



October 4–8, 2027 | **Paving the Road to a Cleaner Future**
Vancouver Convention Centre

www.wrc2027vancouver.com

A Message from the President of PIARC

On behalf of PIARC – World Road Association, it is my great pleasure to invite you to participate in the XXVIII World Road Congress, to be held in Vancouver, Canada, from 4 to 8 October 2027.

Since 1908, PIARC World Road Congresses have brought together the international road community to exchange knowledge, share best practices, and strengthen global cooperation. Vancouver 2027 will continue this tradition by bringing together policymakers, road administrations, researchers, industry leaders, practitioners, and academics to address the challenges and opportunities shaping the future of roads and road transport.

Canada provides an ideal setting for this global gathering. Its vast geography, diverse operating environments, and long tradition of innovation in transportation infrastructure demonstrate the essential role that roads play in connecting communities, supporting economic development, and improving quality of life.

The Congress will present the achievements of PIARC's 2024–2027 Technical Committees through a comprehensive programme consisting of a Ministerial session, technical sessions, strategic discussions, workshops, technical visits, and an international exhibition. Participants will explore advances in road safety, resilient and low-carbon infrastructure, asset management, intelligent transportation systems, financing, climate adaptation, and mobility while exchanging experiences from every region of the world.

More than a technical event, the World Road Congress is an opportunity to strengthen international collaboration. By sharing knowledge and innovative solutions, we can better address the complex challenges facing our sector and help shape the future of road infrastructure and transport.

On behalf of PIARC, I extend my sincere appreciation to the Government of Canada and our Canadian partners for their commitment in preparing what promises to be an exceptional Congress.

I warmly invite you to join us in Vancouver and look forward to welcoming you to Canada in October 2027.



Emanuela Stocchi

President

PIARC – World Road Association

A Word from the Minister of Transportation

Welcome to Canada.

Across northern regions, remote communities, and throughout our vast country, Canadians rely every day on strong, dependable transportation networks to keep people and goods moving.

As a proud and longstanding member of the PIARC World Road Association, Canada is honoured to host the XXVIIIth World Road Congress in Vancouver in 2027. In partnership with PIARC, the Province of British Columbia, and the City of Vancouver, we look forward to bringing the global transportation community together at a pivotal moment for our sector. Under the theme “Paving the Road to a Cleaner Future,” the Congress will focus on what matters most: harnessing innovation and digital transformation, advancing sustainability, and building more inclusive transportation systems that serve communities around the world.

Canada is making generational investments in transportation infrastructure to strengthen supply chains, improve connectivity, and expand trade opportunities. By working closely with provincial, territorial, municipal, and Indigenous partners, we are building a more resilient and sustainable transportation network that supports long-term economic growth.

The World Road Congress comes at a critical time. Transportation systems are evolving rapidly, and the challenges we face, including supply chain pressures, and growing demand, require practical solutions and strong international collaboration.

In 2027, Canada will welcome delegates from around the world to exchange ideas, share expertise, and build the partnerships needed to shape the future of transportation. We look forward to welcoming you.



The Honourable Steven MacKinnon

Minister of Transport

Transport Canada / Government of Canada

A Word from the Minister of Transportation and Transit

On behalf of the Province of British Columbia, I am pleased to welcome you to the PIARC XXVIII World Road Congress 2027.

We are honoured to join our partners in hosting this renowned international gathering of transportation and road infrastructure professionals. For more than a century, the World Road Congress has brought together policymakers, researchers, industry leaders and practitioners from the global transportation community to exchange ideas, share expertise and help shape the future of mobility. The 2027 Congress continues this tradition under the theme "Paving the Road to a Cleaner Future."

In British Columbia, our transportation network connects communities across coastal regions, mountain corridors, rural areas and growing urban centres. Our commitment to building a safer, more resilient transportation network has given us valuable experience navigating the challenges and opportunities faced by communities across diverse geographic and environmental contexts. As co-host of this Congress, British Columbia is pleased to come together with transportation leaders, practitioners and experts from over 120 countries to share knowledge, showcase innovation and foster collaboration. We are proud to contribute our perspectives and experience while learning from our international partners, advancing ideas that will strengthen transportation systems and better serve communities everywhere.

