



info SAAQ

www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca

NEWSLETTER NO.7

4th quarter 2004

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NEW!

Use *SAAQclik online services* to perform certain operations quickly and easily, and check your driving knowledge at www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca

DRIVING RECORD SERVICE

- **Would you like to obtain a copy of your driving record?**
It takes only a few minutes to make a request. For reasons of security and confidentiality, your driving record in English or French will be mailed to you within days. Simple and convenient!
- **Have you decided to withdraw your vehicle permanently from road use?**
Save time and trouble by notifying us online that you would like to **discard your vehicle**.
- **Do you intend to store your vehicle temporarily?**
Easy! It takes only a few minutes to notify us of **vehicle storage!**

SAAQclik, a range of quick, easily accessible online services!



SAAQclik

Online Services

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE ABOUT DRIVING AN AUTOMOBILE

Whether you are an experienced or novice driver, this online quiz of your knowledge covers 200 questions on:

- the Highway Safety Code
- road signs and traffic signals
- driving techniques for a passenger vehicle.

Check if you're up to date!



AUTUMN IS HERE!

With the arrival of fall, for many of us it is time to store your vehicle. Did you know that you can now notify the SAAQ *online* if you wish to store or discard a vehicle? You can also order a copy of your driving record and change your address. SAAQ*clic* is a convenient way of carrying out transactions online.

SAAQ*clic online services* also has a quiz available at its Web site to test your driving knowledge. The quiz consists of 200 questions and is aimed at new or experienced drivers. Hours of enjoyment and learning await you!

At this time of the year, remember the importance of exercising extra caution when walking or riding a bicycle at night or in overcast weather. Your own safety and that of others depends on it.

Enjoy the fall season!

Jacques Brind'Amour
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

THINK AHEAD! IF YOU DRINK, YOU CAN'T DRIVE.

UNDER THE INFLUENCE



A LITTLE?

A LOT?

Alcohol begins to impair the senses well before the legal 0.08 limit. Depending on individual physical or mental makeup, alcohol, drug, or medication use, stress and fatigue will affect different people to varying degrees. That's why there is no device that can tell you with certainty if you are impaired.

Alcohol and some drugs can create the impression that you are in full control of your actions, when quite the opposite is true. Why risk your life or the lives of others for a criminal record?

REMEMBER THAT...

your actions are affected immediately after your first drink.

DRINK OR DRIVE:

DECIDE!

Sharing a drink with friends, celebrating a birthday, enjoying a drink over a good meal, reconnecting with an old acquaintance, celebrating a promotion, gathering for an after-work get together, or a Christmas office party, there are any number of reasons to have a drink!

Enjoyable moments of relaxation, however, can turn into an ordeal if you mix drinking with driving. Alcohol and driving an automobile are incompatible! That's why, before even going to a party, it is important to plan how you will get home.

PREVENT THE WORST FROM HAPPENING

Before you begin to drink:

- designate a driver who will stay sober to take you home
- call a taxi, to get to where you're going and to get home
- call on the services of an impaired driver escort
- if you're at a friend's, ask to stay over.

WORLDWIDE PROTECTION

Whether you're a driver, passenger, pedestrian, cyclist or motorcyclist, if you're injured in a traffic accident anywhere in the world, you are covered. Thanks to the protection Québec's public automobile insurance plan provides, all Quebecers are insured, regardless of fault.

Who handles compensation...

...for bodily injuries?

The SAAQ awards you compensation if you sustain injuries in a road accident.

...for property damage?

Your private insurance company compensates for damage to your vehicle.



PAY YOUR FINES ON TIME....

AND AVOID TROUBLE

If you have been issued a fine for a violation under the Highway Safety Code or a municipal traffic or parking bylaw, make sure you pay the fine before the deadline.

