

9 April 2015



Spotlights and must-attends: CUTA Annual Conference

The **CUTA Annual Conference in Winnipeg** is quickly approaching and we want you to know about some of the great speakers that have been added, as well as the sessions and promotions planned for you this spring. Over the next few weeks, we will be spotlighting program elements to help you plan to get the most out of this great networking event. For example, did you know that immediately following conference, there is a professional development course for essential communications skills training for transit supervisors? [The package](#) includes the complete conference itinerary plus a 2-day professional development workshop on people skills: communication, conflict resolution, mediation and coaching. We are also planning some exciting networking events, more detailed sessions whose themes will be carried over multiple days, as well as technical tours of some of the world's leading bus manufacturers. Also in a few weeks, keep an eye out for the popular conference app which will be available on iTunes and in the Play Store!

Above all...if you haven't already – [register today!](#)

For more information about the conference please contact [Paulina Cadena](#) at extension 118.

CUTRIC 101 – A Strategic Plan for Transit Innovation in Canada

Join Dr. Josipa Petronic, Executive Director, for an information webinar entitled **CUTRIC 101 – A Strategic Plan for Transit Innovation in Canada** on **Friday, April 24th at 1:00 PM EST** to learn how your business or academic research team can kick-start the next century of cutting-edge innovation.

The Canadian Urban Transit Research & Innovation Consortium (CUTRIC) is dedicated to working with transit authorities, business members, academic researchers, and public funders to generate the next generation of cutting edge innovations for public transit systems across Canada.

In this webinar, Dr. Josipa Petronic, Executive Director, will introduce the CUTRIC initiative and outline next steps for your business or academic research team.

[REGISTER TODAY!](#)

For further details, contact [Josipa Petronic](#) at 416-358-3206.

Public Transit Safety Ads now Available for Download

On Monday 23 March, CUTA and the ATU announced a [public awareness campaign](#) at a joint [press conference](#) to educate the public on the impacts of [Bill-S221](#), a new law for safer public transit.

We encourage all transit systems across the country to [download and print](#) the various creative concepts and sizes and post on available advertising space in transit shelters, stations, buses, and trains.

Video clips from the press conference can be viewed on [CUTA's YouTube Channel](#) and ads can be downloaded through our [Dropbox folder](#).

For more information, contact [Alex Maheu](#) at 613-788-7985.

FCM Recommends Dedicated Federal Transit Investment

In its 2015 federal pre-budget submission, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) recommends new federal investments of at least \$1 billion annually dedicated to public transit projects, to be matched by municipal and by provincial and territorial governments, for a total program value of \$3 billion per year. In addition, FCM recommends improving predictability and maximizing value for money by putting this investment on a long-term track with funding committed for 15–20 years, on five-year planning cycles, and allocating funding based on current and projected transit ridership.

For more information, visit the [FCM website](#).

Transit Ambassador – Empowering Trainers and Reducing Driver Assaults

[Transit Ambassador](#) is buzzing! With the newly updated and customizable material, the options for meeting your organizations needs are within reach. We recently certified new trainers that have left feeling empowered by the material presented to them in class. We are proud to present the new list of certified Transit Ambassador Trainers who completed their certification in Springfield, Massachusetts on March 20, 2015:

- [Chamaigne Dill](#)
- Jesus Sanchez
- Jorge Mendez
- Maressa Geryk
- [Melissa Rowe](#)

Transit Ambassador is also making news across the border. CUTA will be joining Los Angeles Metro in their efforts to reduce driver assaults by facilitating Transit Ambassador to their Division 18 in April. “As a former bus operator myself, I know the anxiety operators feel,” said Metro CEO Art Leahy. “Transit Ambassador focuses on customer experience and provides ways for operators to manage stress in their lives. I believe the training will help operators at work and at home.” You can read the full article [here](#).

For more information regarding the upcoming professional development learning events and all of the Training Department’s flagship programs, please visit our [website](#) and contact [Kevin Brown](#) at extension 121.

Scheduling and Runcutting - Level I for BC Transit

CUTA Training is pleased to announce that we were able to run a [Scheduling and Runcutting - level 1](#) learning event in Victoria in March and 16 participants from around Vancouver Island were able to learn the fundamentals how to schedule and cut runs. The course gives participants the tools to understand this vital transit process and many of the non-scheduling staff begin to understand how their roles in planning and operations integrate to keep people moving.

This learning event is offered again in Toronto on [September 14th](#) to enhance the skills of those who need to optimize the way their transit flows.