

Information Cafe: Crosswalk Safety **Item 7.2.1**

DalTRAC & HRM Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee

Date & Time: March 4th, 2015 from 4:30-6:30pm

Location: Engineering Alumni Lounge, B Building, 1360 Barrington Street

Workshop description

This workshop will facilitate interactive and lively conversations about crosswalk safety issues in Halifax. The main objective of the workshop is to disseminate our understanding of crosswalk plans and initiatives that currently exist in Halifax, while receiving feedback from the public to prioritize our next steps. Join the cafe-style dialogue with a ‘knowledge dealer’ (facilitator), drawn from the transportation planning and road safety community. The ‘knowledge dealer’ – by enabling the sharing of safety issues, plans, guidelines, stories and ideas – will spark an initial conversation with you and several others on a key question or topical area that is related to our understanding of crosswalk safety in our community.

The Process

This workshop identifies five broad themes for discussions at tables, allowing free thinking and the sharing of ideas about components of the 2015/16 Pedestrian Safety Action Plan which was approved by Halifax Regional Council.

1) **Engineering Plans:** Standards & Traffic Control Measures
Knowledge Dealers: Roddy MacIntyre & Tanya Davis

2) **Enforcement Plans**
Knowledge Dealers: S. Calder & other Halifax Regional Police staff

3) **Education Plans:** Awareness Campaigns
Knowledge Dealers: Jonathan Wilkie & other HRM Corporate Communications staff

4) **Evaluation Plans**
Knowledge Dealers: Taso Koutroulakis

5) **#SharetheRoadNS Movement**
Knowledge Dealers: Claire Van Leeuwen & Dr. Ahsan Habib

At single tables, up to 10 participants will sit together. After 20 minutes the participants will be asked to leave their tables, and to start new discussions at another table. Each participant will be able to engage in three conversations of their choice in the workshop session. After each 20-minute conversation, participants will be asked to write at least one emerging question, observation, or next step from the discussion on a post-it note, and place it on the wall under the appropriate heading. The post-its will be collected and summarized to help prioritize efforts in improving crosswalk safety.

From these conversations, a collective story will begin to emerge identifying what's working well, what's missing, and what to prioritize as next steps. It is expected that the workshop will generate conversation on crosswalk safety, highlight areas that are missing, and set directions for future initiatives. Lastly, by using a circle of support, participants will have the opportunity to indicate their desired level of future involvement towards Nova Scotia's movement for the safe sharing of the roads.

Responsibilities as a Participant

- Feel free to initiate conversations, share ideas, and identify crosswalk safety issues.
- After the 20 minutes of conversation, write a single phrase or sentence describing an idea, an observation, and/or an area you feel was lacking from the conversation. Place these on the wall under the appropriate headings.
- Switch tables after each round.
- Engage in fun, inspiring and illuminating dialogue.

Responsibilities as a Knowledge Dealer (facilitator)

- Take some time to prepare thoughts, questions and ideas before the workshop.
- For 60 minutes you will be hosting conversations at your table.
- Your table will be identified with a sign indicating a prominent topic area related to crosswalk safety.
- Each round will last for 20 minutes.
- You should have some knowledge of the dimension assigned to your table. Your role is to set the agenda, but also to encourage free thinking, the sharing of ideas, and to seek answers from the participants to questions that come up. You should attempt to answer all questions that arise during the sessions, to the best of your ability.
- After 20 minutes you will ask the participants to write a single phrase or sentence describing what they have learned from the session, an idea they have for improving crosswalk safety, and/or an area they feel was lacking from the conversation.
- You will ask the participants to CHANGE TABLES. You will then get a new group for another 20 minutes. These changes must take place at the same time, and a chief facilitator will give a warning that the current conversations must stop after three more minutes before "ringing the bell".
- There will be a note taker at each table, identifying major ideas and significant questions discussed in your table.

Workshop Outline

- Welcome & Introductions (5 Minutes)
- Background Presentation by DalTRAC (10 Minutes)
- Discussion Rounds (3* 20 Minutes)
- Transition between Rounds (2* 5 Minutes)
- Feedback (10 Minutes)
- Circle of Support (5 Minutes)