INITIAL CALL FOR PAPERS 2009

Canadian Transportation Research Forum
44th Annual Conference, May 24-27, 2009

Inn at Laurel Point, Victoria, BC Canada

Conference Theme
The Impact of Volatility on Canada's Supply Chains and Transportation

Uncertainty is a major factor facing the transportation sector. Shippers and carriers are in crises and are reeling from the impacts of unanticipated shifts in economic fundamentals over the last eighteen months. The devaluation of the U.S. dollar, capital market weaknesses and increases in fuel and commodity prices have had a dramatic impact on some of the major North American industries including the housing, tourism, auto, transportation, energy and forest sectors. How can our transport system cope with rapid and unpredictable changes?

Timely research on this theme could address topics such as: how urban and intercity freight and passenger environments are changing; how to design supply chains to make them sufficiently flexible to cope with rapid change; how transportation and logistics services are evolving; and how to plan, finance and construct transportation infrastructure under conditions of uncertainty. Economic, managerial and policy research on all modes of transport is relevant to this discussion.

For CTRF's 44th Annual Conference, we invite prospective authors and presenters to consider the implications of the theme: the impact of volatility on Canada's supply chains and transportation. Economic, managerial and policy research on all modes of transport is relevant to this theme. Potential areas of focus include:

Aviation & Airports	Agricultural Transportation	Border Crossings
Carrier Issues	Commodity Prices	Coping with Volatility
Corridors & Gateway	Cold Chains	Commuters
Dangerous Goods	Environmental Issues	Financing/3Ps
Governance & Management		High Speed/ Passenger Rail
Intermodal	Intelligent Transport Systems	Inland Ports
Labour Issues	Local Neighbourhood Impacts	Leisure & Resort Travel
Logistics	Manufacturing Outsourcing	Maritime & Port Issues
Military Transportation	Operations Research	Optimizing Infrastructure
Passenger Transportation	Pipelines	Productivity & Costs
Railway Issues	Road Safety	Risk Management/Safety
Rural Transportation	Security	Shipper Issues
Special Event Logistics	Spiking Energy Prices	Statistics/Data Issues
Supply Chains	Sustainable Transport	Tax Policy
Technological Changes	Tourism & Travel	Trade
Transportation Education	Trucking	Urban Transportation
Vehicle Design	Warehousing	

The emphasis is on forward looking, relevant and thoughtfully presented applied research and policy recommendations of interest to the private sector, academia, and government.

CTRF seeks to maintain its preeminent reputation for open dialogue, stimulating exchange of ideas, challenging debate and forward looking considerations of transportation research for Canadian and international participants.

The CTRF annual conference will be of interest to participants from transport carriers, shippers, public sector, professional service firms, industry analysts, trade press and academics; all within a lively forum that has become a tradition in Canada.

In addition to the plenary sessions, paper presentations, the Conference offers panel discussions, special luncheon speakers, an Oxford style debate and networking opportunities to go alongside a very special companions' program.

Key Dates

Abstracts accepted beginning 15 October, 2008
Latest abstract submission 31 December, 2008
Latest response to authors 31 January, 2009
Full paper due 28 February, 2009
Conference 24-27 May, 2009

Conference Awards & Opportunities

All papers are published in a pre-conference set of proceedings. CTRF will continue its tradition of awarding prizes for the best conference papers. For 2009, there will be prizes awarded in the following categories:

Best overall paper
Runners-up
Best paper that is directly relevant to the conference theme

Authors of papers which are short-listed for prizes will be invited to submit their papers to the Canadian Journal of Transportation for review and possible publication. All CTRF authors are encouraged to consider submitting their papers through the CJT website.

In keeping with the CTRF's mandate to foster scholarship and encourage new entrants to the transportation industry, limited funding may be available to support student travel and participation in the 44th Forum. Details on eligibility and the application form will be posted in the Conference links on the CTRF website in the coming weeks.

Abstract Format

Abstracts should be 150-200 words (one page) in length and information should be provided on the name of the author(s), title, organization, mailing address, phone and fax

number, and e-mail address. Some abstracts may be placed on the CTRF website to promote the conference.

Abstract must be submitted electronically in a recognizable word processing format (Word or Wordperfect).

Panel Sessions & Debate

Suggestions for topics and volunteers to organize or participate in panels are requested. Propositions are also invited for the annual Bison Transport Debate.

Submit abstracts or inquiries to the Vice President of Programs and Publications:

Mr. Philip Davies
psdavies@telus.net

Conference Location & Venue

Located on the sunny southern tip of Vancouver Island, Victoria is full of life. Twice named Best City in the Americas, Victoria is one of the world's favourite places. Imbued with the beauties of a historical capital, the city is blessed with magnificent natural beauty all around. From superb cuisine, museums, galleries, glorious gardens and beaches and outdoor adventure, Victoria offers a truly remarkable conference venue and escape from the hurried world.

Victoria is the transportation gateway to Vancouver Island and is easily accessible by air, ferry, and road from major centers such as Vancouver and Seattle.
See Tourism Victoria's web site for additional information http://www.tourismvictoria.com

A block of rooms has been set aside at the Inn at Laurel Point located downtown on Victoria's Inner Harbour. 2006 Condé Nast Traveler rated The Inn at Laurel Point as "One of Canada's Top 20 Hotels". The hotel, located at 680 Montreal Street, is within easy walking distance of the Legislative Building, Royal BC Museum, Beacon Hill Park, downtown shopping and entertainment venues.

The best way for delegates to make their room reservations is to call (1-800-663-7667 or 250-386-8721) the Inn at Laurel Point's reservations department and quote the Canadian Transportation Research Forum, or group confirmation #58700 and you will have access to your negotiated rates. Please note the reservations office hours (08:00 – 18:00) as their off-site reservations agents that take over after hours do not have access to your block or to receive the CTRF discounted rates. The CTRF block of hotel rooms provide a number of attractive pricing options for conference delegates and their companions. A non-view guest room is $149, North Wing room, $169, Laurel Point room $189, and Studio Suite $249 per night. The conference rates are available for three days before and after the meeting dates, subject to availability. Book your hotel accommodation early to ensure the best selection within the available block of rooms. See **www.laurelpoint.com** for venue details.