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News Release

October 3, 2018

CAA School Zone Safety Assessment

CAA, Regina Police Service, Regina Public and Regina Catholic School Divisions, Identify 646 Risky Behaviours by Drivers, Pedestrians and Cyclists in School Zones

Earlier today, Wednesday, October 3rd, 2018, between the hours of 7:30 and 9:00 a.m., CAA along with staff from the Regina Public and Regina Catholic School Divisions and members of the Regina Police Service Traffic Department and School Resource Officers worked in teams to track risky driver, pedestrian and cyclist behaviours in a school zone. Today's assessment took place at Regina's Judge Bryant School, 2828 Dewdney Avenue. As school zones are becoming increasingly busier, a CAA School Zone Safety Assessment also took place on the afternoon of Tuesday, October 2nd between 2:30 and 3:40 p.m. at St. Francis Community School, 45 Mikkelson Drive, Regina.

"Everyone agrees school zones should be the safest places for our children," said Chief Evan Bray, of the Regina Police Service, "But there's still a gap between knowing and practicing safety strategies in our school zones. Thanks to CAA, our two school zone safety assessments recorded some risky infractions in our school zones. We are not surprised by them; we ticket speeding drivers daily. Regina motorists know the speed limit in school zones is 40 km/h from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., 365 days a year. But somehow the message doesn't always make it from the brain to the foot on the accelerator. We appreciate the results of the assessment which will help further educate the importance of school zone safety. We all need to work together to keep our school-aged children safe."

"We regularly hear from parents and community groups about how school zone safety is important to them," says Mike Walter, Deputy Director, Regina Public Schools. "Schools work with students and partners in the community to teach the importance of following the rules of the road, being cautious and always keeping alert around all vehicles. It is important to us to help our most vulnerable road users keep safe as they travel to and from school and we appreciate this initiative."

"One of the major concerns in not only our school division, but others as well, are the drop off and pick up times which can be hectic for parents," said Dave Magnusson, Superintendent, Regina Catholic School Division. "But safety should always be a key focus. We encourage all parents and caregivers to meet with their local school administration team to review drop off and pick up areas and become familiar with the marked, no-stopping areas. St. Francis Community School has an active CAA School Safety Patrol and we remind all road users to obey the instructions of the patrollers as their priority is assisting school children to cross streets safely."



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Through CAA polling, parents with young children have reported an increase in unsafe driving practices in school zones. The top two hazardous driving behaviours that motorists perform in a school zone are speeding and distracted driving. “We know that school zones are becoming more dangerous,” said Christine Niemczyk, CAA Director of Corporate Communications and Public Relations. “But we know that our road users also include pedestrians and cyclists, which is why the CAA School Zone Safety Assessment tool was designed,” Niemczyk added. “Through our CAA owned tool, we can track risky behaviours by all types of road users on a typical school day.”

The results for the CAA School Zone Safety Assessments for Tuesday, October 2nd, 2:30 to 3:40 p.m. at St. Francis Community School and the Wednesday, October 3rd, 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. at Judge Bryant School follow.

The combined number of risky behaviours at both school assessments is 646 (194 at St. Francis Community School and 452 at Judge Bryant School).

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For further information, contact:

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ST. FRANCIS COMMUNITY SCHOOL, 45 MIKKELSON DRIVE, REGINA CAA SCHOOL ZONE SAFETY (SZS) ASSESSMENT – OCTOBER 2, 2018, 2:30 – 3:40 P.M.		Number of Infractions
RISKY BEHAVIOURS: DRIVERS		
Stopping Violations	No stopping zone	7
	No parking zone	7
	Doesn't stop at crosswalk	11
	Doesn't stop at stop sign	54
	Stopping or parking in a handicap zone	2
Speeding	Speeding (range from 41 km/h to 58 km/h)	42
Disobeying Road Rules and Signs	Doesn't signal to change lanes	3
	Doesn't yield	3
	Doesn't signal to turn	1
	U-turn in school zone	5
	Stunting	1
Unsafe Drop Off / Pick Up	Uses residential driveway	4
	Uses staff parking lot	2
Motorist Distractions and Other	Texting/talking	6
	Eating/drinking	1
	Smoking in car with kids	2
	Not wearing seat belt	3
	Vehicle license plate covered	1
RISKY BEHAVIOURS: CAA SCHOOL SAFETY PATROLLERS		
Disobeying CAA School Safety Patrols	Motorist disobeys patroller(s)	1
	Pedestrian disobeys patroller(s)	1
RISKY BEHAVIOURS: PEDESTRIANS		
Pedestrian Infractions	Jaywalking	20
	Distracted walking while crossing the street (using phone, texting, etc.)	3
	Fail to look both ways before crossing the street	2
	Doesn't wait for crosswalk lights prior to crossing the street	2
RISKY BEHAVIOURS: CYCLISTS		
Cycling Infractions	Not wearing helmet	2
	Not signaling intentions	1
	Cycling on the wrong side of the road (against traffic)	1
	Not dismounting bike to cross street	1
	Doubling - more people on bike then it was designed for	5
SUB-TOTAL INFRACTIONS FROM ST. FRANCIS COMMUNITY SCHOOL		194



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JUDGE BRYANT SCHOOL, 2828 DEWDNEY AVENUE E, REGINA CAA School Zone Safety (SZS) Assessment – October 3, 2018 from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.		Number of Infractions
RISKY BEHAVIOURS: DRIVERS		
Stopping Violations	No stopping zone	11
	No parking zone	2
	Doesn't stop at crosswalk	20
	Doesn't stop at stop sign	3
	Stopping or parking in a handicap zone	17
Speeding	Speeding (41 km/h to 46 km/h)	28
Disobeying Road Rules and Signs	Doesn't signal to change lanes	6
	Doesn't yield	1
	Ignores no entrance/exit	5
	Doesn't signal to turn	16
	Runs red or amber street light	19
	U-turn in school zone	2
Unsafe Drop Off / Pick Up	Uses residential driveway	3
	Drops kids off/picks kids up on the street/lane	40
	Other unsafe drop off/pick up	16
	Uses staff parking lot	74
Motorist Distractions and Other	Drops child off in the crosswalk	6
	Texting/talking	22
	Eating/drinking	31
	Grooming	3
	Smoking in car with kids	9
	Not wearing seat belt	39
Vehicle license plate covered	1	
RISKY BEHAVIOURS: PEDESTRIANS		
Pedestrian Infractions	Jaywalking	12
	Distracted walking while crossing the street (using phone, texting, etc.)	10
	Fail to look both ways before crossing the street	23
	Doesn't wait for crosswalk lights prior to crossing the street	13
RISKY BEHAVIOURS: CYCLISTS		
Cycling Infractions	Not wearing helmet	6
	Not dismounting bike to cross street	5
	Distracted cycling (using phone, texting, headphones, etc.)	1
	Doubling (more people on bike than it was designed for)	8
SUB-TOTAL INFRACTIONS FROM JUDGE BRYANT SCHOOL		452