



September 2018

# On the Road

with Carrier Services

## Initiatives for training, testing, and oversight

On July 10, 2018, the Government of Alberta announced its intent to explore three initiatives to strengthen the training, testing, and oversight of all drivers, particularly those in the commercial carrier industry.

### Mandatory Training for Commercial Drivers

Alberta is considering introducing a mandatory entry level training (MELT) program for drivers seeking to obtain a Class 1 or Class 2 driver's licence. This training would help drivers develop the skills, experience, and know-how to safely move people, goods and services from point A to point B.

### Requirements for New Commercial Carriers

Alberta is looking to introduce requirements that would, for example, ensure all new truck and bus companies that require a Safety Fitness Certificate fully meet

compliance and safety standards before they begin operating on Alberta roads.

### Driver Examiner Road Test Model

Alberta is exploring ways to improve the road test model for all classes of drivers, including the possibility of restoring driver examiners as government employees. Improvements would aim to improve service and establish appropriate fees.

The Government of Alberta has conducted in-person consultations with key stakeholders for all three of these important traffic safety initiatives and gathered feedback from over 1,500 Albertans through an online survey and a telephone poll.

We are currently reviewing the feedback provided by stakeholders, including the

general public. This valuable feedback will form the basis of any policy changes.

The Government of Alberta will keep Albertans informed as we move forward with new policy developments.

For more information, visit: [www.alberta.ca/commercial-driver-engagement.aspx](http://www.alberta.ca/commercial-driver-engagement.aspx)



## Environmental and Dangerous Goods Emergencies (EDGE)

Since 1985, the Co-ordination and Information Centre (CIC) has provided an educational, regulatory and emergency function to Alberta Transportation's Dangerous Goods and Rail Safety Section.

It is a 24 hour operation that supplies technical information to industry, the public and enforcement officials about the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations and all associated standards.

Over the years, the CIC has evolved into a cross-ministry centre, handling incidents and emergencies for Alberta Environment and Parks, the Alberta Energy Regulator and

the provincial Natural Resources Conservation Board. However, CIC does not fully reflect the cross-ministry role or its most critical emergency function.

It was decided that the CIC change its name to more accurately reflect the criticality of the service provided to Albertans. The new name for the centre is Alberta EDGE (Environmental and Dangerous Goods Emergencies).

To report a dangerous goods emergency, call 1-800-272-9600. To report an environmental or oil and gas emergency, call 1-800-222-6514.

Both numbers directly connect to a knowledgeable Regulatory Compliance Officer at Alberta EDGE.



# Allowance for use of electronic cab cards and IFTA licences

As of January 1, 2019, commercial carriers will be allowed to carry their International Registration Plan (IRP) cab cards and International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA) licences in electronic format. Carriers can choose to carry this documentation either in electronic or paper format in their vehicles.

The allowances for use of electronic images of IRP cab cards and IFTA licences have been accepted by all jurisdictions in Canada and the United States. Documentation shown electronically must be accessible by computer, tablet, smart phone, or other electronic device.

Carriers who choose to maintain these documents in electronic format are strongly

encouraged to ensure the document is saved as a file, such as a PDF, and saved to an electronic device for each vehicle. This approach enables access to documentation at any time, even when mobile or wireless services are interrupted.

Regardless of the format, the document must be accurate, valid, legible, and accessible at the request of law enforcement and/or the Registrar. Failure to produce this information may result in fines.

For more information about IRP and IFTA requirements, contact Prorate Services at 403-297-2920 (toll free in Alberta by first dialing 310-0000) or visit:

<https://irponline.org/default.aspx>

## DID YOU KNOW?



Road  
Safety  
Professional

The Transportation Professional Certification Board (TPCB) has announced the upcoming availability of a new Road Safety Professional (RSP) Certification beginning in October 2018.

The goals of the RSP certifications are to recognize road safety as a profession, to establish a recognized level of practice and knowledge, and to incentivize safety education.

For more information, visit:  
[www.tpcb.org/roadsafetypro.asp](http://www.tpcb.org/roadsafetypro.asp)



Driver Appreciation Days are coming up soon at vehicle inspection stations in Alberta:

September 12 – Demmitt  
September 14 – Whitecourt

For more information, visit:  
<https://amta.ca/event/amta-driver-appreciation/>

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## Back to School Safety

September is back to school month and the Government of Alberta is reminding all road users of the importance of school bus safety.

More than 5,000 school buses in Alberta transport almost 300,000 children to and from school every weekday.

All drivers play a key role in back to school safety and helping to ensure each one of those students is transported safely to and from school every day.

Be alert and cautious in and around school zones and playgrounds as well as near school buses.



### Did you know?

- Nearly fifty per cent of drivers involved in collisions with school buses committed a driver error, the most common of which was following too closely.
- During the 2015/16 school year, over 77 per cent of casualty collisions and 95 per cent of property damage collisions involving a school bus occurred in urban areas.
- An average of 230 children under the age of 15 were injured as pedestrians or cyclists each year between 2012 and 2016.

For more information or tools on back to school, visit: [www.saferoads.com](http://www.saferoads.com)

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