



Get Home Safe

Being a teenager is an exciting time in one's life, and learning to drive can be both exciting and challenging.

While encouraging teens to hit the road, the BC Injury Research & Prevention Unit (BCIRPU) would like to remind everyone that young driver (aged 16-25) safety is a significant issue in BC. Youth are over-represented in all road-related injuries and deaths.

Statistics show that on average each year in BC,

- 28 young drivers die as a result of a Motor Vehicle Crash;
- 71 people die from crashes involving young drivers;
- 32,000 crashes where at least one youth (16 to 21) is involved (drivers and passengers)
- **Speeding**, driving while **impaired** (by drugs or alcohol) and **distracted driving** (by texting or using other electronic devices) are main reasons for a large number of these injuries and deaths.

The good news is that these injuries are predictable and can be prevented through evidence-based interventions.

Here are a few Teen Driver Safety Week reminders for all of us:

1. **Mind your speed and exercise patience**
2. **Don't take drugs and drive**
3. **Don't drink and drive**
4. **Have a designated driver when you party**
5. **Don't text and drive**

For more resources on teen driver safety, please see the links below:

[Young drivers: a population at risk - BCIRPU Injury Insight](#)

[ICBC's tips for teaching your teen to be a safe driver](#)

Encourage your friends and family to share this message through newsletters, websites, and social media. For more information on National Teen Driver Safety Week 2017, visit <http://www.parachutecanada.org/NTDSW>. Share your safety tips and posts on social media with the hashtag #GetHomeSafe.