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Modernized Traffic Acts Needed

As Summer begins the roads become busier as people travel about to enjoy the great outdoors and brush off the cabin fever. Bicycles and motorcycles also come out of hibernation. These smaller vehicles are less visible to drivers inside automobiles and are prone to higher collision incidences this time of year. Just recently we had several motorcycle collisions, where one driver perished from his injuries. Many drivers lack the proper training to drive safely and competently with current outdated licensing regulations in the 21st Century.

Today we have many more vehicles that are faster and equipped with many new distracting gadgets. Drivers are also distracted by conversing with passengers, cell phones, construction, traffic distribution incidences, and incompetent drivers. On the road, we also have to deal with many drivers that have developed



bad driving habits, either learned from family and friends or just being lazy. I am talking about improper signalling, following too close, cutting corners, and slow drivers holding up traffic in the left lane.

With many professions where the safe operation of large machinery, one needs training and experience to properly operate them. Before you become a pilot, you require hours of training before you are allowed to operate an airplane. Why are there no rules on the proper education and operation of motor vehicles encouraging drivers to pay full attention to their driving? We can avoid many traffic tragedies, such as the Humboldt Bronco's bus crash, caused by an unexperienced truck driver failing to properly cross a highway lacking the experience that comes with proper operation and safety training.

In the Netherlands, for an individual to get a license one must take 6 months of lessons before being allowed to take a driver's test. If you fail, you will need to take another 6 months of lessons before

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Recycling Stimulating the Local Economy

Consumerism, or the pursuit of the 'good life', has led to an economic crisis with a vicarious overproduction of goods that exceeds consumer demand. To encourage an increase in consumer spending many single-use and disposable items have been developed. Along with the packaging to ensure safe delivery and advertising of a product, with the excessive inventory, consumerism has generated an over-excessive amount of waste. Recycling was created to control, manage, reduce, and reuse our excessive amounts of discarded waste.

Recycling, a new service industry, has likewise created many new employment opportunities benefitting the

economy. There are drivers to collect and transport the waste to recycling facilities, which in turn also require machinery operators and sorters. Others are employed manufacturing the equipment, trucks, and construction and maintenance of structures required to properly process our reusable waste. Let us not forget also the many working remanufacturing products from those recyclables.

A never-ending supply of recyclables will keep many employed in many sectors of industry and commerce. Many of these jobs are local and stimulate the local economy, however, most of the recyclables are shipped miles away to support some other local economy. Striving

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for zero waste can create even more jobs. Instead of spending money on shipping and generating pollution with transportation additional local re-manufacturing facilities can be developed to create additional local employment.

As I hinted in WebStamp's article, Has Recycling Gone Array, glass could be remanufactured locally into new glass products. Such a local facility would employ additional workers and generate additional revenue boosting the local economy. There are many new Alberta breweries willing to help the local economy with the purchase of local products. The same could be done recycling aluminum into new cans.

Instead of shipping plastic to be remanufactured to Eastern Canada several Western Canada plastic remanufacturing plants should be built. This would help reduce local unemployment, reduce recycling expenses and pollution. For eco-sustainability these new facilities should be constructed eco-friendly and use renewable energy. Styrofoam is one recyclable

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Opportunities for green jobs in the waste sector




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The Joy of Public Art

While we are in the Calgary Municipal Building exploring The Bears sculpture we will head north inside and discover a sculpture created by the well-renowned Canadian sculptor Roy Leadbeater. Roy is best known for the 28-foot "Kinetic Sculpture" with moving parts created for the Four Western Provinces Pavilion at Expo '67 in Montreal. Also created by Roy is the abstract human form sculpture poised as its gracefully dancing in the Calgary Municipal Building foyer.

The bronze sculpture, known as "Joy" is one of many of Mr. Leadbeater's art that is exhibited around Calgary. We find

"Balancing Act" just south of the Triangle Gallery attached to the municipal building, the "Pieces of Eight" at the Nickle Arts Museum at the U of C, and Calgary Plus 15 Art - "Synergy". We also can find many of his artistic works in Alberta's Capital, where he passed away last year on May 09 at the age of 89.

Joy is reminiscent of Roy's abstract bronze sculpture works later in life. The vitality and sense of movement with two raised arms convey exuberance and joy. Depth is given to the large central torso and appendages with detailed undercutting darker areas reflecting against



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the highly burnished metallic surface. The sculpture portrays enjoyment with the rhythm life.

Roy Leadbeater's creative talent will live on through his sculptures and paintings that are widely exhibited in Canada as commissioned work in public spaces, many of which are displayed in Edmonton and Calgary, where he resided as a successful and accomplished artist. Roy's work is also displayed in many private collections and galleries across the Globe. "One of the great advantages of being in the arts, or anything creative, is that you never run out of ideas. What you run out of is time." Roy was known to say. He was happiest in life being creative with his sculpting or painting.

There are many public art projects in Calgary that vary in style, some even with controversy. Enjoy this Sculpture "JOY" and the many more Calgary has to offer. Subscribe for Free and we will notify you when each new issue is published so you can discover all the great Calgary's public art that we write about.

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you are permitted to take the driver's test again. Not yielding to a cyclist fails you immediately. Similar procedures and rules are required in Canada to help calm today's traffic mayhem. Defensive training and handling emergency maneuvers should also be included the training. Shortly after I got my license, I practised controlling skidding in ice and snow. This has actually helped over the years in controlling several situations where without the proper knowledge my car would most likely have skidded out of control.

The automobile industry is taking a proactive approach to encouraging safe driving by adding many safety features, such as lane-departure-warning, auto-cruise, etc. providing warnings and overriding driving functions in an emergency as with the automatic-emergency-braking. Many drivers are aware of many basic rules but lack the knowledge of the many rarely used ones. Driving a vehicle today is much more complicated than in the past and much more training is required to properly operate one and navigate it safely in traffic.

Government dawdles, as usual, all drivers can brush up on all current traffic rules and regulations and unlearn bad driving habits. Go to Alberta Government Transportation website once or twice a week and bone-up on Alberta traffic procedures. If you have an issue with merging onto a highway, like Deerfoot, then do your research, watch some YouTube on merging, and then go out and practise until you get the hang of it.

Make the M.A.D. Move by improving the way you drive. If everyone drove as they should there would less traffic turmoil, tragedy, and wasted time getting around in traffic. Of course, we still have to deal with the traffic lights, something we will tackle again in the future. For your May Long Weekend Getaway have a safe journey, drive safe and pay attention to your driving above all distractions. Better yet, skip the travel and have Staycation and support the local economy.

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Recycling Stimulating the Local Economy

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that is widely used, but rarely recycled. Here is a niche opportunity evolving Styrofoam remanufacturing.

To have eco-sustainable recycling we have to recycle as many items as we can. We can help prosper the local economy and save the environment by developing new innovative opportunities to reuse, repurpose, and remanufacture most of our recyclable items. Programs should be initiated by the Alberta and Federal Governments to encourage and support the development of remanufacturing plants to help diversify our capabilities, reduce unemployment, and prop up the economy.

Recycling needs to evolve to the next step and needs to be sustainable. Keep recycling as much as you can and encourage others to do the same. Join The Movement and strive to discover new ways to become a zero-waste society and preserve the planet for yourself, your family and friends, and neighbours for generations to come. It is up to you, and everyone else to eliminate waste and improve the way we live.