Throughout the week, delegates can look forward to a dynamic program featuring expert-led sessions, technical discussions, exhibitions, technical tours and networking opportunities with transportation leaders from around the world. Bringing together participants from government, industry, academia and road organizations, the Congress offers valuable opportunities to connect, collaborate and learn from one another.

Thank you for joining us. Your contributions to this Congress will help strengthen collaboration, foster innovation and shape the future of transportation for generations to come.

Sincerely,



The Honourable Mike Farnworth

Minister of Transportation and Transit

British Columbia Ministry of Transportation and Transit

A Word from the Mayor of Vancouver

Dear Delegates and Guests,

On behalf of Vancouver City Council and the people of Vancouver, it is my pleasure to welcome you to our city for the PIARC XXVIII World Road Congress 2027.

We are proud to host this world-class gathering of transportation leaders, engineers, policymakers, and industry experts from across the globe. The World Road Congress is an important opportunity to share ideas, build partnerships, and advance the infrastructure that keeps our communities connected, our economies moving, and our cities thriving.

Vancouver is a city that embraces innovation while remaining committed to sustainability and resilience. As we continue to grow, we are focused on building transportation networks and infrastructure that improve mobility, support economic opportunity, strengthen public safety, and help us meet the challenges of a changing world. The themes of this Congress all align closely with the priorities shaping Vancouver's future; smart infrastructure, future mobility, resilience, and investment.

While you are here, I encourage you to experience everything our city has to offer. From our spectacular natural beauty and vibrant neighbourhoods to our innovative transportation systems and world-renowned quality of life, Vancouver is a place where big ideas come together. Thank you for being part of the PIARC XXVIII World Road Congress 2027. We look forward to welcoming you to Vancouver and wish you a productive, engaging, and successful Congress.



Ken Sim

Mayor

City of Vancouver

About PIARC - The World Road Association



Founded in 1909, PIARC – the World Road Association is a global leader in the road and road transport sector. As a non-partisan, non-profit association, PIARC promotes the exchange of knowledge, expertise, and best practices among road professionals worldwide.

PIARC carries out its work through a worldwide network of experts gathered into Technical Committees and Task Forces that address a range of topics, including road safety, asset management, resilience, decarbonization, mobility, and emerging transportation challenges. The Association publishes hundreds of technical reports, case studies, and best practice guides which are made freely available to the global road community.

PIARC brings together experts from more than 120 of its member governments in addition to practitioners, researchers, and industry experts from both developed and developing countries. This diversity allows members to compare experiences across different climates, geographies, and economic contexts, creating practical solutions that can be adapted to local needs around the world.

Did You Know?

- PIARC's first international road congress was held in Paris in 1908, before the Association itself was formally established. Since then, the Congress has been held every four years, in alignment with PIARC's strategic cycle, serving as the premier global forum for the exchange of knowledge, innovation, and best practices in the road and road transport sector.
- The Association's work spans every aspect of roads and road transport, from low-volume rural roads to highly complex urban mobility systems.
- Members of PIARC's Technical Committees contribute their expertise on a voluntary basis, representing one of the largest international knowledge-sharing networks in the road sector.
- PIARC places special emphasis on ensuring that its work is relevant to low- and middle-income countries, as well as countries in transition.



About the XXVIII World Road Congress

The World Road Congress is an integral part of the global road agenda and an exceptional opportunity for forward thinking companies to be part of the conversations that will shape transportation for generations to come.

Taking place every four years since 1908, this flagship international forum is parallel to none and will explore world-class technical programs that translate research into real-world solutions, catalyze collaboration, and amplify diverse thought leadership relevant to today's most pressing infrastructure challenges.

Set between the Pacific Ocean and the Coast Mountains, Vancouver offers an exceptional backdrop for a global congress focused on the future of transportation. Internationally recognized for its environmental leadership, livability, and forward-looking urban planning, the city brings together natural beauty, strong infrastructure, and a collaborative spirit. Its walkable downtown, diverse communities, and reputation as a hub for innovation make Vancouver an ideal place to convene global leaders, exchange ideas, and explore solutions for a cleaner, smarter, and more resilient future.

