricula. The objective is to examine academic approaches that prepare graduates for industry needs in geospatial data collection and analysis. Focus areas include curriculum design, experiential learning, and partnerships with industry. Submissions should address how drone-based surveying changes the skill set required compared to traditional methods, including technical competencies, regulatory knowledge, and data processing capabilities. Comparative insights between Canadian and American practices are encouraged to identify transferable frameworks and future directions for workforce readiness.

ORGANIZED BY THE HUMAN RESOURCES & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Coaching vs. Mentoring Employees—Part 2

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

WOR

Staff have been experiencing burnout and stress due to two years of the pandemic, political climate, increasing traffic, international upheaval, and extreme weather events. Disruptive changes in their work or industry have necessitated adaptation, flexibility, new skills, or transitioning to new roles. This session explores the benefits and perspectives of coaching and mentoring to support navigation of these challenges. The panel discussion will be Part 2 of the coaching and mentoring session that received significant attention during the 2025 TAC Conference. Coaching and mentoring offer significant benefits, depending on the time horizon, career stage, and need for performance or growth support.

Awareness to Impact: EDI, Belonging and Reconciliation in the Workplace

Panel Discussion – To be considered as a potential panelist, submit a panelist application describing your related interests, qualifications and expertise. The panel discussion organizer will respond directly.

WOR

Across the transportation industry, organizations are striving to transform awareness of equity, diversity, inclusion (EDI), belonging, and reconciliation into meaningful action. This panel explores how employers can move beyond data collection and quotas to implement practices that build trust, foster inclusion, and create workplaces where employees feel motivated, valued, and empowered to show up as their authentic selves. Panelists will share strategies for educating staff and embedding EDI principles into everyday operations to attract and retain a diverse workforce.

Mental Health, Wellbeing and Belonging in the Transportation Industry

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

WOR

Building on the important focus on recruitment and retention this session highlights some critical elements that are no longer optional for the transportation sector. What are the tools to supporting a psychological, healthy and safe environment that fosters employee mental health, well-being and belonging. What are the current best practices across Canada in creating great work environments that support organizations and employees thriving. In what ways is the transportation sector leading the way and what are the opportunities to growth and improvement.