

Summer 2002

MADD

MATTERS

MADD
Canada's
Mission:
To
Stop
Impaired
Driving
And
To
Support
Victims
Of
This
Violent
Crime.

The 2002 review of provincial and territorial legislation

MADD Canada released *Rating the Provinces and Territories: The 2002 Progress Report*, which reviewed the provinces and territories current efforts in introducing new impaired driving legislation. The conclusion is that there are many examples of good legislation in our country — and the provinces and territories need to take some steps to make our roads significantly safer.

Two years after the launch of *Rating the Provinces*, MADD Canada's report reveals that some jurisdictions have made tremendous progress and are setting good examples in the fight against impaired driving (Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Yukon, Quebec and Ontario); some show signs of promise (Alberta and Newfoundland and Labrador); while others have done very little and need improvement (British Columbia, Nova Scotia, Northwest Territories, Prince Edward Island, and New Brunswick).

MADD Canada's Legal Director, Professor Robert Solomon, is the lead author of the *Rating the Provinces* reports. He sees them as providing a blueprint for initiatives and information on both the research and real-world practices that reduce impaired driving deaths and injuries. "Our annual reports provide both support and encouragement for provincial and territorial governments to keep their laws abreast of the progress that can be made. While some provinces have taken full advantage of our information to introduce substantive reforms, others have not implemented the necessary steps to



improve their laws."

Louise Knox, MADD Canada's National President, is 'cautiously optimistic' that the governments will make further progress in introducing new impaired driving measures. She sees MADD Canada's efforts in rating the jurisdictions as important work. "Our reports provide the provincial governments with comparative information on their legislation and it is a good way for our governments to know how they measure up. More importantly, it tells governments and the public exactly what is being done and what still needs to be done."

"MADD Canada is working with all of the governments to produce effective impaired driving laws," says Mrs. Knox. "With this annual reporting, we are urging governments to review the available legislation and to pass and implement new impaired driving measures. Provinces and territories only need to look at one another's legislation to set in place effective measures to improve Canadians' safety from impaired driving tragedies."

Andrew Murie, MADD Canada's National Executive Director, comments it is his hope that the organization's annual review of provincial laws will help to improve and standardize the laws across the country. "We want to see a consistent set of impaired driving laws evenly applied and enforced across Canada," says Mr. Murie. "With our on-going work relating to the *Rating the Provinces* study, MADD Canada wants to ensure

Chair's message:

Our service to Canadians

MADD Canada is a very unique and remarkable organization. At the very heart of our organization are the volunteers, many of them having experienced the pain of losing a loved one or being injured as a result of a senseless impaired driving crash. Therefore, the services and programs MADD Canada provides to victims of impaired driving are of paramount importance to us all.

MADD Canada volunteers are trying to make a difference by supporting the tens of thousands of Canadians who are victims of impaired driving. We are bound by a common mission to stop the crime of impaired driving. Our lifeline in supporting victims is a combination of the 1-800 line, the local Chapter offices, and the many trained volunteers who have become MADD Canada's battery of victim advocates. Serving as the Chapters' backbone in the organization, we have the support of a dedicated, professional National Office Staff. We are able to make contact with and stay in touch with Canadians via the 1-800 line and the national website – and are able to provide a wide range of support services to all Canadians.

In providing this perspective, I hope our membership can take a step back to reflect on what we are and why our organization does the things we are doing. We are a very strong national voice, comprised of thousands of individuals from coast to coast. Many of the public can recite our public awareness campaigns to us – and this is very good! We all can take some satisfaction in knowing MADD Canada is an organization that does not lose its focus on the service and support it provides to victims.

MADD Canada offers compassion and understanding. Many of our volunteers are victims themselves, therefore we can help with providing comfort and the referral of



people in need to the many resources that will deal with their immediate issues. MADD Canada not only offers support to the victims and their families and friends, it also offers hope that deaths and injuries caused by impaired driving crashes will cease.

One way in which we attempt to bring the horrific tragedy of impaired driving deaths and injuries into focus for the public is our National Candlelight Vigils. As you will read in this issue, these vigils are significant events for the hundreds of bereaved persons who come together to honour their loved ones. For others, having that brief glimpse of the humane side of what impaired driving crashes inflict on our society, the annual tribute is a sobering reality check that it can happen to anyone – and everyone must take drinking and driving seriously.

