



Transportation Association of Canada

2025 TACCONF

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION LEGACY

CALL FOR PRESENTERS GUIDE

5-8 OCT ■ QUÉBEC

5-8 OCT 2025 QUÉBEC

TACCONEF

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION LEGACY

CALL FOR PRESENTERS GUIDE

INTRODUCTION	1
HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN PRESENTATION SESSIONS	2
HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN PANEL DISCUSSIONS	4
SESSION TOPICS	5
ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE	5
INFRASTRUCTURE & ASSET MANAGEMENT	6
MOBILITY	10
SAFETY, DESIGN & OPERATIONS	14
TECHNOLOGY	17
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	19

INTRODUCTION

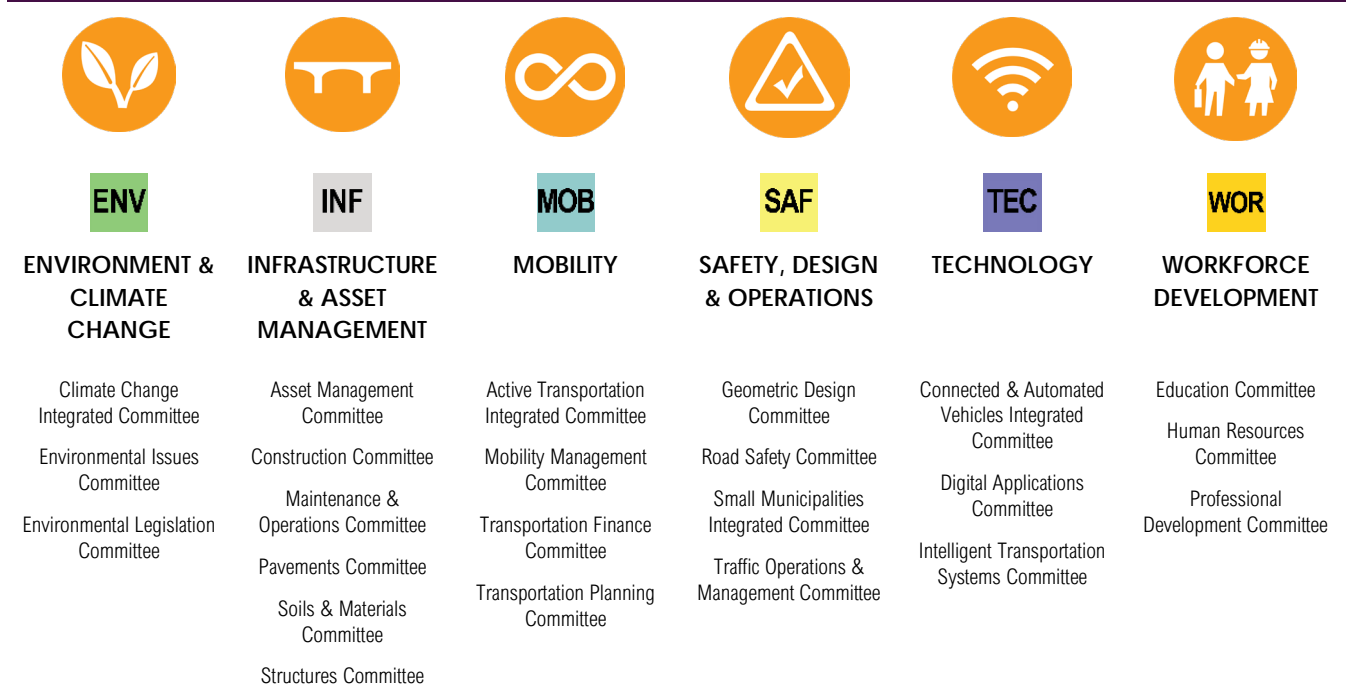
This guide provides information on how to participate in technical sessions at the **2025 TAC Conference & Exhibition** as a presenter or panelist.

