

# Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Railway Association of Canada



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John Dalzell, CN  
Co-Chair  
FCM/RAC Proximity Steering Committee  
and  
Cynthia Lulham, Councillor, Westmount and  
Proximity Project Manager

# Background

- Most communities in Canada grew up around the railway tracks
- As population has grown, there have been more conflicts between people and trains
- Both rural and urban municipalities are affected





# Common Problems - Proximity

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- Noise, vibration, safety, vegetation control
- Crossing congestion
- Urban corridors – grade separation, land banking, prime urban land
- Protect integrity and expansion capacity of rail facilities – intermodal linkages
- Modal neutrality – taxes, full cost accounting

# Proximity context

- Result of community, economic growth, 24/7 rail network operations
- Rail transports two-thirds of surface freight in Canada, and 65 million commuter and inter-city passengers. Generates three per cent of transport GHGs
- Both rail and communities contribute to the problems – land use planning and business expansion, changes in





# Canada Transportation Act

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- Canadian Transportation Act was amended June 22, 2007.
- CTA can now hear complaints related to noise and vibration from rail operations.
- CTA will require due diligence by parties to resolve disputes.
- CTA released Draft Guidelines the end of October 07. The consultation process has been extended to the end of February, 2008 as requested.
- CTA guidelines to focus on required proximity elements and principles, not standards or thresholds.
- Under legislation CTA must offer mediation - but it is optional for stakeholders.
- CTA Guidelines will endorse the RAC/FCM “dispute resolution” process.



# FCM/ RAC Progress To Date:

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- RAC/ FCM signed first Memorandum of Understanding in 2003. Renewed in 2007.
- Established steering committee, three working groups, equal representation
- MOU supported by Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators (CAMA)
- Transport Canada and Canadian Transportation Agency sit on Steering Committee and working groups as observers.



# Steering Committee Members

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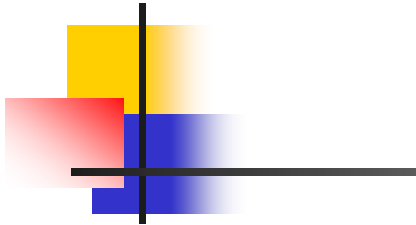
- Co-chair Sharon Hartwell, Mayor, Telkwa, BC
- Co-chair John Dalzell, CN, Vice-president, Risk Management
- Municipal gov't reps. –Langley, Pitt Meadows BC, Vancouver, Edmonton, Parkland County AB, Northern Sunrise County AB, Lacombe County AB, Toronto, Moncton, FCM, CAMA
- Rail industry reps. – Class 1s, short lines, passenger, RAC
- Observers- Transport Canada, Canadian Transportation Agency.



# Communications Committee

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- Purpose: Increase awareness and build understanding by key audiences
- Develops communications plan
- Produced and updated Good Neighbours video; on-going FCM Conference participation; case studies; produces annual progress reports
- Created continually-evolving Internet site [www.proximityissues.ca](http://www.proximityissues.ca)

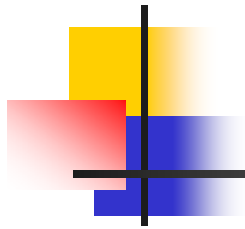


# Proximity Issues Website

**RAC** Railway Association of Canada | **Railway/Municipality Proximity Issues Information Base** | **FCM** Federation of Canadian Municipalities

Issues Reference Contacts | Home Members Site Map About Us Contact Us Français

Why This Site	Railway/Municipality Proximity	The Railway In Your Community
<a href="#">Fast Facts</a> <a href="#">Welcome... Being Good Neighbours</a> 	<a href="#">What is Proximity</a> <a href="#">Top 5 Proximity Issues</a> <a href="#">Full List of Issues</a> <b>What's New!</b> <a href="#">Events</a> <a href="#">Feedback</a>	<a href="#">Maps</a>  <a href="#">List of RAC Members</a> <a href="#">List of Municipalities by Province</a>
<b>Find Out More</b> <a href="#">What is Available</a> <a href="#">How to use this Site</a>	 <b>Français</b>	<b>Who We Are</b> <a href="#">This Joint Initiative</a> The Railway Association of Canada Federation of Canadian Municipalities



# Website Statistics (monthly)

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Website launched in June 2004

Year	Hits	Page Views
2007	26,000	11,300
2006	20,100	7,600
2005	19,700	6,400
2004	17,700	5,300



# Website – New Additions

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- Improved navigation
- Detailed descriptions of each issue (including FAQ's, applicable legislation & additional info. sources)
- A 'What's New' page for news features
- Significant volume of new content (reports, guidelines, multimedia, presentations)
- Addition of CAMA links/info
- Utilities to collect user feedback
- More dissemination via Members Section (meeting records, contact lists, calendar, updated terms of reference, docs)



# Guidelines Committee

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- Promote the research, consult with stakeholders and encourage implementation of the recommendations in the Guidelines and Best Practices Report
- Develop a strategy to imbed the guidelines and their interpretations into the curriculum of educational institutions – municipal planning, urban development



# Dispute Resolution Committee

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- Purpose: Continue the development and implementation of effective dispute-resolution protocol
- Test case the “Dispute Resolution Model” through monitoring of Citizen Advisory Panels (CAPS)



# Guideline Implementation

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- The City of Edmonton is incorporating parts of the Guidelines and Best Practices Report in zoning by-law amendments for developments adjacent to railway right-of-way
- Transport Canada announced a multi-stakeholder agreement for the Roberts Bank Rail Corridor that includes a clause to undertake best efforts to apply the Guidelines and Best Practices for new developments and rail operations and expansion



# Outreach Efforts

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- FCM Conference, May 2007, Calgary
- CAMA Conference, May 2007, Calgary
- Canadian Institute of Planners, June 2007, Quebec City
- Progress report to FCM Standing Committee on Transportation, September 2007.
- Proximity Workshop, RAC Annual Meeting, Vancouver, October 2007



# Feedback

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- Questions