CALL FOR PROPOSALS



The 8th Annual Complete Streets Forum On October 1, 2015 Toronto, Ontario

The Toronto Centre for Active Transportation (TCAT), a project of the registered charity Clean Air Partnership, invites you to submit a proposal to present your work at TCAT's 8th Annual Complete Streets Forum at the University of Toronto's Hart House on October 1, 2015.

TCAT has a vision of vibrant cities with clean air, a healthy population, and a transportation system that prioritizes walking and cycling. Our work advances knowledge and evidence to build support for safe and inclusive streets for walking and cycling. Our annual Complete Streets Forum provides an exceptional opportunity to bring together communities who share a common interest in active transportation issues. Attendees are a diverse groups of professionals, policy makers, researchers, advocates and decision makers from across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area and beyond.

As we build our dynamic and unique program each year, we take stock of recent developments and narrow in on key themes to help move the Complete Streets dialogue forward. The 2015 Forum aims to share, inspire and motivate learning on the full life-cycle of developing a Complete Street: from idea to policy through to implementation and evaluation. We will also continue building on previous years by highlighting accessibility, the intersection of health and transportation planning, and the role of equity. This Forum will serve to facilitate enhanced cooperation and collaboration between cities, agencies, disciplines and sectors, while also building the expertise and leadership needed in our communities to promote active and healthy environments.

See inside for details on this year's themes, our session formats and instructions for submitting a proposal. We're excited to hear about your work and to provide an opportunity to showcase practical solutions, innovative research and ideas that can be used to better plan and design our communities.

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Clean Air Partnership

Nancy Smith Lea TCAT Director

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Conference Themes - choose 1

The 2015 Complete Streets Forum will explore both successes & challenges, and share knowledge on how to activate vibrant and inviting streets that are accessible for all ages and modes of transportation in urban, suburban and rural contexts. Our program will be divided into the following three themes:

Theme 1: Plan It

This theme delves into policy and planning frameworks, design guidelines, and the role of Complete Streets in integrated transit hub planning. We're looking for presenters who can share their experience developing municipal policy, planning Complete Streets in urban, suburban and rural contexts, or who can share examples, strategies and plans at the regional or provincial level.

Theme 2: Build It

This theme covers implementation and infrastructure. It will provide details on technical aspects of engineering a Complete Street and also offers an opportunity to showcase before/after examples. We're looking for presentations that help build knowledge around the practical design and engineering considerations, opportunities and challenges experienced when building Complete Streets.

Theme 3: Ensuring that "They Will Come"

This theme looks at the factors that are needed for a successful Complete Streets project to be well used by cyclists, pedestrians, transit users and people with disabilities. It will illuminate the evaluation of Complete Streets, present the behavioural components of activating these spaces, and showcase strategic programming to leverage latent demand and build a culture in support of active transportation.

Conference Tracks - choose 1

Each of our themes will have two session tracks to help us deliver both specialized sessions that build on previous years and cater to returning attendees, while also providing sessions that are accessible to new attendees and those being introduced to Complete Streets.

Track 1: Foundational

These sessions should be accessible and useful for a broad and diverse audience.

Track 2: Technical/Advanced

These sessions will have a more technical or advanced focus intended for participants with some familiarity of Complete Streets concepts in practice.

Session Formats - choose 1

We will give preference to interactive and innovative proposals that offer to engage participants in dialogue, workshops, and training.

Stand Alone Presentation (30min with 15min Q+A)

or

Standard Presentation (10-15min each, grouped, with 15min Q+A) Share evidence-based research, best practices, or case studies in a lecture style format. 2-3 presentations will be combined within one session.

Panel Presentation (15-20min each, grouped, with 25-30min discussion) Propose a panel of up to four presentations on a single issue or topic. Each presenter should speak to a different perspective for about 5 minutes followed by 25-30 minutes of facilitated discussion. Applicants are encouraged to provide their co-panelists.

Hands-On Workshop (45 or 90 minutes)

Hands-on workshops use an example or case study and guide practitioners through one of the stages of Complete Streets: laying the foundation, policy development, policy implementation or project evaluation.

Mobile Workshop (60-120 minutes)

Lead a guided tour or salon-style session out on the streets of Toronto. We're looking for workshop leaders who can engage discussion and demonstrate innovative pedestrian, cycling and integrated mobility infrastructure or Complete Streets projects, proposed or in action within one of Toronto's 4 community council areas. Indicate intended transportation mode for the workshop (foot, bike, transit, bus). Preference will be given to proposals that include both a community leader and a professional leader.

Pecha Kucha (6 minutes & 40 seconds)

Pecha Kucha is a dynamic presentation format in which 20 slides are shown for 20 seconds each (six minutes and 40 seconds in total). Up to 6 Pecha Kucha presentations will be combined within one session. This rapid fire format is a fan favourite from last year.

Discussion Facilitator (30min with 5-8 people)

Suggest a small-group discussion topic that you would like to host and facilitate at one of our breakfast tables and help to energize the day.

Posters

Posters offer an ideal way to highlight plans, work in progress, or preliminary findings. Mounted posters will be displayed in the exhibit area.

Submission Requirements

Proposals should be evidence-based and preferably Canadian context. The proposals should relate to the planning, design, engineering, education, or evaluation of Complete Streets and speak in tangible terms about the experience.

Proposal Deadline: July 10, 2015

- 1. Your name & your organization's name
- 2. Contact info (address, email, phone)
- 3. Type of session:
 Stand Alone Presentation, Standard Presentation,
 Panel, Hands-On Workshop, Mobile Workshop,
 Pecha Kucha, Discussion facilitator or Poster
- 4. Identify the most relevant conference theme(s)
- 5. Track Type: Foundational or Technical/Advanced
- 6. Any details regarding co-presenters, format, etc.
- 7. Title
- 8. 100 word abstract
- 9. Confirm that your abstract can be published on conference website upon acceptance

You may submit via email to info@tcat.ca or online by clicking here.

The Fine Print

Policy

Complete Streets Forum 2015 is not responsible for lost or misdirected submissions and/or queries. All decisions of Complete Streets Forum 2015 are considered final. Complete Streets Forum 2015 reserves the right to modify, at its sole discretion and without notice, the information contained on this document.

Registration

Presenting authors of accepted abstracts are required to register after being notified of their acceptance. Presenting authors are responsible for their own registration fees and travel arrangements. Presenting authors will be entitled to a 50% discount on registration fees.

Acceptance

Authors will be notified if their abstract was accepted or not accepted. If your abstract is accepted, you will then be provided with the full presentation guidelines. All accepted abstracts will be published on the conference website. Please include agreement to this policy at the time of submission.

We look forward to receiving your submission for consideration!

For further information, please contact info@tcat.ca.