

REVIEW OF MPI'S ROAD SAFETY PROGRAM MODEL

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INTRODUCTION

- Manitoba Public Insurance (MPI) undertook an independent review of its road safety model to
 - assess its alignment with the Corporate Strategic Plan, current road safety best practices, & evidence-based strategies
 - advise on the appropriate size and optimization of a road safety budget
- Outline of analytical approach
- Overview of assessment
- Summary of recommendations

ANALYTICAL APPROACH

- MPI's current road safety mandate
- Overview of literature on nature of road safety governance, policy and program planning
 - how different jurisdictions structure road safety programming elements, processes, and funding (governance models)
 - effectiveness of road safety programs and models
 - developing a road safety model assessment framework
- Description of road safety governance in Manitoba
- Jurisdictional comparison
- Assessment of MPI's road safety model
- Recommendations

MPI'S ROAD SAFETY MANDATE

- administer basic compulsory, universal auto insurance
- administer vehicle registration
- *Manitoba Public Insurance Act* provides MPI with the power and capacity to administer *The Drivers and Vehicles Act*
- lead driver and vehicle safety initiatives that reduce risk and protect Manitobans (Corporate Strategic Plan 2012-2016)
- engage in loss prevention and reduction activities that reduce the number and/or the cost of claims to the Corporation

CURRENT ROAD SAFETY MODELS

- Various global approaches to road safety reflect its complex and multi-disciplinary nature:
 - three Es – engineering, enforcement and education;
 - the safe systems approach to road safety
 - public health approach
- safe systems approach current model of choice. - identifying and addressing the major sources of error or design weaknesses that contribute to crashes and mitigate the severity and consequences of injury
- public health model reflects a global focus on road safety by the World Health Organization & brings a systematic approach to road safety problem solving that has traditionally been applied to issues of disease and injury control.

ROAD SAFETY GOVERNANCE

- various types of governance structures exist to implement road safety programs
- scant literature on the effectiveness of road safety governance models
- choice of structure and model depends on local conditions
- a number of key organizational elements may be applied at all governmental and organizational levels
 - designating an organizational lead;
 - collaborating with partners; and,
 - sustainable funding
- complexity of road safety contributes to the difficulties governments have in grappling with effective solutions

ROAD SAFETY MODEL ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

Literature and road safety jurisdictional models provided the basis for the proposed assessment criteria:

- ✓ demonstrated road safety leadership
- ✓ organizational structure to support road safety priorities
- ✓ road safety planning – flexible and including targets where appropriate
- ✓ the need for sound data and research to support policy and program development and interventions (evidence base)
- ✓ ongoing environmental monitoring (evidence base)
- ✓ decision making criteria to determine priorities
- ✓ appropriate funding to support priorities
- ✓ collaboration and coordination between and among key road safety partners and stakeholders
- ✓ ongoing monitoring and evaluation of impacts and outcomes

MPI ROAD SAFETY MODEL ASSESSMENT

- Looked at the extent to which MPI efforts achieved these elements as an indication of the soundness of its programming and structure.
- MPI's road safety model contains the key elements required of a good road safety framework:
 - an holistic perspective (safe systems based)
 - documentation of the processes
 - criteria for decision making, planning, research, and monitoring
 - data-driven and evidence-based
- MPI has developed a framework for road safety prioritizing and decision making based on research, data, and evaluative evidence
- Road safety framework also recognizes that evidence changes and thus priorities will shift; necessitating an ongoing consideration of priorities and funding needs.

FUNDING ROAD SAFETY

- Large body of practical knowledge gives some indication on effective measures and which situations support sustainable funding decisions
 - ...but the appropriate size of a road safety budget is not subject to simple formula
- Many factors impact funding decisions:
 - Expected benefits of road safety measures
 - How society perceives the importance of road safety
 - Effectiveness of measures
 - Viable and sustainable sources of funding
 - Political will, etc.
- Two key assessment methods
 - Cost benefit analysis
 - Cost effectiveness analysis

FUNDING ROAD SAFETY

- Little jurisdictional consistency in terms of how dollars are allocated to various program areas
- No precise guidelines about the maximum percentage of a budget that is worth spending on an evaluation/efficiency or effectiveness assessment (Rosebud Thematic Network, 2006)
 - % of budget
 - Road funds
 - Benefit ratios
- Overall road safety budgets are allocated in relation to the national annual budget, GDP, and the size of the countries (Conference of European Directors of Roads, 2008)
- Budgets should support implementation to effect proven road safety measures & achievement of goals.

FUNDING ROAD SAFETY AT MPI

- MPI has developed a framework for road safety prioritizing and decision making which
 - Is research-based
 - Is data driven
 - Uses evaluative evidence
- The road safety framework recognizes that evidence changes and thus priorities will shift
- This necessitates ongoing consideration of priorities and funding needs.

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Review departmental roles in relation to the Loss Prevention Strategy and Framework and the new Provincial Road Safety Committee including identifying additional opportunities to collaborate with internal partners on new and ongoing initiatives.
- Consider incorporation of additional Loss Prevention Strategy and Framework criteria and process in the *Priority Setting Methodology*.
- Identify priority and funding shifts as a potential challenge in the *Priority Setting and Program Development Framework*.
- Consider clarifying reference to focusing resources to convey priority setting as a tool for funding decisions.
- Consider including behavioural change in the intended outcomes for road safety education in the Program/Portfolio Monitoring and Evaluation Framework.