

**We all play a part in keeping our roads safe**

**August 3, 2007**

(Toronto, ON) - At this time of year with people going to and from vacation destinations, our roads should be a safe haven, but sadly there is often tragedy.

Statistically there is a higher incidence of motor vehicle collisions in the summer, and on long weekends especially. For the past five years, the Trauma Unit at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre has seen, on average, 12 traumas over the Civic Holiday long weekend.

"Our trauma team sees firsthand the severe impact motor vehicle collisions have on families, friends and individuals," says Dr. Fred Brenneman, Chief of Sunnybrook's Trauma Program. "I would urge everyone to take road safety seriously this long weekend and every day, so that we don't have to witness another life lost or changed forever due to a collision."

We are not completely helpless, however. There are steps you can take to keep yourself and others safe. For example, if you witness unsafe driving, contact the OPP by dialing \*DWI or call 9-1-1. Ensure that you are rested and mentally prepared to focus on your drive. Build in time for your trip so you don't have to rush, and if you are going to be late phone ahead and remember - it is better to arrive a little late than not arrive at all.

By doing our parts as individuals, we can make our roads safer places for everyone over this long weekend.

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