Legislative amendments that came into force on May 16, 2004 require you to pay fines on time. Otherwise, your driver's licence will be suspended and the following will be prohibited:

- operation of any vehicle registered in your name
- registration of a vehicle at the time of sale, purchase or lease
- discarding of any vehicle registered in your name.

DID YOU KNOW THAT

Before you lend or rent your vehicle to another individual, ensure that:

- the driver's licence is valid
- the licence corresponds to your class of vehicle.

To check the validity of a driver's licence before you lend or rent your vehicle call **1 900 565-1212**. This service is available 24 hours a day. Have the driver's licence number on hand. This number begins with the first letter of the driver's last name. Each call costs \$1.50.

A simple inexpensive check for peace of mind.



SCHOOL BUS IN SIGHT

Passing a school bus with flashing lights is not only dangerous but can carry a hefty penalty.

THINK FIRST!

The penalties for passing a school bus with flashing lights are as follows:

- **9 demerit points** on your driving record
- plus
- **a \$200 to \$300 fine.**

REMEMBER :

- our vehicle must come to a stop to within no more than five metres of a school bus. Vehicles are not required to stop where traffic lanes are separated by a median and the school bus is travelling in the opposite direction;
- remain alert in the vicinity of school zones and respect speed limits.

IS YOUR CELL PHONE DRIVING YOU?

Do you use a cell phone while driving? You are no doubt aware that this can be a major distraction! To avoid the chance of an accident, turn off your phone before setting out on the road and let your voice mail take messages.





AUTUMN, BE DOUBLY CAUTIOUS!

PEDESTRIANS

STAND OUT!

Autumn is unfortunately the time of year when there are the most pedestrian fatalities. Pedestrians have little protection if they are struck by a motor vehicle. On average, motorists hit ten pedestrians each day on Québec roads, mainly in urban areas. If you are out walking at night or when it is overcast, ensure that you can easily be seen. Wear bright-coloured clothing or reflective strips.

MOTORISTS

KEEP YOUR EYES WIDE OPEN!

Drivers need to be particularly alert during fall, because rain, fog and snow reduce visibility. Pedestrians are hard to see and they may react unpredictably, particularly in poor weather.

CYCLISTS

ALSO NEED TO BE SEEN!

When night begins to fall, you have to be able to see well and be seen on the road. That's why it's important to have a white headlight at the front of your bike and a red light at the rear. Also wear bright-coloured clothing or reflective strips.



SEE THE LIGHT

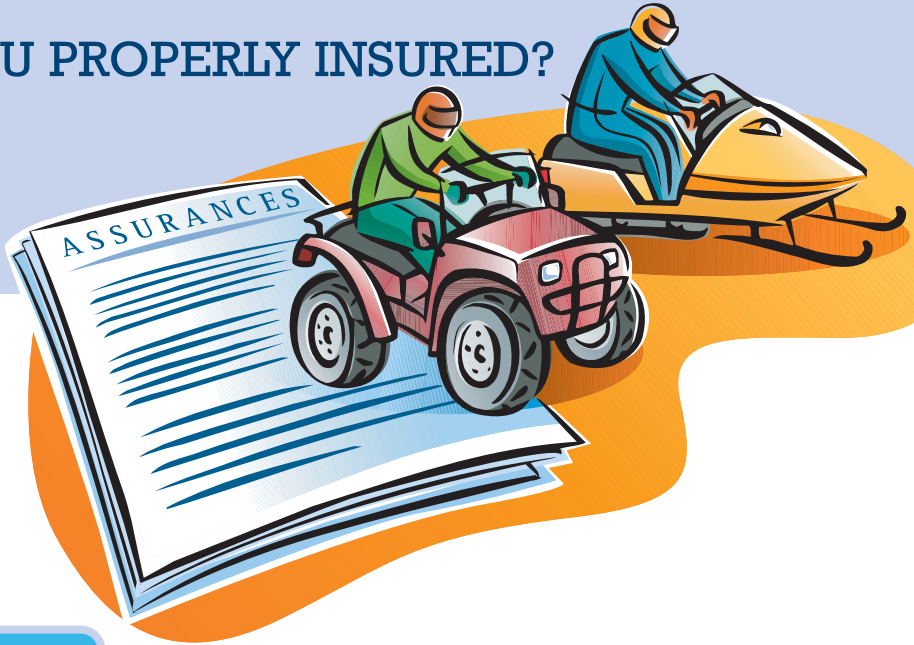
Want to add tinting to the side windows of your vehicle? Vehicle windows are tinted by the manufacturer. Make sure tinted windows allow passage of at least 70% of outside light through the window.

