

27 July 2018



### **2018 CUTA Annual Conference Registration Now Open**

Join us in Toronto for Canada's premier Annual Transit Conference. Known for attracting industry-leading North American and international guest speakers and panelists, CUTA's **Annual Conference** is a must-attend event! [Register here](#). This year's theme is *Putting the Customer at the Heart of Transit*.

#### **Accommodations:**

Special rates, beginning at \$265, have been negotiated for the CUTA Annual Conference and Canadian Transit Show. Make your reservations directly with the **Intercontinental Toronto Centre Hotel** by clicking [here](#) or by calling 1-800-235-4670 and referring to the group block "CUTA Annual Conference and Tradeshow." The hotel is conveniently linked to the Metro Toronto Convention Centre (MTCC) for easy access to the event and is also steps away from Toronto's Entertainment District and many local attractions!

*For more information, please visit the [Annual Conference](#) page or contact [Paulina Cadena](#) at extension 118. Join us on Twitter #CUTAYyz*

### **Sponsorship Opportunities for the 2018 Annual Conference and Canadian Transit Show**

Act fast! CUTA is offering a range of [promotional opportunities](#) to showcase your business at our Annual Conference and Transit Show in Toronto!

As the exclusive sponsor of our popular event app, delegates will see your company's logo on every app page! Want to maximize your brand visibility at the premier Canadian Transit Show? Hop on the shoulders of over 1,500 visitors as the exclusive sponsor of visitor trade-show bags bearing your logo! If you would like to connect and discuss a custom sponsorship opportunity or package, just drop us a note.

Prefer events? You can also take advantage of our popular networking opportunities and put your mark on it.

*For more information, please contact [Paulina Cadena](#) at extension 118.*

### **Call for Nominations Now Open for CUTA Awards 2018**

Each year, CUTA is proud to recognize the efforts and excellence of outstanding individuals by presenting leadership awards in the following categories: Excellence; Ed Dowling (Distinguished Service); Heroism; and the W.G. Ross Lifetime Achievement Award. This is in addition to corporate awards in the following categories: Innovation; Environment and Sustainability; Marketing & Communications; and Safety & Security.

A task force of ten CUTA members was formed with the mandate to review the awards program, categories, criteria and awards selection process, as well as to consider new categories and recommend changes or improvements to the program. Check out the revamped CUTA Awards Program [here](#).

If you work with someone who fits these descriptions and deserves to be recognized, we encourage you to visit [our website](#) and nominate them for a CUTA Award **before September 3, 2018**.

*For more information, please contact [Marie-Noëlle Tudieshe](#) at extension 116.*

### **Reserve your spot today for CUTA's Policy Forum and Transit Awareness Days**

CUTA is hosting a public, free to attend Policy Forum from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM on **September 17, 2018** at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa. At the Policy Forum, pressing transit issues including [Building Great Rail Projects](#), [Planning for Growth](#), [Innovative Funding](#) and more will be discussed and explored by top speakers from across the country and abroad. You do not need to be a member to [register](#), and a detailed schedule will be released in the coming weeks.

If you are travelling from outside Ottawa, CUTA is partnering with the **Ottawa Marriott** to offer you special rates on your hotel reservation.

In addition to the Policy Forum, CUTA members are invited to join our Public Affairs Team on **September 18, 2018** for CUTA's Transit Awareness Day (TAD) on Parliament Hill. This is an unprecedented opportunity to meet elected officials face-to-face and inform them about the transit industry.

*For more information, please contact [Jeff Mackey](#) at 613-782-2454.*

### **Showcasing the Beauty, Complexity and Benefits of Transit**

CUTA recently launched its [first-ever photo competition](#) aimed at showcasing the beauty, complexity and benefits of transit in Canada. The photo contest is open to all photographers living in Canada and applicants have until **August 15, 2018** to submit their photos to any of three categories; Art in Transit, Transit Community, and Integrated Urban Mobility.

A jury will select the finalists on **August 22, 2018** and winners will receive cash prizes, including six \$200 prizes for finalists and three grand prizes of \$750. CUTA's communications team will be promoting the contest on social media with the hashtag #CUTAPhotoComp. Selected entries will become part of CUTA's photography collection.

*For more information, please contact [Jeff Mackey](#) at 613-782-2454.*

### **Federal Cabinet Shuffle Brings Changes to Transit Portfolio**

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau shuffled his cabinet on July 18, 2018. In this shuffle, **François-Philippe Champagne** was appointed as the new Minister of Infrastructure and Communities. Amarjeet Sohi, a champion of transit who held the title of Minister of Infrastructure and Communities since 2015, will become the new Minister of Natural Resources.

Remaining in their current ministerial portfolios are Minister of Finance Bill Morneau, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna, and Minister of Transport Marc Garneau. CUTA looks forward to continuing its collaboration with these ministers and their departments to promote sustainable, inclusive and economically vibrant urban communities empowered by transit.

CUTA also welcomes the appointment of Filomena Tassi as Minister of Seniors, a growing demographic of Canadians who greatly rely on accessible transit for their mobility needs.

For the complete list of ministerial changes, please refer to the following [news release](#) from the Canadian government.

For more information, please contact [Chad Jeudy-Hugo](#) at 613-552-2876.