



TRANSPORTATION BOARD

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# Passenger Transportation Board Bulletin

June 11, 2008

The *Passenger Transportation Board Bulletin* is published weekly on the web site of the Passenger Transportation Board. Printed copies are available directly from the Passenger Transportation Board at the address above.

The *PT Board Bulletin* gives notice of the applications for special authorization that have been received by the Board, the determinations the Board makes on those applications, as well as appeals from enforcement orders of the Registrar of Passenger Transportation. Board Advisories may also be published in the *PT Board Bulletin* to update the public and commercial passenger transportation industry on Board initiatives and changes to Board rules or procedure and policy guidelines.

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June 11, 2008

# Industry Advisory

## Temporary Fuel Surcharges

### *Taxicabs*

The provincial weekly price of regular, unleaded gas has surpassed \$1.35. This previously-announced cost threshold is the point at which the Board will consider a temporary fuel surcharge.

In light of the sustained and continuing increases in fuel costs, the Board has decided to implement a temporary fuel surcharge of 3.5% to give operators interim relief. The surcharge will apply to the rates of metered and non-metered taxicabs in British Columbia. The rate changes will start on **July 12, 2008**, in most cities and communities in the province. The Board is mailing new rates to taxi operators over the next week.

The temporary fuel surcharge is mandatory unless a licensee can satisfy the Board that the application of the surcharge in a specific community is not warranted. A licensee who does not want the surcharge must make a request to the Board prior to **July 4, 2008**. Any request should outline why a surcharge should not be applied.

It is expected that licensees will extend the benefit of a fuel surcharge to any owner/operators, lessees, drivers or other persons who actually pay for fuel.

The temporary fuel surcharge for taxis will remain in effect until the next Taxi Cost Index (TCI) increase is implemented or until the Board decides to end or vary a surcharge due to a significant change in fuel prices. The earliest opportunity for a TCI increase will be Spring 2009.

### *Passenger Directed Vehicles, excluding taxis (e.g. limousines/vans/shuttles)*

The Board has had requests from limousine and other passenger directed vehicle operators for fuel surcharges, and it has conducted a limousine industry survey to obtain more current information relating to fuel and other operating costs. We thank those who participated in the survey.

Based on the requests and operating costs, the Board is setting a temporary fuel surcharge of 3.5 % on the rates of limousine and other non-taxi passenger directed vehicles. The surcharge applies to hourly rates, point to point rates and individual fare rates. **The surcharge applies to driving rates only.** It does not apply to cancellation fees, tolls, vehicle clean up or other non-driving fees. The surcharge supersedes any pre-existing fuel surcharges.

The temporary fuel surcharge is mandatory unless a licensee can satisfy the Board that the application of the surcharge in a specific community is not warranted. A licensee who does not

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want the surcharge must make a written request to the Board prior to **July 4, 2008**. Any request should outline why a surcharge should not be applied.

It is expected that licensees will extend the benefit of a fuel surcharge to any owner/operators, lessees, drivers or other persons who actually pay for fuel.

The temporary fuel surcharge will remain in effect until the Board decides to end or vary a surcharge due to a significant change in fuel prices.

### *Limousine Minimum Rates & Common Rules*

Some limousine operators have asked the Board to take a second look at establishing a minimum rate and common rules for the limousine industry. The Board recognizes the potential benefits of such an approach, and it remains open to considering minimum rates in the future.

A change to minimum rates would be a significant change in the way that rates are set and charged over time. At this point, the Board has not received sufficient indication from the industry to indicate that broad support exists within the industry. In order for the Board to consider a change towards a minimum rate system for limousines, the Board would need to receive from industry more information about how such a proposal would be workable for operators, along with indicators of broader support.

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## Part 1: Applications Received

Applications in which special authorization is sought are published in Part 1 of the *PT Board Bulletin*. To see a more detailed summary of the application, click on the **application number**.