For this reason, MADD Canada was extremely honoured to have been the host of the first-ever International Candlelight Vigil of Hope and Remembrance and Victims' Weekend. It was an incredibly emotional and meaningful weekend for those victims, their family members and friends who attended. We had the wonderful experience of gaining new friendships – of growing friendships – and sharing with those who truly understand. Through the activities of the weekend and the vigil service, there was the necessary private time to reflect on personal losses and to strengthen our collective hopes. On behalf of the National Board of MADD Canada, let me express our appreciation for all those who came together and made this weekend so memorable.

It is a sad reality that every year, over 18,000 people are killed and an estimated 700,000 are injured across North America as a result of impaired driving crashes. It is deplorable to know that impaired driving remains North America's number one criminal cause of death. This of course, means our mission is far from over! Our MADD Canada family must continue – and will continue – to do the important work of supporting the many victims, those who are in need of guidance, assistance and understanding.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Katherine Macmillan". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Katherine Macmillan, Chair of National Board

2002 Review

(Continued from page 1)

all governments, the media and public are aware of the effective laws and practices in our country.”

Robert Solomon states that there are key policy issues all jurisdictions need to consider. “The research literature and experience in Canada has identified key initiatives that have proven effective in reducing impaired driving and the resulting deaths and injuries. MADD Canada will continue to focus on graduated licensing, 24-hour roadside licence suspensions,

90-day administrative licence suspensions, alcohol interlocks and other remedial programs. Those jurisdictions without these programs will be urged to introduce them, and the others will be encouraged to ensure that their existing programs are comprehensive.”

“In addition, the need to significantly enhance police enforcement powers is becoming increasingly apparent. While we have made a number of suggestions about enforcement powers, it is a subject that warrants a far more detailed analysis.” Prof. Solomon adds, “Enforcement

powers will be highlighted in our next report.”

Every three years, MADD Canada is committed to grading the respective jurisdictions on the completeness and effectiveness of their impaired driving legislation. MADD Canada will be releasing its next comprehensive legislative review and report card next year in 2003.

The public can view *The 2002 Progress Report* and other materials relating to the *Rating the Provinces* reports from a link off the top page of the MADD Canada website – www.madd.ca.

A Telling BAC Experiment

Durham Regional Police and MADD Durham Region Chapter teamed up in April to conduct a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) experiment and to reveal the effects of drinking alcohol on a person's body.

The participants were required to complete a number of sobriety tests while consuming measurable amounts of alcohol in a given period of time. Qualified police intoxilyzer technicians, using recognized breath equipment, administered standard breath and field tests to the participants to determine their blood alcohol concentration (BAC) levels. The tests were videotaped and the police and local MADD Canada representatives were on hand to make observations and to draw conclusions about what transpired through an afternoon of 'partying'.



Trained police and breath toxicologists were on hand at the Durham College, Police Training Centre, in Oshawa to record the results.

"The purpose of the experiment was, first, to demonstrate the effects of alcohol consumption using standard police investigative tests," says Nancy Codlin, President of the local MADD Chapter. "Second, through our observations, we have come to a better understanding of what increasing levels of impairment mean to a person's ability to drive."

In seeking answers to impairment, the core question was "Just how much is too much?" and the experiment provided us with some answers. Two initial observations have been made from the activities of the afternoon – first, that people feel impaired and would not likely drive a car at low BAC readings; and, second, that it is surprising to see the number of drinks it takes to get someone to a reading of 0.08% BAC – far after they are admittedly drunk.

"Participants were showing signs of impairment as low as 0.03% and 0.04% BAC – and five of seven participants said they wouldn't drive the way they felt at these lower levels of BAC," reports Police Constable Brendan Kennaley of the Durham Regional Police. "It was clear that we would not have wanted to have any of our participants driving toward us on the road after six drinks. Even after this much to drink, in some cases, they wouldn't have been charged with a criminal offence."

"The majority of participants said after a couple of drinks that they were not fit to drive – and yet it took many more drinks before they registered above the 0.05% BAC level," says Nancy



Participants were asked to drink beyond levels of 0.08% BAC in order to measure their ability to function.

Codlin. "Many participants had their eyes opened to just how much people can drink and still legally drive in our country. The experiment tells us that anybody consuming alcohol and having a BAC above 0.05% is not fit to get behind a wheel."

