

www.carpool.ca

Rideshare Review

Volume 10

September/October 2001

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Asthma and Air Pollution
- Producers of Major Greenhouse Gases
- Interesting Facts
- Transportation Conference
- Program Growth

Rideshare Review
is now available
online at

www.carpool.ca

Check it out!

Asthma Drops along with Air Pollution

The air cleared – the level of pollutants such as lung-searing ozone dropped almost 30 percent during the 17 days that Atlanta hosted the Olympic Games in July and August 1996. Asthma attacks among children in the city and surrounding suburbs also plummeted dramatically – 42 percent. The number of asthmatic children who required hospital stays fell 19 percent.

But asthma rates rose back to their normal levels after the athletes packed their bags and went home.

The answer came down to cars, or rather, the lack of them. Atlanta went to great lengths to provide public transportation during the Games. It moved huge numbers of spectators around the city in fleets of buses, closed the downtown to cars, and operated public transit around the clock.

The result was a drastic reduction in the amount of vehicle exhaust and the city's brief outbreak of good health, explains a report published in the Journal of the American Medical Association this year.

"Of the factors potentially affecting asthma morbidity that we could readily assess, air quality remains the likely cause for the decline in asthma," the researchers conclude.

Atlanta's experience clearly illustrates what more and more studies are finding: Global warming and urban air pollution are two sides of the same coin and cutting greenhouse gas emissions locally would reap immediate public health benefits.

- Martin Mittelstaedt, Associated Press

Producers of Major Greenhouse Gases

Following are the 10 countries that produce the most carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide, which make up the majority of the greenhouse gases.

Figures are for 1997.

Country	Total Emissions (in millions of metric tonnes)	Emissions Per Capita (in metric tonnes of CO2 equivalent)
United States	6,503.8	24.3
China	4,964.8	4.0
India	2,081.7	2.2
Russia	1,980.3	13.4
Japan	1,166.1	9.3
Germany	956.0	11.6
Brazil	695.7	4.2
South Africa	677.2	15.9
Canada	634.0	20.9
Britain	618.7	10.5

Source: US Environmental Protection Agency,
Census Bureau International Data Base

Have you visited www.carpool.ca lately?

If not, take a few minutes and check out the three new web pages we've added including an on-line survey, downloadable newsletters, promotional materials and media releases!

LINK YOUR COMPANY'S
WEBSITE TO
WWW.CARPOOL.CA

Fact:

In urban areas, motor vehicles release up to 90% of the carbon monoxide in the air. Carbon monoxide is hazardous because of its effect of decreasing the capacity of blood to carry oxygen.

Source: US Dept of Energy

“Moving Beyond Planning—Implementing Transportation Solutions”

Vancouver, BC will play host to the first national Canadian conference on Transportation Demand Management (TDM) for transportation professionals, workplace TDM coordinators, policy-makers, business leaders, and community organizations from across Canada and the Pacific Northwest.

Presented by B.E.S.T. (Better Environmentally Sound Transportation), conference speakers will include Don Chen, Executive Director for Smart Growth America and Beth Johnson, Former Chair of the GVRD Transportation and Strategic Planning Committee, and former board member of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

One of the conference’s goals is to further discussion and planning to create a national Canadian TDM Network, such as a Canadian chapter of the U.S. Association for Commuter Transportation (ACT). Concrete case studies of best practices in the implementation of TDM policies and programs in Canada and the U.S. will be examined. Presentations will include award-winning programs designed to inspire and ignite our imaginations. As well as examining the relationship of TDM to the overall health of people, cities, and the environment, this conference will provide effective tools and strategies for workplace coordinators. Let’s move beyond planning and into action!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Joy Schellenberg
Conference Coordinator
604-736-4374
joys@portal.ca

It’s a Fact!

To date, www.carpool.ca has over 100 carpools registered, reducing greenhouse gas and tailpipe emissions by over 95 tonnes annually.

Keep up the great work!

Sample presentation and workshop topics:

- promotional and social marketing techniques for the workplace
- Economic tools and innovative strategies
- Workplace incentive programs
- Transportation Management Associations (TMAs)
- Parking management strategies and policies
- Integrating TDM principles into land use planning
- U-Pass programs



PO Box 192
Shawnigan Lake, BC
Canada V0R 2W0

Phone: 1.800.668.RIDE
Fax: 250.743.8000

www.carpool.ca

E-Mail: information@carpool.ca

.....the key to ridesharing

Commuter Connections, the people that bring you carpool.ca, is a British Columbia based non-profit organization committed to reducing single occupancy vehicle through the promotion and implementation of rideshare programs.

The Rideshare Review is a forum for sharing information to aid in the delivery of rideshare programs. Every month, we try to provide useful tips to individuals and organizations engaged in ridesharing initiatives. We would be happy to hear your feedback, success stories or any ideas you would like to see incorporated into future issues.

Commuter Connections would like to acknowledge funding from the Climate Care Trust Fund made possible by a donation from the Insurance Corporation of BC. We also acknowledge past funding contributions from Environment Canada/Natural Resources Canada's Climate Change Action Fund.

For more information, please visit our website at www.carpool.ca, call us at 1.800.668.RIDE, or send an e-mail to information@carpool.ca. There may be others who would benefit from information on ridesharing. Please pass this newsletter on!