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

<p><i>Presentation sessions</i> 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.</p>	<p><i>Panel discussions</i> 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.</p>
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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



HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN PRESENTATION SESSIONS

The submission process for presentation 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	
Phase 1 – Abstracts	
By January 28:	Submit your abstract for review
Mid-March:	<p>TAC will notify you whether your abstract has been accepted or rejected</p> <p>→ If your abstract is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Accepted, you will proceed to Phase 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Rejected, you will not proceed to Phase 2.
Phase 2 – Draft papers and/or decks	
By April 29:	<p>If your abstract was accepted, submit your draft paper and/or deck for review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → 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:	<p>TAC will notify you whether your draft paper and/or deck has been accepted or rejected</p> <p>→ If your draft deck is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Accepted, you will proceed to Phase 3 and are invited to present at the conference. You must register for the conference by June 26. You should consider reviewer comments and make revisions before submitting a final deck by September 26. <input type="checkbox"/> Rejected, you will not proceed to Phase 3. Any draft paper you submit will also be rejected. <p>→ If your draft paper is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 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 26. <input type="checkbox"/> Accepted with conditions, you will proceed to Phase 3. You must submit a revised draft paper by July 21 that meets reviewer conditions; otherwise, it will not be published on TAC’s website. <input type="checkbox"/> 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 21:	<p>If your draft paper was accepted with conditions, submit your revised draft paper for review</p> <p>→ If your revised draft paper is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 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 26. <input type="checkbox"/> 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 26:	Submit your final paper for publication and/or your final deck for presentation. Final slide decks are pre-loaded on 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 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.
- Watch this [brief video](#) on how to submit an abstract. 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 26, 2025.** 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 [Christina Ghazal](#), Program Officer.
- 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 2025.
- The deadline for TAC to receive final presenter/author information and presentation titles for inclusion in the conference program is September 5, 2025. 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 28, 2025.** 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.
- Watch this [brief video](#) on how to submit a panelist application. 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 26, 2025.** 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 26. 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 [Christina Ghazal](#), Program Officer.
- 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 2025.
- The deadline for TAC to receive final presenter/author information and presentation titles for inclusion in the conference program is September 5, 2025. Program changes cannot be guaranteed after this date.
- The deadline to submit any slide deck you plan to use in your presentation is September 26, 2025.

QUESTIONS?

Christina Ghazal, Program Officer | cghazal@tac-atc.ca | 613-736-1350 x236

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

Climate Vulnerability and Resilience: Getting Out in Front

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

ENV

Climate change is already challenging the ability of road and transit authorities to maintain 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 and tools that organizations are using to conduct quantitative, indicator-based assessments and ensure that transportation project deliverables are resilient to climate stressors.

Decarbonizing the Transportation Sector

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

ENV

Achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions from transportation is crucial to a sustainable future. The need for rapid, significant progress necessitates a range of approaches, initiatives and priorities. This session will explore how organizations are pursuing a path to net zero through efforts to reduce operational and community-wide emissions over ambitious timelines.

Emergency Preparedness in the Face of Climate Change and Extreme Weather Events

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

As climate change impacts intensify, communities are increasingly exposed to severe and unpredictable weather events. This session will explore the urgent need for adaptive emergency preparedness strategies to address the growing frequency and intensity of extreme weather incidents—ranging from wildfires and hurricanes to flooding and prolonged heat waves. Attendees will gain insights into the latest risk assessment models, innovative response planning, and the importance of resilient infrastructure and community and network-based strategies to protect lives and property.

ORGANIZED BY THE ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE COUNCIL

Cultural Heritage Management

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

ENV

In the age of reconciliation, steps to assess, mitigate and manage effects on Indigenous cultural heritage are growing more critical as elements of transportation policies, programs and projects. Regulators are increasing their reliance on transportation agencies to identify, address and accommodate Indigenous interests to advance reconciliation and uphold Aboriginal and treaty rights such as cultural heritage. Indigenous cultural heritage involves inherited tangible and intangible assets, and can include physical objects, sites, landscapes, language, and intergenerational knowledge transmission. This session will share examples of cultural heritage management (e.g. assessments, mitigation, accommodations, processes) that are completed or underway, and lessons learned from them.

Designing for Fish Passage: Critical Insights

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

ENV
INF

Designing culverts and bridges for fish passage is often complex, slow and costly. This session will explore innovative approaches to designing structures that meet evolving regulatory requirements for fish passage and will showcase examples from coast to coast.

