

Intersections can be dangerous



Last year, one in five traffic fatalities occurred at an intersection.

In 2012, there were nearly 35,000 collisions at intersections in our province. Seventy people were killed and almost 8,000 people were injured in these collisions.

Some people think that driving in the city has more risk. Well, not necessarily — 54 per cent of last year's fatal intersection-related collisions happened in rural intersections.

Driver error is often the cause

Almost 88 per cent of collisions can be attributed to driver error. Following too closely, running off the road, making an unsafe left turn, disregarding a stop sign and running a red light are the most common driver errors and many of these behaviours occur at intersections.

Every bad habit collides in an intersection

We want to make drivers aware of this danger. And so, our government is introducing a new educational campaign, entitled "Every bad habit collides in an intersection." This campaign is supported by a variety of activities undertaken with our traffic partners. Together, we are increasing awareness of the dangers at intersections and the common driver errors that often occur there.

How can you stay safe while driving through an intersection?

Go back to the basics! Simple changes can make a positive difference.

- Always look before proceeding through an intersection watch for other drivers and pedestrians.
- Ensure it is safe to turn left before doing so.
- Obey traffic signs and signals. In particular, fully stop at red lights and stop signs.
- Leave ample room between your vehicle and the vehicle in front.
- And lastly, be prepared for the unexpected pedestrians, changing lights, slippery road conditions or even other drivers.

More information

Saferoads website: <u>www.saferoads.alberta.ca</u> Alberta Transportation website: <u>www.transportation.alberta.ca</u>



Aberta Government