Andrew Murie, National Executive Director of MADD Canada, states: "Our country needs a lower BAC of 0.05% to reduce the risks on our roadways due to impaired driving crashes. What this showed us is that people have a sense that they are impaired and are a risk on the road at BAC levels lower than 0.05%. In fact, many said they were 'surprised', 'flabbergasted', and 'shocked', to know how much they could drink before they registered 0.05% BAC."

"It is a myth to say that lowered BAC's will criminalize the social drinker, or the person who has a glass of wine with their meal," says Mr. Murie, "we are not talking about a couple of drinks here. The fact is that, today with the criminal code level of 0.08% BAC, a person can drink to excess and still not be charged. This is the unacceptable risk to the safety of all Canadians on the roads."

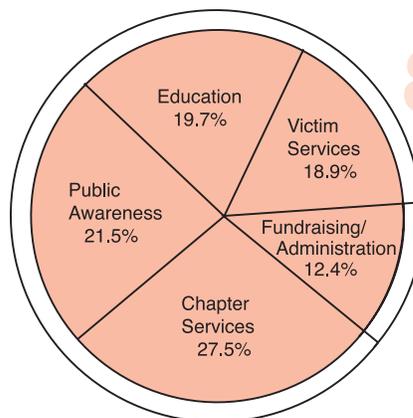
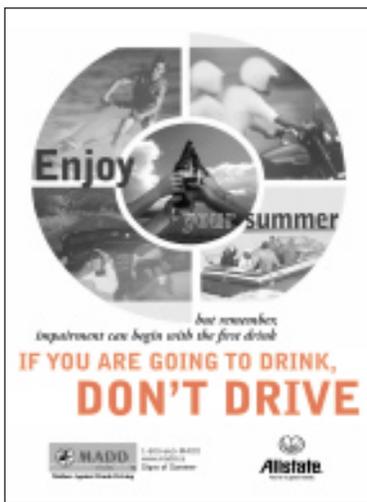
For the report on this Durham Region experiment, contact the National Office. Further news of the day's events can be found on the MADD Canada website.



Left to right: Constable Brendan Kennaley (experiment organizer), Andrew Murie (National Executive Director, MADD Canada), John O'Toole (Clarington M.P.P.), Nancy Codlin (President MADD Durham Region) and Constable Mark Stone (breath tech coordinator).

News Flashes from our over 50 Chapters and Community Leaders across the country

- During the week of April 21st, many Chapters held a "Volunteer Recognition Event" to celebrate National Volunteer Week and to recognize the tremendous commitment of the local volunteers. *Thank you to all MADD Canada's volunteers from coast to coast!*
- MADD Durham Region and MADD Kingston & District Chapters both held 'Alcohol Awareness' events to educate the public on the importance of lowering the legal impairment limit from 0.08% BAC to 0.05% BAC.
- MADD Central Saskatchewan kicked off the golf season with their first annual memorial golf tournament on May 11, 2002. Other Chapters have tournaments on their summer fundraising schedules. *Check with your local Chapter to see when you can tee-off in your area!*
- On the May long weekend, Chapters sponsored or partnered with their local police services for May Long Weekend R.I.D.E./Sobriety Checkpoint roadside checks. Participating Chapters who have sent in reports of their activities include Begetekong and Area, Central Saskatchewan, Halifax Regional, Kingston & District, London & Area, Sarnia/Lambton, Waterloo Region and York Region.
- Through a National Office grant, Chapters have been supplied with a new product from the makers of Fatal Vision Goggles. Used for public awareness and education in schools and communities, these new goggles show 0.06% BAC impairment and further illustrate the importance of lowering the BAC level.
- The Signs of Summer Campaign has been launched and posters, billboards, bus shelters, benches and marquees across the country are displaying a "Don't Drink and Drive" message. Of special note, MADD Edmonton Chapter is doing a billboard campaign focusing on victims' photos.
- MADD Huron/Bruce Chapter will host the 2004 Candlelight Vigil and Victims' Weekend at the Oakwood Inn and Resort in Grand Bend, Ontario. This lovely, peaceful setting will be the exclusive gathering place for victims to come and reflect and honour their loved ones on April 25-27, 2004.



87.6%

of your donation is spent directly on MADD Canada programs

R.I.D.E./Sobriety Checkpoint assistance



The Halifax Regional Chapter assists police with roadside stops on the May Long Weekend.