Fish Habitat Offsetting: Strategies and Successes

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

ENV

Fish habitat offsetting is a regulatory requirement that has cost and schedule implications for project delivery. This session will dive into the evolution of the regulation and science of fish habitat offsetting and explore strategies to manage requirements as part of transportation projects.

ORGANIZED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

Integrating Environmental Gains into Project Design

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

ENV
MOB
SAF

Making environmental gains in transportation systems requires appropriate planning, thoughtful design and consideration of novel infrastructure features rather than simply mitigating project effects. This session will feature financial and technical challenges to, and successes in, achieving environmental benefits (e.g. for fish, wildlife, air quality, water quality, or other environmental measures) related to transportation projects or programs in urban, rural or wildland settings.



INFRASTRUCTURE & ASSET MANAGEMENT

ORGANIZED BY THE ASSET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Asset Performance Reporting: A Cross-Jurisdictional Comparison

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

In this session, transportation agencies will present objective performance measures and targets they use to communicate asset conditions, performance and investment needs related to paved roads, bridges, geotechnical assets, culverts and highway appurtenances. Participants will enhance their understanding of useful performance criteria and reporting metrics for communicating with decision-makers, informing cross-asset comparisons, and supporting decisions involving trade-offs. Panelists will provide an overview of current provincial and municipal asset management and reporting practices and describe approaches that optimize returns for the effort invested.

Corporate Asset Management Systems

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

INF

This session will explore the potential of a corporate asset management system (CAMS) to efficiently manage an organization's physical and intangible assets. Use of a CAMS can help to ensure that assets are tracked, maintained and used effectively throughout their lifecycle, thereby optimizing asset utilization, reducing costs and enhancing performance while supporting informed decisions and regulatory compliance. By incorporating cross-asset optimization, a CAMS enables the holistic management of diverse asset types and the effective allocation of resources across an entire portfolio.

Fostering a Culture of Asset Management: Lessons Learned

ORGANIZED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT 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.

INF
WOR

Training and developing staff across different parts of an organization is critical to the successful management of transportation assets. In this session, experienced panelists will offer lessons learned from their journeys toward a broad, integrated culture of asset management in their organizations.

Incorporating Sustainability in Asset Management

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

INF
ENV

This session will explore sustainable asset management – the integration of environmental, social and economic considerations into the full asset lifecycle from acquisition to disposal. This approach can reduce carbon emissions and resource consumption while enhancing asset resilience and long-term viability. It can help organizations improve regulatory compliance and stakeholder satisfaction while contributing to a more sustainable future.

New Technologies in Asset Management

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

INF
TEC

This session will present advancements in infrastructure asset management for roads, bridges and auxiliary structures. It will explore how new technologies and tools can enhance monitoring efficiency, streamline maintenance, and extend asset lifespans. Attendees will gain insights into data-driven methods that support improved decision-making.

ORGANIZED BY THE CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

Cost-Effective Construction Solutions for an Aging and Underfunded Network

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

INF

This session will present practical, real-world solutions including:

- Funding policies or strategies that maximize network-level benefits rather than focusing on individual projects
- Construction methods that reduce costs and material use
- Projects with demonstrated cost-effective approaches

ORGANIZED BY THE UTILITIES MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

Utility Coordination on Projects

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

INF

Topics to be explored by presentations in this session may include utility process management, utility conflict management, investigations, utility design, construction management, and asset management.

ORGANIZED BY THE MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Driving Change in Maintenance and Operations

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

INF

This session will explore how transformative organizational changes can support efficient and effective service delivery.

Innovation in Maintenance and Operations

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

INF

This session will focus on how organizations can apply innovative practices and technologies to transform road maintenance and winter operations.

TEC

Line Marking Challenges and Opportunities

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 discussion will discuss the evolving landscape of pavement line markings, exploring both the challenge of comparing various types of markings and the growing demand to achieve more with the same resources.

Sustainable Road Maintenance

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

INF

This session will focus on innovative approaches and best practices that can help ensure efficient and environment-friendly road maintenance operations.

