

For Immediate Release

September 16, 2015

**Building Safe Streets and Breaking Down Silos:
International transportation experts at Complete Streets Forum on October 1**

Toronto, Ontario -- The 8th annual [Complete Streets Forum](#) organized by the [Toronto Centre for Active Transportation](#) is coming to Hart House on the University of Toronto's downtown campus on October 1st, 2015.

The forum brings together international experts on transportation and urban issues, highlighted by an exceptional lineup of keynote speakers. This year's keynote speakers are respected practitioners and thought leaders on new approaches to safety for vulnerable road users, breaking down planning silos, new engineering solutions and creative community engagement tools.

Each of the keynote speakers at the forum is available to speak to the media about their work, how it relates to ongoing transportation and urban issues in the Toronto region, and their participation in the Complete Streets Forum:

Veronica O. Davis is a transportation guru recognized by the White House as a Champion of Change and Transportation Innovator who uses her knowledge and skills to spark progressive social change. She is a Partner at [Nspiregreen](#) and one of the co-founders of [Black Women Bike](#), a Washington, DC organization that encourages African American women to bike for health and wellness as well as for commuting. Veronica will also give a [Public Lecture](#) on September 30 at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre.

Charles Marohn is an engineer and planner who has worked as a consultant for many cities and towns, particularly in Minnesota where he lives. The insight and understanding he gained from his experience of how land use and infrastructure projects get designed, funded and built led him to start the non-profit group [Strong Towns](#). *Strong Towns* is an organization dedicated to ensuring cities, towns and neighbourhoods are financially strong and resilient.

Leah Shahum is the founder and director of the [Vision Zero Network](#), a project supporting cities working toward Vision Zero - the goal of zero traffic fatalities and severe injuries. Previously, Ms. Shahum was the Executive Director of the 10,000 member [San Francisco Bicycle Coalition](#), and has served on the Boards of Directors of the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway & Transportation District and the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency.

Dr. Monica Campbell is the Director of Public Policy with Toronto Public Health. Under her leadership, the department has become a leading research, policy, and advocacy unit that addresses a broad array of social and environmental determinants of health to make Toronto a healthy city for all.

To interview any of these speakers in advance of the Complete Streets Forum, please contact Kimberley Radmacher, cell: 416-294-4481.



Complete Streets Forum Media Events

1. PRE-CONFERENCE PUBLIC LECTURE

- WHEN:** 7:00-9:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 30, 2015.
- WHERE:** Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, 12 Alexander Street, Toronto
- WHO:** *Veronica O. Davis*, Co-Founder, Black Women Bike
- WHAT:** Pre-Conference Public Lecture
“Out of the mouths of babes: how a little girl started a revolution”
Presentation 7:00-8:30 p.m., cash bar to 9:30 p.m.
Tickets \$5 (w/CSF registration)/\$10 regular

2. 8th ANNUAL COMPLETE STREETS FORUM

- WHEN:** 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Thursday, October 1, 2015.
- WHERE:** Great Hall, Hart House, 7 Hart House Circle, University of Toronto, Toronto
- WHO:** *Dr. Monica Campbell*, Director, Healthy Public Policy, Toronto Public Health (8:45-9:00 a.m.)
Chuck Marohn, President, Strong Towns (9:00-10:00 a.m.)
Veronica O. Davis, Partner, Nspiregreen LLC; Co-Founder, Black Women Bike (1:00-2:00 p.m.)
Leah Shahum, Founder & Director, Vision Zero Network (4:15-5:15 p.m.)
- WHAT:** 8th Annual Complete Streets Forum
Keynotes, parallel sessions, hands-on workshops, walking tours, cycling tours
Wine and cheese reception follows at 5:30 p.m.
Tickets \$175-\$375