

TIMING

Q. When is commercial ride-sharing coming to B.C.?

A. Government has [announced](#) its intention to bring ride-sharing services to British Columbia by the 2017 holiday season. Careful consideration will be required as government modernizes the regulatory framework for the BC Passenger Transportation industry. For more information on these proposed initiatives, please visit [the Government of B.C. website](#).

Q: How can I get involved in the ongoing consultation?

A. An initiative of this scale in B.C. requires work and preparation. This will include consultation with stakeholders, which is expected to take place over the summer. We will post more information about the consultation process here as it becomes available.

LICENCES

Q. What about the taxi industry, won't this impact them?

A. In recognition of the important and long-standing role of the taxi industry in providing passenger transportation services in the province, government has announced plans to introduce a series of actions to help the taxi industry modernize and remain competitive in anticipation of ride-sharing services coming to the province.

Q: Are you still accepting applications for Passenger Transportation Licences?

A. Yes. The existing Passenger Transportation Act and Regulations will continue to be applied to the passenger transportation industry. For more information please visit the [Passenger Transportation Board website](#).

Q. How will this impact my passenger transportation licence application that is being considered by the Passenger Transportation Board?

A. This announcement does not affect the current application process. The Passenger Transportation Board is continuing to consider applications for taxis, limousines and other passenger-directed vehicles as well as inter-city buses. There has been no change to the Board's existing mandate as set out in the *Passenger Transportation Act* or the Board's policies. For more information please visit the [Passenger Transportation Board website](#).

LICENCE HOLDERS

Q. What does this announcement mean for us?

A. There is no immediate impact to licence holders with valid licences. The existing Passenger Transportation Act and Regulations continue to be applied to the passenger transportation industry and licensees must continue to comply with their terms and conditions of licence. For more information about terms and conditions of licences please visit [Passenger Transportation Board website](#).

Q. I have a limousine licence. Will the changes apply to limousines?

A. Yes. Government's announcement is about the future of all passenger transportation options for consumers.

There is no immediate impact to those with current, valid licences. The existing Passenger Transportation Act and Regulations continue to be applied to the passenger transportation industry, and licensees must continue to comply with their terms and conditions of licence. Government has announced its intention to consult with stakeholders on the range of initiatives announced. The consultation process is expected to take place over the summer. We will post more information about the consultation process here as it becomes available. For more information on the proposed initiatives, please visit the [Government of B.C. website](#).

DRIVERS

Q. Do I still need a Class 4 (restricted) driver's licence to drive a cab?

A. Yes, you still need a Class 4 (restricted) driver's licence to drive a taxi in B.C. Government has proposed to phase out the Class 4 (restricted) requirement for taxi drivers. Consultation regarding this proposed change is expected to take place over the summer.

Q. I want to try driving for a rideshare company. What do I need to do?

A. At this time, ride sharing companies are not operating in BC. If you want to drive for a ride share company you will have to wait until the legislation and regulations are in place that allow for the service to operate in BC. Government has announced its intention to bring ride-sharing services to British Columbia by the 2017 holiday season. This will include consultation with stakeholders which is expected to take place over the summer with more details to come.

Q: I drive a limo or party bus with more than 10 passengers or a shuttle bus. Will I still need a Class 4 (unrestricted) drivers' licence?

A: Government's announcement is about the future of all passenger transportation options for consumers. Government has proposed to phase out the Class 4 (restricted) requirement for taxi drivers. There was no mention in the announcement that class 4 (unrestricted) drivers' licences would be impacted. For more information on the proposed initiatives, please visit the [Government of B.C. website](#).

PASSENGERS

Q. I rely on accessible taxis to get around. How will this impact accessible services that taxis currently provide?

A. Accessible services are important to British Columbians. Passengers who require these services will continue to have accessible transportation options. Government has announced its intention to bring ride-sharing services to British Columbia by the 2017 holiday season. This will include consultation with stakeholders and accessibility groups which are expected to take place over the summer with more details to come.

MODERNIZING THE TAXI INDUSTRY

Q: What is the new app-based technology and what is it intended to do?

A: The Province will invest up to \$1 million to help the taxi industry develop an app with the capability of shared dispatch to allow the taxi sector province-wide to better compete with new entrants to the market, and allow the public to hail and pay for a taxi with a smartphone in the same way that they would for a ride-sharing service. The technology is intended to assist the taxi industry in modernizing its services, enable increased convenience and improve passenger safety.

Q: What is Forward Collision Avoidance Technology?

A: These are forward facing cameras with no image or audio recordings. They use sensors and algorithms to identify vehicles, pedestrians and bicycles. The FCAT system provides a visual and audible warning of potential frontal impacts and also lane departures. Warnings give drivers more time to respond. An ICBC pilot showed that this technology led to a 61% reduction in at-fault, rear-end crashes and a 24% reduction in all crashes.

Q: I have recently installed crash-prevention technology in my taxi. Will I be reimbursed for the costs I have already paid?

A: Government has [announced](#) its intention to bring ride-sharing services to British Columbia by the 2017 holiday season. As part of the announcement, ICBC will invest up to \$3.5 million in the taxi sector to install crash avoidance technology in all B.C. taxis. When the program is available, ICBC will be reaching out to the few taxi companies that have recently paid for and installed the technology, and will be providing additional details for any taxi operator who may be in this same situation.

Q: What new insurance products will be available for taxi drivers?

A: We want to ensure that the insurance products for both taxis and ride-sharing are flexible, competitive and cost effective. In support of this, ICBC is committed to continuing to meet the evolving needs of the taxi industry, which includes regular reviews and updates to claims, customer services and insurance products.