ORGANIZED BY THE PAVEMENTS COMMITTEE

Designing, Building and Managing a Sustainable Pavement Network

Presentation Session (Papers Required)

INF

Presentations in this session may address:

- Innovative tools, techniques, or technologies for pavement engineering
- Innovative pavement design and management concepts for a sustainable transportation network
- Innovative designs for improved pavement durability in a changing environment
- Case studies of projects that involve unique challenges in pavement management or engineering

Pavement Sustainability and the Vehicles of Tomorrow

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

INF

This session will explore the impact of vehicle electrification on existing pavement networks. Presentations may address:

TEC

- Pavement requirements to support connected and autonomous vehicles
- Innovative pavement designs to support vehicles of the future
- Pavement instrumentation to support connected or autonomous vehicles
- Management of smart road pavements as part of a future roadway network

ORGANIZED BY THE SOILS & MATERIALS COMMITTEE

Advancements in Testing, Modelling and Innovation for Roadway/Embankment Materials and Geotechnical Engineering

Presentation Session (Papers Required)

INF

Presentations in this session may address topics such as:

- Recycling and integrating recycled materials
- Alternative materials for road construction
- Quantifying carbon emissions in roadway/embankment materials
- Reducing energy use and carbon emissions through innovative material use/design
- Durable construction materials for increased design life
- Design and construction of road and bridge embankments
- Climate change considerations in geotechnical and pavement materials engineering
- Trenchless technologies for infrastructure under existing roadways
- Remote sensing and drone usage in geotechnical engineering
- Case studies of challenges, solutions and lessons learned in the construction and long-term performance evaluation of roadway/embankment construction projects
- Innovative testing and modelling of roadway/embankment materials, including unbound and bound soil, geosynthetics and bituminous/portland cement-based materials
- Development of estimation models for mechanical properties of pavement materials
- Assessment and use of frost and moisture susceptibility
- Seasonal variation in mechanical properties of soil and pavement materials

Innovations in Materials and Construction Methods for Sustainable Pavements

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 session will highlight advancements in sustainable materials and practices for pavement design and construction. Industry leaders and researchers will present novel solutions, eco-friendly alternatives, conventional and alternative recycled materials, and smart technologies designed to enhance durability and minimize environmental impact. The panel will explore how these innovations support CO₂-equivalent reduction, foster circular economy practices, and improve road infrastructure resiliency. Attendees will gain insights into real-world applications, performance outcomes, and future opportunities for integrating sustainability into roadways.

ORGANIZED BY THE STRUCTURES COMMITTEE

Transportation Structures

Presentation Session (Papers Required)

INF

This session will explore case studies and technical advice in bridge analysis, design, construction, rehabilitation, management and inspection, including concepts and experiences that contribute to resiliency and sustainability.



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.

Active Transportation Facility Maintenance and Operations

ORGANIZED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

This session will explore key issues in the implementation and maintenance of 5A (Always Available for All Ages and Abilities) active transportation networks. Topics may include how year-round maintenance needs are taken into consideration during planning and design stages and how post-construction maintenance programs are planned and managed. Presenters are encouraged to share case study experiences and lessons learned related to processes, techniques, equipment, level of service objectives, staffing and budgets.

INF

SAF

Active Transportation in Small Municipalities, Rural Areas and Indigenous Communities

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

This session will explore solutions for planning, designing, building and managing active transportation facilities in municipalities with fewer than 40,000 people, rural areas and Indigenous communities. Presentations will address topics such as:

SAF

- Best practices, opportunities and lessons learned
- Connectivity between communities and involving multiple jurisdictions
- Successes, emerging practices and guidance for facilities near rural roads and highways
- Community plans or other local initiatives

Bicycle Priority Roundabouts in Canada: A Friendly Debate

ORGANIZED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE JOINT ROUNDABOUTS 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.

MOB

Both roundabouts and protected cycling networks are growing in popularity – and where they overlap, practitioners face planning and design challenges. This panel discussion will feature some of Canada's leading design practitioners in a friendly debate format – two for, two against – to consider whether cyclists should receive priority over vehicles at roundabouts.

SAF

Bike Lanes and Universal Accessibility at Intersections

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

Intersection treatments that improve safety and comfort for cyclists can create accessibility challenges, especially for visually impaired travellers. Problematic issues include an altered auditory environment, more complex traffic signals, more complex geometry (e.g. pedestrian crossings offset from sidewalks broken up into several segments), and transitions from separated to shared-use facilities. Presentations in this session will address related challenges and solutions (but will not address transit-stop treatments).

