



TIRF Bulletin

Volume 9, Issue 2

Fall 2006



International Conference on Distracted Driving: Summary of Proceedings and Recommendations

Jim Hedlund (Highway Safety North),
Herb M. Simpson, and Daniel R. Mayhew

TIRF has released a report entitled, *International Conference on Distracted Driving: Summary of Proceedings and Recommendations*.

This international conference was co-organized by the Canadian Automobile Association (CAA) and the Traffic Injury Research Foundation (TIRF) and held October 2-5, 2005 in Toronto, Ontario.

The conference featured presentations by internationally recognized experts and attracted over 100 attendees from Canada, Europe, and the United States. It was successful in raising the visibility of this important issue and received notable media coverage.

The Summary examines several issues surrounding distracted driving, including:

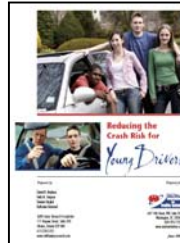
- What is distracted driving?
- How common is distracted driving and how risky is it?
- Public awareness and education on distracted driving.
- Technology and distracted driving.
- Legislation, regulation, and enforcement involving distracted driving.

To download your electronic copy of the *International Conference on Distracted Driving: Summary of Proceedings and Recommendations*, please go to:
<http://www.distracteddriving.ca/english/conference/Summary.cfm>.

TIRF Staff



TIRF's Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Robyn Robertson to the position of President & CEO. Robyn, who began her new role with TIRF on July 1, 2006, has succeeded Dr. Herb Simpson – who previously held the position for the last 31 years. Herb will continue his work with TIRF as Senior Researcher and Policy Advisor. Robyn joined TIRF in 1999 and was most recently promoted to Vice President, Operations in 2005.



Reducing the Crash Risk for Young Drivers

Daniel R. Mayhew, Herb M. Simpson,
Deanna Singhal, and Katharine Desmond

The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety (AAAFTS) released a report authored by several TIRF staff members entitled, *Reducing the Crash Risk for Young Drivers*.

The report summarizes an extensive series of studies that examined why young drivers continue to crash, even when they are protected by an effective Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) system.

Report findings show teens still crash at high rates because important protective features, such as night and passenger restrictions, are missing from some GDL programs; not all teens comply with the provisions of GDL; and many teens crash under conditions not addressed by GDL programs.

The report also discusses ways to improve GDL, increase compliance with GDL conditions, and reduce teen driver crashes using complementary prevention measures. Funding for this research was provided by the AAAFTS.

The report can be downloaded from the AAAFTS website at: <http://www.aaafoundation.org/pdf/ReducingTeenCrashes.pdf>.

Published Articles



An article by Dan Mayhew entitled, "The Future of Driver Education" appeared in the August 2006 (e-c101) issue of the Transportation Research Circular – *Driver Education: The Path Ahead*. This circular summarizes the proceedings of the mid-year meeting and workshop conducted by the TRB's Operator Education and

Results Committee. The meeting was co-chaired by Committee Chair Dan Mayhew and Dr. A James McKnight. To view the report and article, please go to:
<http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/circulars/ec101.pdf>.

An article by Dan Mayhew, Herb Simpson, and Susan Ferguson of the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety entitled, "Collisions Involving Senior Drivers: High-Risk Conditions and Locations" appeared in the June 2006 issue (volume 7, issue 2) of *Traffic Injury Prevention*. To view the article, please go to: http://www.trafficinjuryresearch.com/publications/pub_details.cfm?intPubID=215.

Staff Activity Update

Justice Canada Criminal Law Policy and Community Justice Section Workshop: Robyn Robertson participated in this one-day consultation workshop to discuss evidence to the contrary in impaired driving cases. Ottawa, ON. March 3, 2006.

Lifesavers Meeting: Robyn Robertson moderated a two-part criminal justice panel session on impaired driving. She also gave a presentation entitled, "Hardcore Offenders: Problems and Solutions" as part of a panel session on repeat offenders. Austin, TX. April 9-11, 2006.

3rd Annual Meeting of the Working Group on DWI System Improvements: Ward Vanlaar and Robyn Robertson hosted and chaired the annual meeting. Orlando, FL. April 19-21, 2006.

