

*November 12, 2010*

## **Day of Remembrance honours road victims**

*Edmonton...* November 17 is the National Day of Remembrance for road crash victims. On this day, Canadians are asked to remember those killed or seriously injured on Canadian roads, often in avoidable collisions, and those left to deal with the sudden loss of their loved ones.

Nearly 2,800 Canadians are killed each year on Canada's 900,000 kilometres of roads and highways. This translates to eight avoidable deaths every day or one death every three hours. Also, close to 200,000 people are injured every year on Canadian roads (many seriously) and the impact is widespread, touching families, friends, neighbours and work colleagues.

Although, traffic fatalities in Alberta dropped 23 per cent and injuries 22 per cent from 2007 to 2009, there is still a great deal of work to do. To help improve traffic safety:

- Don't drive while impaired by alcohol, drugs or fatigue.
- Slow down. Speeding saves little time and could cost you your life.
- Always wear your seat belt, and ensure others in your vehicle do as well.
- Be careful at intersections. Don't run red lights or stop signs.
- Avoid distractions while driving: Keep your hands on the wheel and your eyes on the road.

On November 17, Canadians are asked to take a moment to remember those who were killed or injured in traffic collisions and make a commitment to becoming a safer, better driver. For more information, go to [www.rememberroadcrashvictims.ca](http://www.rememberroadcrashvictims.ca)

Alberta has a comprehensive [Traffic Safety Plan](#) that focuses on education, enforcement, communications, engineering, community engagement and legislation to help make our roads safer. Some recent examples of legislation include the implementation of intersection safety devices to reduce collisions at intersections and the expansion of the Alberta Administrative Licence Suspension (AALS) program to include drug-impaired driving-related offences.

To find out about traffic safety in your community, contact your regional traffic safety coordinator. To find your local coordinator, visit [www.saferoads.com](http://www.saferoads.com) and click on Contact Us, then the [Regional Traffic Safety Coordinator](#) on the left-hand side.

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