

COMPLIANCE CIRCULAR

NO. 07/09

October 15, 2009

SUBJECT: Temporary changes to Non-Resident Quarterly Permits from January 1, 2010 to March 31, 2010 for Commercial Vehicles (including Charter Buses)

Managers, Victoria	Carrier Safety Inspectors	Driver Services Centres
Motor Vehicle Inspectors	Government Agents	MOT (Director, Chair
Passenger Transportation Board	Appointed Agents	Transportation Policy)
Deputy Director, CVSE	Trucking Industry	Supt of Motor Vehicles
Regional CVSE Managers	Law Enforcement Agencies	
Managers, Licensing	Commercial Transport Insp.	
ADM (Compliance and Consumer	(Inspection Stations)	
Services)	Passenger Transportation Branch	

PURPOSE OF CIRCULAR

To advise that as of January 1, 2010, BC is making the following TEMPORARY commercial vehicle licensing change:

- Effective January 1, 2010 until March 31, 2010, the maximum weight threshold for commercial vehicle intrajurisdictional travel, including charter buses under the Non-Resident Quarterly Permit (NRQP) is eliminated (the previous maximum was 11,794 kg).

NRQP's are available by contacting the Provincial Permit Centre at 1-800-559-9688.

There are no changes being made to the single-trip commercial permit.

BACKGROUND

- Approximately 900 charter buses from out-of-province (OOP) are expected to enter British Columbia for use as transportation during the 2010 Winter Games.
- The Passenger Transportation Branch will accommodate these additional OOP charter buses by providing temporary commercial passenger vehicle operating authority under the *Passenger Transportation Act* (PTA).
- A vehicle licence or permit under the *Commercial Transport Act* or Regulations is required in addition to a PTA licence.
- Absent of the temporary commercial vehicle licensing change described above, the operators would be required to obtain a multi-jurisdictional prorate licence from their home jurisdiction or purchase BC licence plates.
- In addition to charter buses, the permit is available for other OOP large commercial vehicles that will need to be operated temporarily in BC during this period.
- In addition to the expanded permit option, vehicle owners will continue to be able to prorate license which, for some, will be the most cost-effective means of meeting BC licensing requirements.

INSURANCE

In order to satisfy BC's insurance requirements, operators of out-of-province vehicles must either purchase BC insurance (non-residents may purchase the minimum third-party liability insurance and accident benefits under a NRQP for \$66 for a single trip, or \$660 for a quarterly permit) or by filing for proof of financial responsibility. Proof of financial responsibility can be obtained by an operator within two or three days by requesting their insurance company provide a Financial Responsibility Certificate (Form MV23) and pay a \$30 filing fee to ICBC. For more information about financial responsibility filings, please contact ICBC's Prorate and Financial Responsibility Department at 604-443-4624 or 1-800-665-4336.

OPERATIONS BY US LICENSED VEHICLES IN BC

US licensed commercial vehicles may continue to be operated in BC:

- without a permit, for up to six months for touring purposes, or 30 days non-touring, if it is a two axle vehicle with a licensed weight of 8,200 kg or less;
- for interjurisdictional movement (i.e. the delivery of goods or persons from a place outside of BC to a place within BC, the picking up of goods or persons from a place in BC for delivery outside of BC, or the transportation of goods or persons through BC) if registered under International Registration Plan or with a valid NRQP;

As of January 1, 2010 and until March 31, 2010, US licensed commercial vehicles may be operated in BC:

- for intrajurisdictional movement (i.e. travel within BC including the picking up and delivery of goods or persons) with a valid NRQP and subject to federal requirements.

Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA) advises that, unless import duties and taxes have been paid, Canadian drivers cannot drive US plated vehicles (refer to "Federal Imports, Tax & Duty" below).

Transporting passengers may be subject to Passenger Transportation Branch restrictions (see below).

PASSENGER TRANSPORTATION REQUIREMENTS

Operators of out-of-province commercial vehicles transporting paying passengers into BC will require an Extra-Provincial Temporary Operating Permits (EPTOP), in addition to a Non-Resident Quarterly Permit.

Non-licensed carriers – Not licensed under the Passenger Transportation Act, the maximum period for which an extra-provincial temporary operating permit may be issued to a person who is not a licensee is *seven (7) consecutive days (reference Part 5 Section 20(2) of the Passenger Transportation Act Regulations). However, during the period of the 2010 Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games, beginning February 5, 2010 and ending March 14, 2010 a 14-day temporary operating permit may be issued to a person who is not a licensee (reference O.I.C. 474, dated September 2, 2009).

Any out-of-province buses which will be providing charter services in BC (i.e. picking up new passengers in BC) will require licencing under the *Passenger Transportation Act* in addition to the NRQP. EPTOP's are available through the Provincial Permit Centre. For more information on licensing, contact the Passenger Transportation Branch at 1-888-453-4280 or 1-604-453-4250, or on the web at www.th.gov.bc.ca/rpt.

SOCIAL SERVICE TAX (PST)

Operators and owners of vehicles who use their vehicle for commercial purposes in BC are subject to the Social Service Tax (PST). The tax calculation formula depends on the form of licence and type of operation in the province. For more information, contact the Ministry of Small Business and Revenue at 1-877-388-4440 or 604-660-4524, or on the web at www.sbr.gov.bc.ca/ctb.

FEDERAL IMPORTS, TAX & DUTY

Canada Customs (CBSA) has specific requirements for all vehicle imports. However, CBSA has issued a 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games Remission Order that amends importation requirements for vehicles brought into Canada for temporary use in relation to the Winter games. . For information, contact the federal Canada Border Services Agency, at 1-800-461-9999 or link to www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/menu-eng.html

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dawn Major', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dawn Major
Deputy Director, Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement Branch
Ministry of Transportation