



what's in the air?

November 2010 Issue | Clean Air Partnership E-Newsletter

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Message from the Director of Active Transportation

The [Toronto Coalition for Active Transportation](#) (TCAT) was formed in 2006 to give a unified voice to the many groups working for a better cycling and pedestrian environment in Toronto. TCAT has worked closely with CAP since its inception and became a project of CAP in 2008, to guide the active transportation programming at CAP. TCAT conducts research, develops policy, and creates opportunities for knowledge sharing, all with the goal of providing evidence and identifying workable active transportation solutions.



For more information, please contact Nancy Smith Lea at nsmithlea@cleanairpartnership.org. Information on Research Updates, Policy News and Upcoming Events can be found below.

TCAT Research Updates

In Oct 2010, TCAT released two new research reports examining the state of active transportation in Toronto:

1. The first report titled **Benchmarking Active Transportation in Canadian Cities** compared the performance of active transportation in Toronto against other cities in Canada, the United States and Europe using key indicators as benchmarks. [View the report](#)
2. The second report titled **Building Better Cycling Arteries in Cities: Lessons for Toronto** examined how to accommodate cyclists on arterial roads using case studies from Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal, Portland, New York City and Berlin. [View the report](#)



Last summer TCAT assisted the City of Toronto with its **College Street Cycling Survey**, an evaluation of cycling conditions before and after the installation of sharrows on College Street. Sharrows are a new bicycle pavement application designed to improve road sharing between cyclists and motorists. [Read more](#)

TCAT Policy News

Since 2005, a wave of new transportation policies called Complete Streets policies have passed into law across the United States. A Complete Streets policy ensures that transportation engineers and planners routinely design and operate the entire right of way to enable safe access for *all* road users. To date, no Complete Streets policies have been adopted in Canada although there is considerable interest in the idea and movement across the country. Read more about what's happening in the [US](#) and [Canada](#).

On April 22-23 2010, TCAT organized the first [Complete Streets Forum](#) in Canada, featuring leading experts on complete streets and bringing together over 200 stakeholders to learn about these policies and to explore their potential for Canada, and particularly the GTA.

On June 2nd, at the 2010 Clean Air and Climate Change Summit, 25 jurisdictions from across the GTA committed to develop a **Complete Streets Community of Practice** that will work collaboratively to identify and implement new strategies. Over the next several months the community of practice will develop resources, host webinars and share strategies.

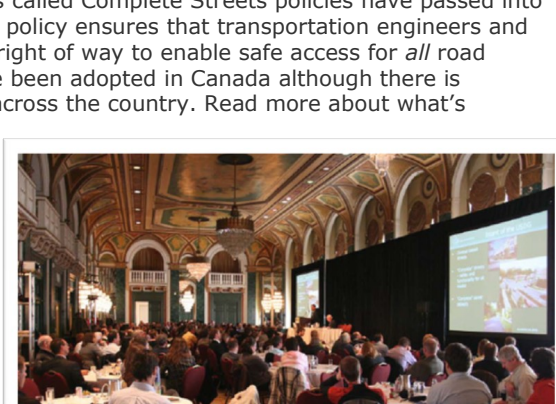


Photo credit: Yvonne Bambrick

Upcoming TCAT Events

On November 17-19, 2010, Nancy Smith Lea, TCAT Director, and Elana Horowitz, TCAT Steering Committee member, will be traveling to The Hague, The Netherlands to present two papers at [Walk 21](#), a widely respected international pedestrian policy conference.

Elana will present Stephanie Tencer's research about [community walkability audit tools for the City of Toronto](#). Nancy will present the results of CAP's two Bike Lanes, On-Street Parking and Business research studies in two separate locations on Bloor Street in Toronto. These studies were designed to determine the public acceptability and potential economic implications of reallocating road space from on-street parking to widened sidewalks or bike lanes. Nancy's paper summarizes and compares the results from both the [Year 1 Bloor Annex study](#) and the [Year 2 Bloor West Village study](#).



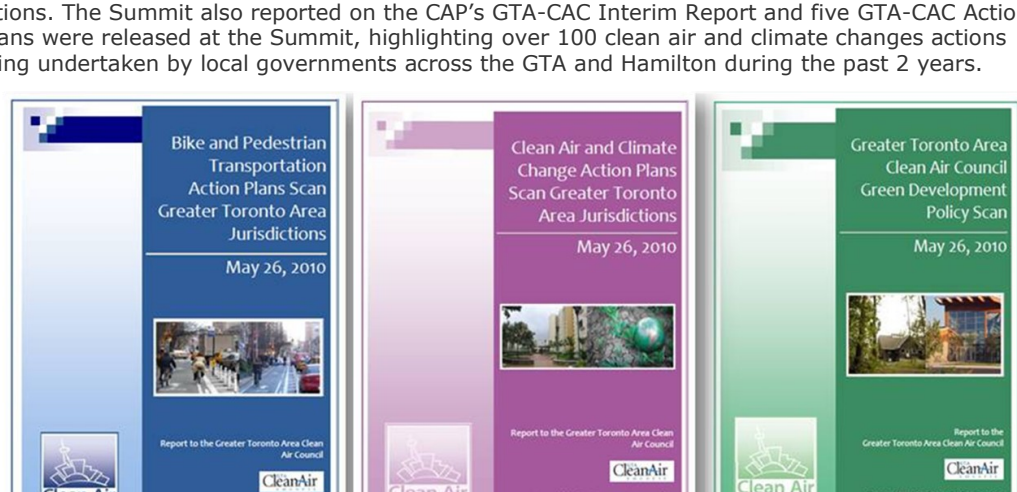
Save the date! for TCAT's fourth annual active transportation policy conference, and its second Complete Streets Forum, on April 28-29 2011. Learn from leading Complete Streets experts and strategize with other stakeholders about how to effectively address common opportunities and challenges in balancing the needs of all road users.