SAF

Low-Speed Corridors as Complete Streets

ORGANIZED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

SAF

Low-speed corridors with target speeds up to 40 km/h pose challenges for planners, designers and operators but offer broad safety benefits. They also support the creation of complete streets in constrained settings, activate street-level and storefront activities, and promote green infrastructure development. Presenters in this session will showcase innovative low-speed corridor projects and their positive impacts for different stakeholders.

Pedestrian-Centred Design

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

SAF

Cycling is often the focus of active transportation projects, but almost every trip begins and ends on foot. This session will explore the planning, design and operation of walking facilities – with presentations that may examine pedestrian needs and operational characteristics, the links between pedestrian volumes and design, and considerations for pedestrian-only plazas and car-free streets.

Post-Implementation Evaluations

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

SAF

Post-implementation evaluations are critical to understanding how well active transportation projects have supported key objectives such as increasing active transportation trips and preventing fatalities and serious injuries. Presentations in this session will focus on experiences and lessons learned with data collection, analysis and reporting as part of active transportation project performance evaluation.

Technology, Signals and Active Transportation

ORGANIZED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS COMMITTEE AND TRAFFIC OPERATIONS & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

SAF

TEC

Traffic signal operations in multimodal corridors can become complex – with a combination of bicycle signals, transit priority signals, protected turns, and multi-stage pedestrian crossings pushing the limits of standard traffic controllers and analyses. At the same time, innovative traffic signal tools and other emerging technologies can offer benefits for safety, delay and accessibility. Presentations in this session will showcase demonstrated or emerging innovations and explain how they can benefit pedestrians, cyclists and other road users.

ORGANIZED BY THE MOBILITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Making Sense of the Curb: Aggregation and Analysis of Curbside Data

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

TEC

This session will explore methods and technologies for collecting, integrating and analyzing curbside data to improve urban mobility, optimize space usage, and support decision making. Panelists will highlight innovative data aggregation techniques, tools for real-time analysis, and case studies that demonstrate the impact of curbside data on urban planning. They will discuss practical applications, emerging trends, and insights into how cities can leverage curbside data for sustainable and efficient transportation systems.

Mobility Hubs: Approaches for Seamless Trip Connections

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

Mobility hubs can feature transit, active transportation, shared micromobility and carshare facilities and services. They often require collaboration between jurisdictions, service providers and landowners and can involve place-making or other features that enhance the user experience. Presentations in this session will explore mobility hub approaches and case studies and their role in advancing sustainable transportation.

Resilient EV Charging Infrastructure

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

The availability and performance of charging infrastructure are critical to continued EV adoption. This session will explore how organizations are overcoming common pitfalls to ensure the resilience of EV charging infrastructure and using technology to improve the user experience.

TEC

TDM Strategies in a Post-Pandemic World

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 panel discussion will explore how transportation demand management (TDM) strategies have evolved as workers return to the office, with a focus on strategies that promote public transit and micromobility use.

ORGANIZED BY THE TRANSPORTATION FINANCE COMMITTEE

Effective and Efficient Requests for Proposals

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

Each year, public-sector organizations across Canada issue thousands of procurement opportunities for goods, services and construction work. This panel discussion will explore how effective and efficient requests for proposals (RFPs), requests for quotations (RFQs) and tenders can contribute to the success and benefits of transportation projects.

INF

Sustainable Transportation Infrastructure: From Strategy to Maintenance

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

This session will explore the social, environmental and economic sustainability of transportation infrastructure. Presenters will discuss strategies for designing, building, operating and maintaining assets and may address topics including:

INF

- Evaluating project sustainability
- Implementing sustainable assets
- Policies, standards and regulations
- The role of government and the private sector

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

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.

