

Slow down this Canada Day week

With 129 road deaths recorded on OPP-patrolled roads so far this year (the most recent still under investigation), the OPP is reporting that speed-related deaths currently lead the other high-risk behaviours that cause fatal motor vehicle collisions. As of June 21, 28 people have died in collisions in which speed was a causal factor, surpassing inattentive related (23) and alcohol or drug-related (14) deaths.

With many Ontarians travelling to vacation destinations and to various Canada Day celebrations beginning this weekend, the OPP is asking road users throughout the province to help conduct a successful Aggressive Driving campaign between June 26 and July 1. According to OPP Deputy Commissioner Brad Blair, Provincial Commander of Traffic Safety and Operational Support, no one plays as significant a role in preventing aggressive driving-related road crashes as safe drivers.

Safe drivers refrain from behaviours such as speeding, following too close, making unsafe lane changes and road rage. Safe drivers should never let influence their driving. We want to see all drivers adopt safe driving behaviours and take pride in the excellent example they set and for their contributions to helping us save lives on our roads," said Blair.

The OPP will be highly-visible during Canada Day Week, raising awareness and enforcing laws associated with aggressive driving and all other behaviours on the road that put the motoring public at risk.

Boating and off-roading will also be part of the Canada Day Week celebrations for many people. The OPP will be out on Ontario waterways and trails, encouraging boaters to wear their life jacket, ensuring that off-road enthusiasts are wearing a helmet and that everyone taking advantage of these two outdoor recreational activities keep themselves and their passengers safe at all times.

If you suspect that someone is operating a motor vehicle, boat or off-road vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, do not hesitate to call 9-1-1. By working together, the OPP and the public can ensure that everyone has a safe, enjoyable Canada Day week!