[Read more](#)

Clean Air and Climate Change Summit

Clean Air Partnership (CAP) hosted the **2010 Clean Air and Climate Change Summit: Moving From Words to Actions** on June 2, 2010 in Toronto, Ontario. The aim of the Summit was to provide an update on the priority of the *2010 Inter-governmental Declaration on Clean Air and Climate Change* actions.

The event celebrated the progress of the Greater Toronto Area Clean Air Council (GTA-CAC) member jurisdictions in the implementation of the 2008 & 2009 GTA-CAC Declaration targets and actions. The Summit also reported on the CAP's GTA-CAC Interim Report and five GTA-CAC Action Scans were released at the Summit, highlighting over 100 clean air and climate changes actions being undertaken by local governments across the GTA and Hamilton during the past 2 years.



View the scans: [Green Power Purchasing Scan](#) | [Green Energy Production Scan](#) | [Green Development Scan](#) | [Action Plan Scan](#) | [Bicycle/Pedestrian Scan](#)

View the: [2010 Inter-Governmental Declaration](#) | [Article 4 – Interim Progress Report](#) on Clean Air and Climate Change Actions and Targets | [Read more](#)

School Buses, Air Pollution & Children's Health

Clean Air Partnership in collaboration with the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA) released a **School Buses, Air Pollution & Children's Health: Follow-up Report** in October 2010. The follow-up report examines the level of awareness about school bus emissions and the actions that have been taken to address them by different groups within Ontario. It also examines projects undertaken by the Federal Government, programs implemented by other provincial governments, and policies adopted by school boards in other provinces, to reduce emissions and exposures associated with school buses.

[View the Report and Factsheets](#) (Factsheets are also available in French)

For more information, please contact Kim Perrotta at kperrotta@cleanairpartnership.org.



Alliance for Resilient Cities Webinar

Date: November 16, 2010
Time: 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm (Eastern)

[Reserve your seat](#) | [View the flyer](#)

Overview

The Alliance for Resilient Cities (ARC) will host its final webinar of the year on November 16, 2010. The topic of the webinar will be **'The State of Adaptation Planning in Canadian Communities/ Mainstreaming Adaptation into Planning Processes'**. Presentations will focus on adaptation planning in three regions of Canada, with a view to sharing the experiences of communities at different stages in the process.

Speakers will include:

- ◆ **Victoria McGrath**
Town of Markham
- ◆ **Ryan Hennessey**
Northern Climate Exchange
- ◆ **Corien Speaker**
District of Elford

Information on ARC 2011 will follow shortly.



If you have questions, please contact Erica Pinto at epinto@cleanairpartnership.org.

[Read more](#)

Creating Cool Communities (C3Ontario)

The [Creating Cool Communities \(C3Ontario\)](#) program has been in full swing since the summer. We've had a lot of interest in the program, with homeowners from Toronto, Hamilton and Guelph requesting information on simple ways to cool their homes, such as cool roofs, cool pavements and trees and vegetation.

As we enter the fall/winter season, **we need your help** to continue to spread the word about the program!

Help us promote C3Ontario by:

- ◆ Adding the following link to your website: www.c3ontario.org.
- ◆ Sharing this [e-flyer](#) with your colleagues and friends.

If you have any questions about the program, please contact Erica Pinto at epinto@cleanairpartnership.org.

[Read more](#)

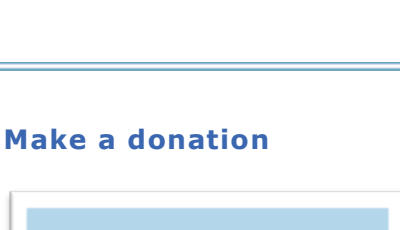


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We invite you to forward this newsletter to anyone who might be interested.

Note: e-mail addresses above (if any) have been masked to reduce spam. To form the correct address, rejoin the two portions, separated with @.

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Our mission is to transform cities into sustainable, vibrant, resilient communities, where the air is clean to breathe and greenhouse gas emissions are minimized. Over the past ten years, CAP has fulfilled it's mission to work with partners to achieve clean air, facilitate the exchange of ideas, advance change and promote and coordinate implementation of actions that improve local air quality.

What's in the air? keeps you connected to the Clean Air Partnership community and provides the latest news, events, reports and developments at Clean Air Partnership.

If you would like to learn more about our clean air and climate change initiatives, visit www.cleanairpartnership.org.

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Clean Air Partnership (CAP) is a registered charity that works in partnership to promote and coordinate actions to improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gases for healthy communities.

Charitable registration number: 890469562RR0001