<b>Application</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Brief Summary of Application</b>	<b>Deadline for Submissions</b>
<u>821-08</u>	<b>BHULLAR, Harinderpal Singh</b> Prince George BC (transferee)  dba Prince George Taxi Assn.  <b>BASBOYUK, Zeki</b> Prince George BC (transferor)  dba Prince George Taxi Assn.	<b>Transfer of Licence (PDV)</b> Proposed transfer of passenger transportation licence 70223 from Zeki BASBOYUK dba Prince George Taxi Association to Harinderpal Singh BHULLAR dba Prince George Taxi Association.	June 26, 2008
<u>928-08UPN</u>	<b>Godfather's Coach &amp; Limo Service Ltd.</b> Burnaby BC	<b>New Special Authorization (PDV)</b> New special authorization to operate passenger directed vehicles in Licence District 14 west of and including Maple Ridge, 14A, and 15 west of and including Surrey with a maximum fleet size of 2 limousines that accommodate a driver and not less than 6 and not more than 11 passengers.	June 26, 2008
<u>T977-08</u>	<b>POULIN, Peter Harvey</b> Quesnel BC  dba Cariboo Taxi	<b>Change of Rates (PDV)</b> Proposed increase in rates that were previously approved or set by the Board.	June 21, 2008
<u>976-08</u>	<b>POULIN, Peter Harvey</b> Quesnel BC  dba Cariboo Taxi	<b>Amendment of Licence (PDV)</b> Proposed amendment of the <i>destination area</i> for Service 1 to "anywhere in the Province of British Columbia".  <b>Addition of Motor Vehicles (PDV)</b> Proposed addition of 2 motor vehicles to increase the maximum fleet size for passenger directed vehicles from 6 to 8 vehicles.	June 26, 2008

### ***Submissions:***

Any person may make a submission on an application to the Passenger Transportation Board. Submissions should relate to the following matters that the Board must consider (see section 28 of the Passenger Transportation Act):

- (a) *whether there is a public need for the service the applicant proposes to provide under any special authorization;*
- (b) *whether the applicant is a fit and proper person to provide that service and is capable of providing that service; and*
- (c) *whether the application, if granted, would promote sound economic conditions in the passenger transportation business in British Columbia.*

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All submissions must be:

- *in writing*
- *accompanied by a \$50 fee payable only by cheque or money order to the Minister of Finance, or by credit card (Mastercard, Visa, American Express) using the form at <http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/ptb/Forms/PTB0001.pdf>*
- *received at the Passenger Transportation Board office in Victoria by 4:30 p.m. within 15 days of the PT Board Bulletin publication date (10 days for Change of Rates applications).*

All information that a person submits on an application is routinely disclosed by the Board to the applicant. Any person who gathers and submits personal information from third parties is subject to the Personal Information Protection Act and should not guarantee the confidentiality of the information being submitted. Within 10 days of when a submission is forwarded by the Board to the applicant, the applicant may reply by sending written comments to the Board.

## Part 2: Application Decisions

Board decisions on applications for special authorization are published in Part 2 of the *PT Board Bulletin*. To see the full decision, click on the **application number**.

<b>Application</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Brief Summary of Application</b>	<b>Decision</b>
<u>257-08</u>	<b>Favori Limousine Services Inc.</b> Surrey BC	<b>New Special Authorization (PDV)</b> New special authorization to operate passenger directed vehicles in Licence District 14, 14A and 15 with a maximum fleet size of 3 vehicles that accommodate a driver and not less than 4 and not more than 11 passengers.	Refused
<u>928-08UPN</u>	<b>Godfather's Coach &amp; Limo Service Ltd.</b> Burnaby BC	<b>New Special Authorization (PDV)</b> New special authorization to operate passenger directed vehicles in Licence District 14 west of and including Maple Ridge, 14A, and 15 west of and including Surrey with a maximum fleet size of 2 limousines that accommodate a driver and not less than 6 and not more than 11 passengers.	a) UPN claim refused b) Application will proceed through regular process
<u>835-08</u>	<b>SCHRAM, William L.</b> Gabriola Island BC (transferee)  dba Gabriola Island Taxi  <b>O'REILLY, Gerald Charles</b> Gabriola Island BC (transferor)  dba Gabriola Island Taxi	<b>Transfer of Licence (PDV)</b> Transfer of passenger transportation licence 71026 from Gerald Charles O'REILLY dba Gabriola Island Taxi to William Lawrence SCHRAM dba Gabriola Island Taxi.	Approved

## Part 3: Hearing Notices

None

## Part 4: Appeal Decisions

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None

Part 5: Decisions Whether Application for General  
Authorization Requires Special Authorization

None

Part 6: Other Matters

None