



TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	i
PREFACE	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vii
DEFINITIONS OF SPEED MANAGEMENT TERMS	xiii
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION	1
Purpose and Scope	1
Format of the Guide	1
What is Speed Management?	2
Why Focus on Speed?	3
Government Policies on Speed	5
Issues in Speed Management	5
Driver Issues	5
Road-related Issues	6
Vehicle-related Issues	7
Measuring Speed	7
Spot Speeds	7
Speed Test Runs	8
CHAPTER 2: SPEED MANAGEMENT IN CANADA	13
State-of-the-Practice	13
Speed Limits	13
Setting Speed Limits	14
Variable Speed Limits	14
Speed During Road Design	15
Speed Management on In-service Roads	15
Public Participation Programs	17
Special Areas	17
Operating Speeds	18
Automated Enforcement	18



Canadian Speed-related Crash Data	19
Results	19
The Crash	19
The Road User	20
The Vehicle	21
The Environment	22
Alberta Speed Crashes	29
CHAPTER 3: THE IMPACT OF SPEED ON SAFETY	31
Crashes	31
Crash Severity	31
Crash Frequency	31
The Speed-Safety Paradox	35
Speed Differential/Variance	37
Driver Behaviour and Capabilities	39
Perception-Reaction Time	39
Manoeuvres and Execution Time	40
Visual Field	41
Closing Rate	42
Safety Equity Among Users	45
Effects at the Network Level	45
Emergency Services Response Times	46
CHAPTER 4: THE DRIVER'S CHOICE OF SPEED	47
Public Opinions About Speed	47
Who Speeds and Where?	48
Acceptability of Present Speeds	49
Factors Affecting Speed Choice	50
Internal Factors Affecting Speed	51
Speed Adaptation	52
External Factors Affecting Speed Choice	53
Enforcement	53
Vehicle Design	54
Road Design	54



Environmental Conditions	55
CHAPTER 5: SPEED MANAGEMENT POLICY	57
Organizational Structure	59
Formal Process	59
The Engineering Practitioner's Role	61
Target Speeds	61
Measures and Tools	62
Monitoring and Evaluation	62
Communicating the Need for Speed Management	62
Gaining Support	63
CHAPTER 6: SETTING SPEED LIMITS.....	65
Static Speed Limits	66
Statutory Speed Limits.....	66
Speed Zones.....	67
Current Methods Used in Canada	76
The TAC Guidelines	76
Quebec.....	78
Northwestern Speed Zoning.....	79
Comparison of Alternative Methods.....	79
Night Speed Limits	81
Trucks Maximum Speed Limits	82
Minimum Speed Limits	82
School Area (and Playground) Speed Zones.....	83
Temporary (Work Zone or Construction) Maximum Speed Limits	85
Seasonal or Holiday Speed Limits	90
Transitional Speed Limits.....	91
Variable Speed Limits.....	91
Selecting a Speed Limit.....	93
Monitoring and control	95
Devices.....	97



Speed Limits and Safety	98
Administrative Issues	101
Minimum Lengths of Speed Zones	101
Speed Limit Reviews	101
Policy Considerations	102
Advisory Speeds	103
Ball-bank Indicator	105
Curve Formula	106
CHAPTER 7: SPEED AND ROAD DESIGN	109
Introduction	109
Elements of a Revised Approach	110
Systems Consideration	111
Matching Design to User Operation	112
Longitudinal Consistency	119
Conflict Speeds	119
Self-enforcing (SE) Roads	122
CHAPTER 8: ENGINEERING AND OTHER MEASURES	125
Warrants for Speed Management Measures	125
Limitations of Engineering Measures	126
Geometric Design Measures	127
Roundabouts	128
Road Diet	129
Traffic Calming	130
Speed Kidney	131
Median Treatment	133
Narrow Lanes	135
Roadside Measures	135
Street Lighting	135
Gateways	136
Landscaping and Street Furniture	136



Road Surface Treatments.....	137
Transverse Rumble Strips	139
Longitudinal Rumble Strips.....	140
Rumblewave Surface	141
Coloured or Textured Pavement	141
Traffic Control Devices	142
Enhanced Speed Limit Signs	142
Unique Traffic Control Signs (non-MUTCDC).....	143
All-way Stop Control	144
Flashing Beacons.....	144
Speed Sensitive Traffic Signals.....	145
Coordination of Traffic Signals.....	145
Removal of Longitudinal Pavement Markings.....	146
Central Hatching	147
Optical Speed Bars and Dragon's Teeth	147
Pavement Marking Legends	151
Community Safety Zones or Double Fines.....	152
Speed Feedback Signs.....	153
High-to-Low Speed Transition Zones	156
Educational, Information, and Encouragement.....	158
Pace Car Programs	158
Incentive Programs	159
Enforcement.....	160
Manned Speed Enforcement.....	161
Selection of Measures.....	164
Philosophical Shift	165