



Amalgamated Transit Union, Canadian Council

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ATU-Canada Conference on Violence and Security in Public Transit

Major transit and inter-city bus union will hold a conference on violence and security in public transit this week.

Attention: City Editor, News Editor, Government/Political Affairs Editor, Transportation Editor

TORONTO, ONTARIO, MEDIA ADVISORY--(CCNMatthews - March 8, 2006) - An escalation in violent assaults against public transit and inter-city bus workers has prompted the Amalgamated Transit Union, Canadian Council, to hold a Conference on Violence and Security in the Public Transit and Inter-city Bus Industries this Friday, March 10th and Saturday, March 11th at the Four Points Sheraton Airport Hotel, 6257 Airport Rd., Mississauga, Ontario.

The intention of the conference is to bring attention to the problem of violence against public transit and inter-city bus workers and security issues in those industries. Management and labour will draw together to listen to experts on security and violence in public transit, to share experiences (successes and failures) of joint efforts between labour and management in addressing workplace violence and security issues and to formulate organizational and industry-wide strategies to tackle these issues.

Individual conference speakers will include:

- * Calvin Barry, criminal lawyer and former crown prosecutor;
- * Laureen Kinney, Director of the Transport Canada Task Force on Rail and Urban Transit Security;
- * Martin Mayer, Transport and General Worker's Union, UK;
- * Karen McGrath, CEO of the Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario Division;
- * Adrian Moy, National Transit Institute, Rutgers University;
- * Michael Roschlau, CEO of the Canadian Urban Transportation Association;
- * Allison Stuart, Director of the Emergency Management Unit of the Ontario Ministry of Health will be speaking on pandemic flu for this conference as it ties into security on a personal level and it is an issue that our members have expressed concern about.
- * David Wildbore, Superintendent, Transport Operational Command Unit, Metropolitan Police, London, UK;

There will also be two panel discussions. One will be comprised of representatives from transit and inter-city bus systems who will outline the measures they have taken to address the issue of violent assaults. This will be followed by another in which ATU representatives from each of those systems will offer their perspective on the approach to the issue of violence against transit and inter-city bus workers.

We have had a very positive response from the management of transit and inter-city bus systems and we're currently expecting over 140 people to attend this important and timely conference.

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IN: JUSTICE, LABOUR, TRANSPORT

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