Second Report of recommendations

Ongoing Improvement of the Road Safety Record

Executive Summary

Québec is on the right track in the area of road safety. Despite a surge in the number of licenced drivers and vehicles on the road, the province's record in this area has been improving significantly since the early 1970s.

However, the death toll has climbed steadily from 2001 to 2006, suggesting that conventional intervention techniques can no longer be relied upon to reduce the number of road accidents on their own.

In keeping with the spirit of Road Safety Year and the tabling of the First Report of recommendations by the Table québécoise de la sécurité routière in 2007, the government and its partners have implemented a number of measures aimed at reducing speeding, impaired driving, and hand-held cell phone while driving, and reinforcing the rules governing gradual access to a driver's licence.

It is very encouraging to note that the number of road fatalities was lower in 2007, and again in 2008. There were 557 road fatalities in 2008, 64 fewer than in 2007, which constitues a 10% decline. This is the best result in the past 60 years. However, if we compare Québec to the jurisdictions that have achieved the best performances in road safety and that have succeeded in developing a true road safety culture, we note that there is room for improvement.

The Table québécoise de la sécurité routière (TQSR) is now in its fourth year of existence. This standing forum for interaction and discussion has maintained its mandate of submitting recommendations to the Minister of Transport with a view to improving the road safety record. Road safety is not only a very broad field, it is also of great importance to Québec society.

The TQSR comprises 45 members who represent road users, the municipal sector, the police, government agencies and departments, and other sectors of activity.

At the conclusion of this second phase of its work, members have achieved a consensus with respect to additional measures to be adopted with a view to reducing the number of fatalities and injuries on Québec's roads.

This second report contains recommendations from members pertaining to eight topics: youth, impaired driving, pedestrians and cyclists, speed limit management in urban environments, driver health, penalized drivers, enforcement and penalties, and distractions while driving. All of the TQSR's 27 recommendations appear on the following page.

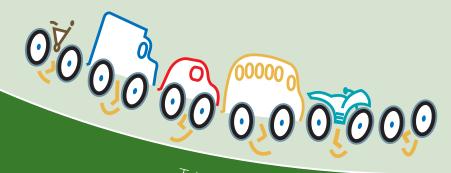


Table québécoise de la sécurité routière

of employees becoming distracted while driving.



Promote the adoption of self-regulatory policies among employers aimed at reducing the likelihood

Set up a series of activities aimed at reducing the use of cell phones while driving.