

Strong Communities

November 14, 2008

National Day of Remembrance for road crash victims November 19

Edmonton...

In Canada, November 19 has been designated as a National Day of Remembrance for road crash victims. This day is an opportunity to remember the victims of traffic collisions and acknowledge the responsibility of all drivers to prevent serious injuries and deaths on streets and highways. It is also a time to acknowledge the unnecessary devastation caused by carelessness, recklessness and impaired judgment.

Hard facts about traffic collisions

- On average, eight Canadians are killed in road collisions every day. Many more are seriously injured. In the past 50 years, more Canadians have died on our roads than were killed in both world wars.
- Almost all of these injuries and deaths are avoidable. If we drive at a speed appropriate for road conditions, wear seat belts, use properly fitted child restraints, and avoid driving when impaired or fatigued, we can significantly reduce the number of deaths and injuries from traffic collisions.
- Impaired driving remains the leading criminal cause of death in Canada. Families, friends and communities are devastated when the actions of an impaired driver take one of their own.

Let's save lives, but how?

- Don't drive while impaired by alcohol, drugs or fatigue.
- Drive at a speed appropriate for the weather and road conditions.
- Drive with courtesy and caution, without distractions.
- Always wear your seat belt, and ensure others in your vehicle do as well.
- Maintain your vehicle in good condition, and obey traffic laws, signs and signals.

On the National Day of Remembrance:

- remember those lost in traffic collisions;
- remember to take responsibility for actions behind the wheel; and
- remember to speak out against impaired driving.

For more information, please go to: www.rememberroadcrashvictims.ca/

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Media inquiries may be directed to:

Liz Owens
Office of Traffic Safety
Alberta Transportation
780-427-6775
liz.owens@gov.ab.ca

To call toll free within Alberta dial 310-0000.

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