WRC 2027 is a must-attend gathering for those shaping the future of cleaner, smarter, and more resilient transportation infrastructure. We look forward to welcoming the world to Vancouver.

World Road Congress highlights:

Focus on cleaner, smarter, and more resilient infrastructure

- Global forum connecting ministers, academics, practitioners, researchers and industry
- Technical program showcasing work of PIARC technical committees
- Major exhibition, technical tours and social program. Stay tuned, more information to come for the technical tours

Key reasons to attend

- Connect with international delegates from over 120 countries
- Explore cutting-edge technologies and best practices in sustainable mobility
- Gain insights from world-class technical sessions and experts
- Initiate and build partnerships cross sectoral relationships
- Experience Canada's leadership in climate-resilient and inclusive infrastructure

Who attends

- Government & Public Authorities
- Engineering & Construction
- Transportation Planning & Policy
- Road Safety & Operations
- Environmental & Sustainability Experts
- Technology & Innovation Providers
- Finance & Investment
- Academia & Research Institutions
- Associations & International Organizations
- Suppliers & Manufacturers
- Communications & Media



WRC in Numbers



750

Abstracts Expected



120+

Countries Represented



200+

Exhibitors



15+

Technical Visits



30+

National Pavilions



500+

Invited Young
Professionals & Students

4,000+

Attendees Projected



Program at a Glance

Day 1 October 4



Opening
Ceremony



Ministerial
Session



Parallel
Technical
Sessions



Posters &
Exhibits
Session



Welcome
Reception

Day 2 October 5



Keynote
Session



Parallel
Technical
Sessions



Workshops



Posters &
Exhibits
Session

Day 3 October 6



Keynote
Session



Parallel
Technical
Sessions



Workshops



Posters &
Exhibits
Session

Day 4 October 7



Keynote
Session



Parallel
Technical
Sessions



Workshops



Posters &
Exhibits
Session



Gala /
Congress
Dinner

Day 5 October 8



Parallel
Technical
Sessions



Workshops



Closing
Ceremony

**Program is
subject to
change*



Technical Visits

Extend your experience beyond the conference.
Join curated technical visits designed to showcase innovation in
action, share real-world insights and create valuable connections.

Call for Papers

Practitioners, policymakers, researchers, and industry professionals from around the world are invited to submit abstracts on the selected topics identified in this Call for Papers. Papers accepted through the Call for Papers process will be considered for the PIARC Prizes and may be eligible to compete in one of the award categories.

Key dates

- Call for Abstracts Open: May 27, 2026
- Call for Abstracts Close: August 31, 2026
- Notice of Acceptance of Abstracts: November 15, 2026
- Full Papers Submission Deadline: January 31, 2027
- Full Papers Acceptance Notice Deadline: May 15, 2027

Submission site: [PIARC | Vancouver 2027 | Guidance](#)

Details on topics: [Call for Papers Vancouver 2027](#)

Congress Theme & Strategic Focus



Cross-Cutting Theme: Decarbonization

Decarbonization is a priority that spans all aspects of the road sector. PIARC's work examines both the reduction of emissions from road transport and the carbon footprint associated with the construction, operation, and maintenance of road infrastructure. Key areas of focus include low-carbon materials, sustainable construction practices, zero-emission vehicles, charging infrastructure, and policies that support the transition to a more sustainable transportation future.



Congress Theme & Strategic Focus



Strategic Theme 1: Road Administration

Road administrations are facing growing pressure to deliver safe, reliable, and resilient transportation networks while managing limited resources and increasing public expectations. This strategic theme focuses on governance, performance management, financing, procurement, disaster management, and network resilience. It explores how road agencies can adapt to climate change, emerging risks, and evolving mobility needs while ensuring that investments in transportation infrastructure continue to support economic and social development.