Industrial Accident Prevention Association Conference: Herb Simpson gave a presentation on "Road Safety and the Workplace." Toronto, ON. May 1, 2006.

CCMTA Road Safety Research and Policies Section: Robyn Robertson gave an invited presentation entitled, "National Survey of Crown and Defence Lawyers on Impaired Driving." Charlottetown, PEI. May 15, 2006.

The Contribution of the Behavioral & Social Sciences in Reducing and Preventing Teen Motor Crashes Workshop: Dan Mayhew attended the workshop and participated in the subsequent meeting of the committee to discuss the outline and content of the summary workshop report. Washington, DC. May 15-16, 2006.

Nova Scotia Road Safety Advisory Committee Meeting: Dan Mayhew gave an invited presentation entitled, "Improving Graduated Driver Licensing." Halifax, NS. June 7, 2006.

Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center Conference: Robyn Robertson gave a presentation on "Ignition Interlocks: Technology, Research and Practice." Atlanta, GA. June 12, 2006.

Driving and Function Forum: The Office of the Superintendent of Motor Vehicles (OSMV) for British Columbia and TIRF organized and convened this forum. Robyn Robertson chaired the forum and Dan Mayhew moderated workshop sessions. Vancouver, BC. June 15-16, 2006.

MADD International Technology Symposium: On behalf of Ward Vanlaar, Robyn Robertson presented "Alcohol Ignition Interlocks in the European Union." Albuquerque, NM. June 19, 2006.

AAAFS/TIRF Report on Reducing the Crash Risk of Young Drivers Press Conference: Dan Mayhew made a brief presentation to the media on this report, which was prepared under funding from the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. Washington, DC. June 22, 2006.

Florida Community Corrections Association Annual Meeting: Robyn Robertson gave invited presentations entitled, "DWI System Improvements for Dealing with Hard Core Drinking Drivers" and "Ignition Interlocks: From Research to Practice." St. Petersburg, FL. June 29, 2006.

TIRF AGM

The Bank of Montreal hosted TIRF's 43rd Annual General Meeting in Toronto. The AGM featured a review of business, marketing, communications, and research activities during 2005. Presentations by research staff included:

- *Alcohol interlocks: how do we measure success?*
- *Is technology a panacea for enhancing traffic safety?*
- *Why do young drivers protected by graduated driver licensing still crash?*
- *The deterrent effects of short term license suspension.*

Elected TIRF Officers for 2006/2007 include:

- **Chair:** Howard Collins, President & CEO, Brewers Association of Canada.
- **Vice Chair:** John D. Lee, General Manager, Enterprise Solutions, Canada Post.
- **Past Chair:** Diane Brisebois, President & CEO, Retail Council of Canada.
- **Treasurer:** Ian Anderson, President, Temple Scott Associates Inc.
- **Secretary:** Robyn Robertson, President & CEO, TIRF.

In addition to the Officers, Members of the Board are:

Yves Boyer, Executive Vice President International, Dollar Thrifty Automotive Group, Inc.; David Flewelling, President, Canadian Automobile Association; Dr. Barry McLellan, Chief Coroner for Ontario, Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services; Inspector Stan McNeil, Officer in Charge of National Traffic Services, RCMP; Wayne Mitchell, President, Ontario Inc. Consulting; Doug Munro, President and CEO, M-O Freightworks; John O'Brien, Vice President, Human Resources and Communications Technology and Solutions, BMO Financial Group; Jane Voll, Vice President, Policy Development and Chief Economist, Insurance Bureau of Canada; John Westbrook, Vice President, Client Services, Acart Communications Inc.

The Board also extends their warmest thanks to outgoing Board member, Dr. Herb Simpson, for his many years of service as Board Secretary.

TIRF 2006 Fundraising Campaign

TIRF would like to thank Monitech Inc. and Smart Start Inc. for both upgrading to silver level memberships.

HOW TO ORDER

To order reports/brochures, inquire about donor/member privileges, or to be added to the *TIRF Bulletin* mailing list, contact:



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There is a \$25 handling and postage fee to send reports to non-members. (Registered Charity No. 10813 5641 RR001)