Decision Making, Evaluation and Monitoring

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

This session will explore new approaches to decision making, evaluation and monitoring in transportation planning. Presentations may address innovations, best practices, case studies and lessons learned on a range of topics, including:

- Measuring success and evaluating transportation plans
- Business case best practices
- Decision making during extreme weather events and other emergencies (e.g. wildfires)
- Measuring and monitoring of greenhouse gas emissions
- Evaluation and decision making for goods movements
- Uncertainty and resiliency in decision making

Health and Equity in Transportation

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

This session will explore how transportation planning and health practitioners are working to advance equity. Presenters may address topics such as:

- The relationship between equity, health and other pressing issues in transportation, such as climate change, housing affordability, and aging in place
- Transportation equity and health in varied contexts (e.g. rural vs. urban)
- Strategies to embed equity and health into transportation budgeting, engagement, analysis, prioritization, implementation, evaluation and reporting
- Transportation needs and perspectives of equity-deserving groups reflecting age, ability, ethnicity, gender, income, language, or sexual orientation

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

Innovations in Transportation Modelling *(Student-Only Session)*

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

This special session will be dedicated to student “snapshot” presentations – concise, 10-minute overviews of students’ work and key findings – as a platform for emerging practitioners to engage with experts in the field. 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

Note: The slide deck requirement for this session type is limited to no more than 10 slides.

Strategic Transportation and Land Use Planning

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

Governments use strategic planning principles and processes to shape growth and build a sustainable transportation legacy. Topics addressed by presentations in this session may include:

- Initiatives and lessons learned related to transportation master plans, neighbourhood plans, goods movement strategies, official plans, and/or transit-supportive developments
- Innovative approaches to aligning transportation and land use planning
- Legislation and regulations to guide transportation and land use planning
- Supportive land use policies to achieve transportation objectives

Transit and Transportation Planning

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

MOB

This session will explore the potential of public transit to enhance connectivity, efficiency, accessibility, equity and inclusion in urban transportation systems. The presentation may address topics including:

- Rapid transit planning, engagement and intergovernmental coordination
- Transit-oriented development and other aspects of the transit-land use relationship
- The integration of public transit with other forms of mobility
- Embedding accessibility, equity and inclusion in transportation policies and transit planning
- Innovative approaches to transit and transport planning



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 project is too big or too small for this session, which will consider design details and challenges from a diverse cross-section of highway initiatives ranging from modest improvements to major 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 involving confined corridors or intersections where spatial constraints have necessitated difficult choices. Presentations will address experiences in balancing multiple needs and making decisions to allocate space to bike lanes, sidewalks and vehicle lanes and will highlight the applied criteria and methodologies. Speakers will discuss the role of traffic analysis in guiding choices and how a proposed design can be supported or challenged by the results. Attendees will gain insights into how traffic impact assessments, community input, and design constraints can be managed to create safe, accessible and efficient transportation infrastructure in tight spaces.

Unconventional Intersections and Roundabouts

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

Predictable, intuitive intersection and roundabout designs help users navigate the built environment, but sometimes, a conventional design isn't the best way to meet the needs of road users. Presenters in this session will discuss their journey into unconventional intersection or roundabout design and explore how projects can stray from the norm by transforming ordinary intersections into something unique.

Urban Design Challenges: Accessibility, Vision Zero and Complete Streets

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

The urban environment presents many constraints and can challenge practitioners who are working to transform our car-centric roadways into sustainable, complete streets. Presenters in this session will explore the nuances of design projects that supported the goals of accessibility and Vision Zero.

ORGANIZED BY THE ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE

Indigenous Road Safety

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

There is strong justification for efforts to improve road safety outcomes for Indigenous people and communities, who are over-represented among fatalities due to motor vehicle collisions. This session will explore the road safety issues impacting Indigenous people and communities, as well as projects and case studies that illustrate the value of partnership and engagement when implementing safety improvements.

Road Safety Analysis

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

This session will focus on the use of data and analysis in making road safety decisions and as the basis for network performance evaluation, project planning and prioritization and post-installation evaluation. Presentations will explore data sources for road safety analysis, evaluation techniques (e.g. safety performance functions, conflict analysis), asset management, and performance measures and outcomes.

Road Safety Implementation and Assessment

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

This session will explore innovations in the implementation and evaluation of road safety efforts ranging from system-level strategies (e.g. plans, programs, policies) to site-specific measures. Presentations addressing assessment will ideally include pre and post studies and discuss the associated collision modification factors (CMF) which would help build industry knowledge and could lead to additions to the CMF Clearinghouse.

Road Safety Planning, Safe System and Vision Zero

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

This session will focus on experiences and innovations in road safety planning. Presentations may explore strategic plans, action plans, mobility plans or equity plans and will touch on lessons learned, methods of engagement, structure, funding, political considerations, applications of the Safe System approach, adoption/application of Vision Zero principles, use of data, and measures of success.