Call for Papers Topics

1. The Transport Agency of the Future
2. Public Value Creation by Transport Agencies
3. Creating and attracting the Workforce of the Future
4. Integrating Community and Indigenous Perspectives into Transport Projects
5. Green Frameworks
6. Resilient Transport Planning
7. Transparency and Digitalization in Road Finance, Procurement, and Infrastructure Delivery
8. Environmental Due Diligence, Sustainable Finance, and Resilience in Road PPPs
9. Procurement for Sustainability, Resilience, and Technological Transition in Road Infrastructure
10. Climate Change and Other Hazards - Understanding Organisational Resilience for Road Networks Facing Natural Hazards
11. Climate Change and Other Hazards - Frameworks and Methodologies for Assessing & Planning Resilience of Road Networks
12. Technologies for Disaster Risk Reduction and Infrastructure Resilience
13. Building Back Better in Practice: Technology for Resilient Recovery and Reconstruction
14. Advancing Road Resilience for Extreme Events: Collaboration and Cooperation in Inhabitable Mobility



Strategic Theme 2: Road Mobility

Mobility is essential for connecting people to jobs, services, and opportunities. This strategic theme examines how road networks can improve urban and rural accessibility, support sustainable freight movement, enhance traffic operations, and accommodate emerging technologies. Topics include urban and rural mobility, intelligent transportation systems, cooperative, connected and automated mobility, and strategies to improve efficiency while reducing congestion and environmental impacts.

Call for Papers Topics

15. Roads for Accessibility and Equitable Mobility in Urban and Peri-Urban Areas
16. Evaluating Impacts and Challenges of Carbon-Neutral Cities Policies in Urban and Peri-Urban Road Networks
17. Accessibility and Mobility in Rural and Interurban Areas
18. Sustainable Development of Rural and Interurban Roads Networks
19. AI, Automation and Innovation for Road Freight
20. Reducing Road Freight Environmental Impacts and Improvement of Road Safety
21. Fair Valuing of Road Freight for Better Decision-Making and for Innovative Funding
22. Network-Wide Transport Planning to Improve Intermodal Freight Effectiveness
23. Road Network Operations at a Turning Point: Digital Transformation and ITS for Sustainable Mobility
24. AI for Road Network Operations: Opportunities, Challenges and Practical Pathways
25. Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity: Enabling Bidirectional Vehicle-to-Infrastructure (V2I) Communication
26. Infrastructure Support Levels and ODD Management: Defining the Interaction Between Road and Automated Vehicles
27. Governance, Economic Models, and Equity in the Deployment of Automated Mobility

Congress Theme & Strategic Focus



Strategic Theme 3: Safety and Sustainability

Improving road safety and sustainability remains one of the most pressing challenges facing the transport sector. Managing large and/or aging assets is also a priority, together with environmental considerations. This strategic theme addresses road safety, winter service, asset management, environmental sustainability, and the long-term performance of road networks. The goal is to reduce risks for all road users while promoting practices that minimize environmental impacts and support sustainable transportation systems.

Call for Papers Topics

- 28.** Innovative Approaches to Road Safety Management
- 29.** Use of Artificial Intelligence for Proactive Road Safety Management
- 30.** Skill and Resources for Winter Service
- 31.** Integration of New Technologies in Winter Services
- 32.** Winter Maintenance in Urban Areas
- 33.** Innovative Approaches for Asset Management
- 34.** Innovative Asset Management Implementation Efforts
- 35.** Renewal and Optimization of Road Infrastructure
- 36.** Sustainability Assessment of Road Traffic Noise Mitigation Measures
- 37.** Biodiversity-Friendly Road Infrastructure: Integrating Nature-Positive Design and Sensory Pollution Mitigation
- 38.** Using Sustainable Practices, Natural Materials and Novel Eco-Friendly Approaches to Enhance Road Safety
- 39.** Integrating Heritage Impact Assessment into Road & Transport Projects (Tangible and Intangible Heritage)
- 40.** Performance and Applicability of Low-Cost Sensors to Assess Global Air Pollution Variability through Machine Learning (AI)
- 41.** National Strategies and Policies for Decarbonisation of Road Passenger and Freight Transport
- 42.** Production of Renewable Energy in the Vicinity of Road Infrastructure to Support the Electrification of Road Transport and Transport Infrastructure
- 43.** Electric Road Systems (ERS)



Strategic Theme 4: Resilient Infrastructure

Road infrastructure must be designed, built, and maintained to withstand increasing demands, changing environmental conditions, and extreme weather events. This strategic theme focuses on the resilience and performance of pavements, bridges, tunnels, earthworks, and road design standards, and how to reduce the carbon footprint of road infrastructure. It promotes innovative approaches that extend infrastructure life, improve reliability, and support the long-term sustainability of transportation networks.

