

<b>Government of Alberta</b> Transportation	<b>ADVANCE WARNING OF A TRAFFIC CONTROL CHANGE</b>		<i>Issued: JAN 2010</i>
			<i>Revised:</i>
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<b>RECOMMENDED PRACTICES</b>	PART	HIGHWAY SIGNS	
	SECTION	WARNING SIGNS	
	SUB-SECTION		

### General

When significant changes are made to the traffic control scheme at an intersection or at other points along the highway, drivers familiar with the old traffic control scheme may be surprised by the changes and react improperly to the new traffic control scheme.

Examples of common traffic control changes are: installation of a new traffic signal, major change to traffic signal timing or phasing, and change to right-of-way control.

In order to maintain highway safety, it is important to warn drivers when they are approaching a location with recent and significant traffic control changes.

### Standard

A standard “NEW” (WD-182) sign consists of a red, white, and black message on a yellow background.



<b>WD-182</b>	<b>750 mm x 750 mm</b>	
<b>Colour</b>	Message	White, Red, Black
	Background	Yellow
<b>Sheeting</b>	ASTM, Type III or IV	

Tab signs (WD-182-T, WD-182-A, WD-182-B, WD-182-C) may be installed below the WD-182 sign to clarify the type of change at the location. The standard tab signs consist of a black message on a yellow background.



<b>WD-182-T</b>	<b>600 mm x 300 mm</b>	
<b>Colour</b>	Message	Black
	Background	Yellow
<b>Sheeting</b>	ASTM, Type III or IV	



<b>WD-182A-T</b>	<b>600 mm x 300 mm</b>	
<b>Colour</b>	Message Background	Black Yellow
<b>Sheeting</b>	ASTM, Type III or IV	



<b>WD-182B-T</b>	<b>600 mm x 300 mm</b>	
<b>Colour</b>	Message Background	Black Yellow
<b>Sheeting</b>	ASTM, Type III or IV	



<b>WD-182C-T</b>	<b>600 mm x 300 mm</b>	
<b>Colour</b>	Message Background	Black Yellow
<b>Sheeting</b>	ASTM, Type III or IV	

### Guidelines for Use

In cases where confusion may arise due to a change in the traffic control scheme, a “NEW” sign is installed in advance of the change. The WD-182 sign warns motorists of the change ahead so they can use caution and react properly to the new traffic control scheme.

WD-182 signs should be placed in advance of all new traffic signal installations. WD-182 signs may also be used in situations where the traffic control scheme has changed significantly enough that the change may lead to driver confusion, such as where:

- Left or right turn channelization has been added at an intersection;
- A Two-Way Stop condition has become a Four-Way Stop condition (or other Stop condition change); or
- Major signal timing or phasing changes have occurred (i.e., new phase added/removed, leading protected left turn becomes lagging left turn, etc.).

WD-182-T tab sign may be placed below the WD-182 sign in areas where the right-of-way control or other traffic control elements have changed.

The WD-182A-T and WD-182B-T tab signs may be placed below the WD-182 sign in advance of traffic signals with timing or phasing changes, respectively.

It may not be necessary to install the “NEW” sign (and associated tab signs) where only minor changes to traffic signal timing or phasing have taken place, and driver confusion likely would not result from the change (i.e., changes to coordination,

change to minimum or maximum green time).

The WD-182C-T tab sign may be placed below the WD-182 sign in advance of new traffic signal installations.

When used, the WD-182 sign should be in place for an introductory period of up to 60 days. After the introductory period has elapsed, the WD-182 sign and associated tab signs should be removed.

### **Guidelines for Placement**

The “NEW” sign should be placed a distance of 250 to 350 m in advance of the traffic control change. Signs should be installed for all directions of travel.

Signs are installed on the right-hand side of the highway. On divided highways, an additional sign should be installed on the left-hand side of the roadway.

### **References to Standards**

<i>Recommended Practices</i> Section: General	Placement of Signs
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