Road Safety Tools and Technologies

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

This session will focus on emerging tools and technologies for road safety data collection and monitoring, road safety issue diagnosis and countermeasures, roadside technologies (e.g. sensors), and vehicle technologies (e.g. micromobility, connected or autonomous vehicles). Presentations may address applications related to a range of topics, such as vulnerable road users, adverse weather conditions, or wildlife safety.

TEC

Safety for Young Road Users

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

This panel discussion will explore what it means to have a road network that is safe for users up to 15 years of age, who are considered vulnerable road users in almost all situations – whether they are walking, cycling, or needing extra protection in a vehicle designed for adults (e.g. car seat or booster). Panelists will explore this subject from different perspectives to illustrate how we can make roads safer for everyone when we make them safer for young users.

Vehicle Safety: Exploring Risks and Opportunities Associated with the Modern Vehicle Fleet

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

This panel discussion will explore safety implications of the trend towards larger, heavier and electrified vehicles and the increased risks they pose to others sharing the road with them. Panelists will consider how new and proposed vehicle safety standards (e.g. mandatory automatic emergency braking, pedestrian head protection crash standards) could help mitigate risks, and will also discuss implications for insurance, infrastructure and driver preferences.

TEC

ORGANIZED BY THE VISION ZERO & SAFE SYSTEM SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE

Road Safety in Construction and Temporary Work Zones

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

Presentations in this session will highlight effective cross-disciplinary road safety collaboration in construction and temporary (e.g. moving maintenance activities, utility installation) work zones, integrating a range of engineering perspectives including roadway design, traffic management, human factors, bridges/structures, active transportation, construction/maintenance inspection, and utility coordination. They will illustrate effective practices in urban (low speed), rural (high speed), and exurban (transitional speed) settings for the benefit of road workers, over-dimensional vehicles, and vulnerable road users including pedestrians and cyclists.

INF

MOB

ORGANIZED BY THE SMALL MUNICIPALITIES INTEGRATED COMMITTEE

Sustainable Planning and Design Approaches in Small Municipalities

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

Small municipalities face the challenge of embracing sustainability and building resilient infrastructure with scarce resources and limited project budgets. Developing master plans to help prioritize needs, exploit synergies, and manage assets more efficiently can help small municipalities make long-term decisions, while innovative design solutions for more resilient infrastructure can be implemented at various scales to suit available resources. Presentations in this session will share the tools, techniques and design innovations that small municipalities have used to plan, build and maintain transportation systems for tomorrow.

MOB

ORGANIZED BY THE TRAFFIC OPERATIONS & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

#InnovativeTrafficControl

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

This session will focus on innovation in traffic operations and management across Canada. Presentations will highlight applications of new solutions to traffic engineering challenges and examine topics such as non-typical intersection configurations or ways of handling multimodal traffic.

Multimodal Accommodation in Urban Areas

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

SAF

Urban roads and intersections are growing increasingly complex (e.g. to accommodate transit priority measures, separated bicycle facilities, and micromobility devices). This session will showcase work by the Traffic Operations & Management Committee toward new traffic signal equipment and phasing, signage and devices that can better accommodate multiple modes.

MOB



TECHNOLOGY

ORGANIZED BY THE CONNECTED & AUTOMATED VEHICLES INTEGRATED COMMITTEE

Connected and Automated Vehicles: The Role of the Public Sector

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

This session will feature a panel of experts from government, academia, consulting and the auto industry discussing the role of the public sector in CAV adoption, regulation and preparedness. Possible topics include new technologies, vehicle communications and processes, emerging applications for freight and personal mobility, global deployments, and implications for the auto industry.

Connected Vehicle Technologies: Improving Safety for Other Modes

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

Advancements in connected vehicle technologies can help create safer, more enjoyable spaces and places for other modes in the right-of-way. In this session, panelists will share recent and emerging applications, what objectives they have achieved, and what new opportunities they have created in public rights-of-way.

SAF

ORGANIZED BY THE DIGITAL APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Artificial Intelligence for Digital Applications

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

TEC

This session will explore how artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) can improve the sustainability of digital applications or their underlying data in the transportation sector. Presentations will show how AI or ML have improved an application's outcomes or how data is visualized, governed or managed for that application.