Call for Papers Topics

- 44.** Pavements for Urban Areas
- 45.** Low-Cost Pavement Systems
- 46.** Use of Alternative Materials in Pavement Mixes
- 47.** Carbon Reduction through the Whole Life Cycle of a Bridge
- 48.** Climate Adaptation in Earthworks: Success Stories
- 49.** The Future of Earthworks: Low-Carbon Innovations
- 50.** Smart Asset Management: Monitoring and Early Warning for Earthworks
- 51.** Digitalization of Road Tunnel Design and Management
- 52.** Sustainability of Tunnel Operation: New Approaches
- 53.** Road Tunnel Safety, Operation and Maintenance in Low and Middle Income Countries (LMIC)
- 54.** Decarbonisation of Road Construction and Maintenance
- 55.** Global Perspectives on Road Design Standards: Comparison, Transferability and Development - Global Perspectives on Road Design Standards: Comparison, Transferability and Development
- 56.** BIM Applications in Road Design and Digital Transformation
- 57.** New Road Data Collection and Usage Methods of Road Statistics for Decision Making

Canada's leadership in Resilient Infrastructure

Canada's transportation network supports one of the world's most trade-dependent economies, connecting major ports, cities, rural regions, and northern and Arctic communities across vast and diverse geographies. As a country managing some of the most demanding environmental conditions in the world — including coastal flooding, mountain corridors, freeze-thaw cycles, wildfires, and Arctic climates — Canada continues to advance climate-resilient infrastructure through innovation in all-season operations, asset management, materials, and climate-adaptive design.

As Vancouver prepares to host the XXVIII World Road Congress, delegates will have the opportunity to experience firsthand several major infrastructure projects shaping the future of transportation in British Columbia and across

Canada, including:

- Fraser River Tunnel Project
- Surrey Langley SkyTrain Extension
- Broadway Subway Project
- Stal'owasem (formally Pattullo) Bridge Project

Together, these investments demonstrate how Canada is not only responding to the evolving needs of transportation systems, but actively building a cleaner, safer, and more connected future.



Building the Future Together

Inspiring the Next Generation

The Young Professionals Program will create opportunities for emerging leaders and students to connect with global experts, industry leaders, and policymakers through mentorship, networking, and knowledge-sharing initiatives.

Advancing Women in Transportation

Dedicated programming will highlight the leadership and contributions of women across the transportation sector through networking events, discussions, and engagement opportunities focused on inclusion and advancement.

Educational Partnerships & Academic Engagement

Educational institutions and academic partners will contribute through research showcases, poster presentations, and collaborative initiatives connecting academia with industry innovation and best practices.

Diversity, Inclusion & Sustainability

Under the theme "Paving the Road to a Cleaner Future," WRC 2027 will integrate diversity, inclusion, accessibility, and sustainability throughout the Congress experience and program design.

Global Exhibition & Partnership Opportunities

WRC 2027 will feature a dynamic international exhibition and partnership program designed to foster meaningful engagement, knowledge exchange, and business development across the global transportation and infrastructure sector. With more than 200 exhibitors and over 30 national pavilions anticipated, the exhibition will create a vibrant hub for innovation, collaboration, and international showcase opportunities within the Vancouver Convention Centre.

Additional partnership and exhibition details are available here: [WRC2027 Sponsor & Exhibitor Invitation](#) or for more information, please contact:



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Getting to Vancouver

As one of North America's premier international gateway cities, Vancouver is easily accessible from major destinations around the world. Positioned on Canada's Pacific Coast, the city serves as a strategic connection point between Asia, Europe, Oceania, the Middle East, and the Americas, making it an ideal host destination for a truly global congress.

