



September 2014

with Carrier Services

## Keeping passengers safe: bus compliance in Alberta

As students head back to school this month, all commercial bus carriers are reminded of their responsibility to operate in a safe and compliant way.

More than 18,000 commercial buses operate in Alberta under the National Safety Code program. These vehicles transport a wide variety of passengers; including children, students, adults and seniors.

Twice a day, every day during the school year, 6,000 school buses in Alberta transport 300,000 children to and from school.

Throughout the school year, motor coaches and large passenger vans also play a significant role by transporting passengers who belong to sports teams, after school clubs, daycares or community service groups.

It is important that all commercial bus carriers operate according to the highest safety standards.

This month, the Government of Alberta reminds commercial bus carriers to:

- Implement effective safety and maintenance programs;
- Ensure they have appropriate passenger insurance coverage; and
- Ensure all drivers are trained and qualified to safely operate commercial buses.

For more detailed information about commercial bus safety and compliance, visit: [transportation.alberta.ca](http://transportation.alberta.ca)



## TRAVIS Multi-Jurisdiction (TRAVIS-MJ) Update

Since the April 1 implementation of TRAVIS Multi-Jurisdiction (TRAVIS-MJ), 273 municipalities have signed on as participants; 131 of which also signed the TRAVIS-MJ Fee Sharing Agreement.

71 other municipalities have yet to join the initiative; however the Government of Alberta is working with these municipalities to get them onboard.

The [TRAVIS-MJ](#) permit system allows carriers to apply for and obtain a single permit that covers **both** provincial highways and local municipal roads that oversize loads travel on. Previously, carriers had to obtain provincial permits

as well as permits from each local road authority.

A committee has been formed to oversee any issues and concerns that may arise as a result of the implementation. This committee includes the Director of Transport Engineering, a TRAVIS Specialist, and representatives of the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties and the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association.

Once the implementation of TRAVIS-MJ is complete, Alberta's permit fees will be comparable to other provinces, keeping Alberta's industry competitive.



For more information regarding TRAVIS-MJ, contact the Transport Engineering Office at 1-800-662-7138.

# 511 Alberta: Your ideal travel companion

As the hazy days of summer come to a close, thoughts invariably turn to preparing for winter. 511 Alberta is with you every season, letting you know about driving conditions on provincial highways.

511 Alberta enables professional drivers to stay up to date on developments on Alberta's highways, including road construction information in the summer, and highway driving conditions in the winter. They also provide updates on year-round events like road closures and extreme weather.

Available 24/7, 511 Alberta is the travelling companion that never sleeps. Connect with 511 Alberta at [511.alberta.ca](http://511.alberta.ca), or download the 511 Alberta app from the Apple store (iOS devices) or the Google Play store (Android devices). You can also follow 511 Alberta on Twitter (@511Alberta), or call 5-1-1 for the latest driving conditions.

In their first year, 511 Alberta received an average of 22,000 phone calls per month, and saw 1.2 million unique visitors to their website, generating 200 million hits. The @511Alberta Twitter account also continues to grow, with over 33,500 followers to date. 511 Alberta is an information source like no other.

As you drive throughout the province this winter, bring along a travel companion you can rely on. 511 Alberta is with travellers at every turn, helping them navigate provincial highways safely.

## DID YOU KNOW?



Regulated commercial vehicles must be inspected under the Commercial Vehicle Inspection Program (CVIP).

Commercial buses must be inspected once every 6 months. Commercial trucks and trailers must be inspected once every 12 months.

For more information about CVIP inspection requirements, visit: [transportation.alberta.ca](http://transportation.alberta.ca)



When modifying or establishing safety and maintenance programs, commercial bus and truck carriers can get advice from government certified consultants.

A list of available consultants is available online at: [transportation.alberta.ca](http://transportation.alberta.ca)

## Hours of service monitoring programs



Federally regulated bus and truck carriers are required to monitor their drivers for hours of service compliance.

The purpose of a monitoring program is to identify non-compliance and take corrective action to prevent it from occurring again. Carriers must work towards ensuring every driver becomes fully compliant for every day. Taking this action assists in the prevention of collisions caused by fatigued drivers.

Any person that is responsible for monitoring drivers for their company must know the hours of service requirements. They must be able to effectively review daily logs, radius records and supporting documents.

When monitoring these records for hours of service compliance, carriers must ensure:

1. All drivers have a daily log or record for every calendar day, including days off.
2. All daily logs or records are filled in correctly and meet form and manner requirements.
3. All of the daily logs or records are free of regulatory violations.
4. All of the daily logs or records are accurate.

If any violations or signs of non-compliance are identified in a driver's time records, the driver must be notified and corrected appropriately. Corrective actions may include driver training, mentoring or discipline.

For more information about hours of service monitoring requirements, visit: [transportation.alberta.ca](http://transportation.alberta.ca).

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