Data Governance, AI and the Future of the 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

Most transportation authorities are aware of emerging sensor technologies and other new data sources, but many have limited resources to assess, procure and manage them. Some hesitate to replace tried-and-true tools (e.g. manual counts, pneumatic tubes), or to establish proactive data governance and management strategies. This session will feature a wide-ranging discussion around data governance and management practices, and the need for structured approaches to adopting and using emerging data sources and tools including AI.

Digital Twinning for Transportation Assets

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

TEC

This session will explore the rapid development of digital twinning applications and their potential benefits for transportation system planning, operations, safety and asset management. Topics addressed by presentations may include pilot program implementation and results, data needs and governance, and security or legal issues.

INF

Transportation Data and Analytics

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

TEC

This session will explore emerging issues and applications for data and analytics in the transportation sector. Presentations may address topics such as road safety, transportation planning, asset management, data visualization, data governance and data management.

INF

MOB

SAF

ORGANIZED BY THE INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS COMMITTEE

Innovations in Intelligent Transportation Systems

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

TEC

New products and solutions in the field of intelligent transportation systems (ITS) have opened the door to applications such as enhanced wildlife and environmental emergency (e.g. flooding, wildfire, avalanche) warnings, artificial intelligence-based decision support, vulnerable road user safety alerts, drone-based inspections, and digital twins. This session will explore ITS innovations that look beyond traditional objectives like congestion management to approaches that enhance mobility, safety or asset management.

INF

MOB

SAF

Intelligent Transportation Systems: Responding to Climate Change

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

TEC

Presentations in this session will examine the potential of ITS technologies to help address the mobility implications of climate change, including topics such as:

SAF

- Real-time data collection systems that monitor weather, water levels and traffic conditions to enable a prompt response to flood events
- Traffic management system devices including remote gates and warning signs that can be activated to close roads and detour vehicles, preventing access to flooded zones and reducing damage claims against municipalities while enhancing safety
- Advanced traveler information systems (e.g. mobile apps, roadside technologies) that guide safe and efficient evacuation during wildfires, hurricanes or snowstorms

ORGANIZED BY THE TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

Decarbonizing Transportation: Electrifying Fleets with Batteries and Hydrogen Fuel Cells

Presentation Session (Papers Optional)

TEC

The electrification of transit, freight, taxi and other fleets is a clear priority in the accelerating effort to decarbonize transportation. This session will explore the leading technologies in this transformation—battery electric and hydrogen fuel cells. Presentations will address opportunities, challenges and lessons learned from real-world testing and adoption of battery electric and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles in large fleets, and also of hydrogen fuel cells in adjacent modes (e.g. ferries).

ENV



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

ORGANIZED BY THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Developing Your Employees: Coaching vs. Mentoring

ORGANIZED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT 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.

WOR

Many factors – the pandemic, political climate, traffic congestion, international upheaval, extreme weather – have contributed to growing stress and burnout in transportation organizations. At the same time, disruption in the transportation sector has required individuals to be flexible, adapt, seek new skills, or take on new roles. This panel discussion will explore how coaching and mentoring – which both offer significant benefits depending on time horizons, career stages, and the need for performance or growth – can aid employers and individuals as they navigate today's challenges. It will follow the format of CBC's "The Debaters" program that worked so effectively in TAC's popular 2024 conference session "Professors vs. Practitioners."

Online or In-Person: What Works Better for Education and Training?

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 this panel discussion, experts will consider the pros and cons of online and in-person learning. Panelists will reflect on the applicability, effectiveness and limitations of both modes in education and professional development, and will discuss post-secondary education, continuing education and professional development for practitioner licensing or certification (e.g. P.Eng., CET, RSP, PMP), and non-technical skills training (e.g. technical writing, speaking, leadership).

ORGANIZED BY THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Empowering the Next Generation: Building Impactful Young Professional Programs

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

This session will feature panelists under the age of 35 who will share their perspectives on development programs for young professionals. It will explore how different organizations are helping early-career practitioners to learn, grow and network. Panelists will discuss needs and challenges, share their experiences, and identify what works. Attendees will gain valuable insights, allowing them to inspire change and help their organizations support younger staff.