Vancouver International Airport (YVR), consistently ranked among the world's leading airports, offers extensive non-stop and connecting service through major international and domestic carriers.

Located approximately 30 minutes from downtown Vancouver and the Vancouver Convention Centre, YVR provides delegates with efficient access to the city through rapid transit, taxis, rideshare services, and public transportation. Vancouver's compact downtown core further allows visitors to move easily between hotels, restaurants, attractions, and the Congress venue.

Approximate direct flight times to Vancouver include:

Asia-Pacific

- Tokyo: ~9 hours
- Seoul: ~10 hours
- Beijing/Hong Kong: ~10-12 hours
- Singapore: ~14 hours
- Sydney: ~15 hours

Europe

- London: ~9 hours
- Paris: ~10 hours
- Frankfurt: ~10 hours
- Amsterdam: ~9-10 hours

North America

- Toronto: ~5 hours
- New York: ~5-6 hours
- Los Angeles: ~3 hours
- Mexico City: ~5-6 hours

Middle East & Africa

- Dubai / Doha: ~14-16 hours (typically one connection)
- Cairo: ~14-17 hours
- Nairobi: ~18-22 hours
- Johannesburg: ~20-24 hours (typically 1-2 connections)

South America

- São Paulo: ~14-16 hours (typically with one connection)
- Lima: ~9-11 hours

Vancouver Convention Centre

Set along Vancouver's iconic waterfront in the heart of downtown, the Vancouver Convention Centre – West Building will serve as the host venue for the XXVIII World Road Congress. Recognized globally for its sustainability leadership, accessibility, and exceptional guest experience, the venue provides an inspiring setting for international collaboration, innovation, and knowledge exchange. Its central location places delegates within walking distance of hotels, restaurants, entertainment districts, and Vancouver's extensive public transportation network.

Venue Highlights:

- Over 20,430 m² of exhibition and networking space
- Located directly on Vancouver's downtown waterfront
- Walking distance to major hotels, restaurants, and attractions
- Connected access to public transit, SkyTrain, SeaBus, and cruise terminal
- Curated attendee lounges and wellness hubs
- Award-winning sustainability and environmental design features
- Strong safety, accessibility, and guest service standards
- Multiple cuisine and beverage offerings throughout the venue and surrounding areas



Travel & Visa Information

Delegates are encouraged to review Canada's visa and entry requirements and begin any required visa or Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) applications as soon as possible, as processing times vary by country.

To support international participation at the XXVIII World Road Congress, official invitation letters and registration confirmation documents will be provided to registered delegates, where applicable, to support visa applications.

For the most up-to-date entry requirements and estimated processing times, delegates should consult the Government of Canada's visa assessment tool or their nearest Canadian embassy or consulate. Government of Canada – [Check Visa Requirements](#)

Accommodations

Number on Map	Hotel Name	Star Rating	Rate (CAD)	Approx. Rate (EUR)*	Distance from VCC
1	Pan Pacific Vancouver (HQ)	4*	\$359-\$409	€224-€256	2-minute walk
2	Fairmont Pacific Rim	5*	\$575	€359	1-minute walk
3	Fairmont Waterfront	5*	\$439	€274	2-minute walk
4	Pinnacle Hotel Harbourfront	4*	\$331	€207	5-minute walk
5	Vancouver Marriott Pinnacle Downtown	4*	\$439-\$489	€274-€306	5-minute walk
6	Delta Downtown Suites	4*	\$429	€268	10-minute walk
7	Holiday Inn & Suites Vancouver Downtown	3*	\$277	€173	15-minute walk
8	Hotel Willow (YWCA)	Budget	\$124 - \$256	€78-€160	15-minute walk

*Exchange rate as of May 2026





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Paving the Road to a Cleaner Future

Key Dates

Registration opens: November 2026

Early bird registration closes: June 21, 2027

Call for Abstracts Open: May 27, 2026

Call for Abstracts Close: August 31, 2026

Full Papers Submission Deadline: January 31, 2027