Tupperware Canada Inc. presents \$9,500.00 to MADD Canada

Thank-you Tupperware! Your support will help us stop impaired driving, save lives and prevent injuries.



Tupperware Canada Inc. presents a cheque for \$9,500.00 which was raised through sales in their March MADDness campaign. Left to right: Kelly Frank (Manager, Sales Training, Tupperware Canada Inc.), Andrew Murie (National Executive Director, MADD Canada), and Regina White (Managing Director, Tupperware Canada Inc.)

For a full list of Chapters and all their contact information, please visit the Chapter Directory on the MADD Canada website.

www.madd.ca

The International Vigil: A positive and life-altering experience

This past April 26th-28th, MADD Canada hosted the first-ever *International Candlelight Vigil of Hope and Remembrance and Victims' Weekend* in Mississauga, Ontario. Over 400 victims from across Canada and the United States gathered to honour and remember their loved ones and all victims killed or injured in impaired driving crashes.

"This weekend's activities were very special in that it provided bereaved people, injured crash survivors, caregivers, friends and supporters alike a time to learn, reflect, share, comfort and be comforted," says Louise Knox, MADD Canada's National President.

"The candlelight vigil service is MADD Canada's way for victims to come together in a respectful, reverent, and private space to relive the life, the loss and the memories of their loved ones," says Mrs. Knox.



Cathy and Mike Unsworth of MADD Sarnia/Lambton Chapter presented MADD Canada and MADD U.S. with conference keepsakes, which are now displayed in the respective offices.

The candlelight vigil service capped a weekend conference full of workshops, speakers, and meetings. Louise Knox: "It is very important that MADD Canada is able to provide this experience for its victims. It was a well-planned weekend that included a very high calibre of speakers, excellent conference workshops and events and a moving candlelight vigil. I would like to thank the national staff, whose attention to the details of this weekend made it an unbelievable success."

Wanda Kristensen, MADD Canada's Chapter Services Manager oversaw the weekend's conference. She reflects, "As delegates arrived from the far corners of North America, the common ties each victim had in their search for healing and support became very appar-



National President Louise Knox (far left) is seen here at the candlelight vigil with National Board member and RCMP Constable Dave Hall, Millie Webb, MADD U.S. National President (far right), and an unidentified participant from the United States.

ent. From the expertise of all the professionals who donated their time to lead workshops and deliver keynote speeches, to caring citizens who offered comfort, this weekend was a shining example of what each of us can do to accomplish MADD Canada's mission."

Mrs. Kristensen adds, "Feedback from those who attended indicated the weekend was a positive and life-altering experience. It was a very special time for many to share all the things they have learned through their experiences of having lost a loved one or being injured as a result of impaired driving. Many found comfort in hearing from others about similar thoughts and feelings. With this sharing, there is a realization that we don't face life's twists and turns alone."

Mrs. Knox agrees, "We were able to share and learn more about ourselves. Each of us was able to take something personal away from the conference."

Embracing Loss,
Touching Hope



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Chairperson of Board of Directors Kathie Macmillan
 National President Louise Knox
 National Executive Director Andrew Murie

How to Leave a Legacy™ to MADD Canada TOP 10 THINGS YOU CAN DO TODAY

1. Prepare a will. Only 50% of those who pass away have one. By preparing a will, and making a gift to MADD Canada, you retain control over how you wish to distribute your assets.
2. Leave a gift in your will for MADD Canada and help us to stop impaired driving and to support victims of this violent crime.
3. Leave a specific dollar amount or a percentage of assets to MADD Canada in your will.
4. Consider using assets for your charitable gift. Gifts of stocks, bonds, and GICs may provide additional tax savings.
5. Name MADD Canada as the beneficiary of your pension plan or RRSP.
6. Purchase a new life insurance policy naming MADD Canada as the owner and beneficiary.
7. Name MADD Canada as the beneficiary of an existing life insurance policy.
8. Remember loved ones with memorial gifts to MADD Canada.
9. Become a monthly donor.
10. Speak with your financial advisor about planned gifts such as bequests, charitable gift annuities, gifts of appreciated securities, etc.

For more detailed information call Alanna Scott at
 MADD Canada's National Office, 1-800-665-6233.

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\$15 \$25 \$35 \$50 Other \$ _____

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I have included a bequest for MADD Canada in my will.