IS SAFETY A CONCERN?

For more information (in French), go to our Web site: www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca

OWNERS OF ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES (ATVs) AND SNOWMOBILES

ARE YOU PROPERLY INSURED?



FOR OTHERS...

The Act respecting off-highway vehicles requires you to take out civil liability insurance in an amount not less than \$500,000. Offered by private insurance companies, this insurance covers damage caused by your off-road vehicle **to others**.

FOR YOURSELF...

When the Société issues a licence plate for your ATV or snowmobile, it does not collect payment of an insurance premium under Québec's public plan.

It therefore does not pay compensation for injuries sustained in an accident involving an ATV or snowmobile, except if there is a collision with a moving passenger vehicle or truck.

To be eligible for compensation for your own bodily injuries or property damage, you must procure supplementary insurance from your insurer. Injuries or damage that are caused by another driver are covered by his or her liability insurance.

DRIVING PROHIBITED FOR THOSE AGE 14 AND UNDER

A driver must be at least age 14 to operate this type of vehicle and hold a class 6D driver's licence. Between the ages of 14 and 16, drivers must hold a competency certificate too, which may be obtained after taking training provided by a Québec snowmobile club (Fédération des clubs de motoneigistes du Québec) or quad club (Fédération québécoise des clubs quads).

The Act respecting off-highway vehicles, which also covers motocross bikes, the Regulation respecting snowmobiles and the Regulation respecting all-terrain vehicles come under the authority of Transport Québec. For more information, visit the following Web site: www.mtq.gouv.qc.ca

TO CONTACT US

• CALL CENTRE

Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

• AUTOMATED TELEPHONE SERVICE

During the regular business hours of our call centre, you can also access our automated response system:

The following services are available at no cost:

- schedule, check, change or cancel a driving test appointment
- cancel your driver's licence
- notify us of vehicle storage or discarding
- order a copy of your driving record
- find out the business hours and location of SAAQ service centres.

Outside of regular office hours, you can also reach our automated telephone information line:

Monday to Friday 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 to 11:00 p.m.

Saturday 7:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Sunday noon to 11:00 p.m.

Telephone:

Québec (city and vicinity) 643-7620

Montréal 873-7620

Elsewhere in the province, toll free,
1-800-361-7620.

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Your comments are welcome.

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PAY ONLINE

Use the online payment services of these two financial institutions to pay for the following:

- your driver's licence
- vehicle registration or
- disabled parking permit.

This feature has been added to the other payment options available, which include the postal service, financial institution or automated teller and going to one of the SAAQ service outlets.

To sign up for this service, go to:

www.desjardins.com

or: www.bnc.ca



WEB SITE

The SAAQ Web site contains a variety of useful information. Use our SAAQclik service to carry out online transactions.

Our online services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Change your address online at www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca

IT'S FAST, SECURE AND EFFECTIVE

Go to our home page, click on **Changement d'adresse** to change your address on the following documents:

- Driver's licence
- Vehicle registration (where you are a vehicle's sole owner)
- Parking permits for disabled individuals
- Compensation file if you have been the victim of a road accident.

ARE THE DAYS OF YOUR VEHICLE NUMBERED?

IT CAN HELP SAVE LIVES

Donate your car to The Kidney Foundation of Canada's Kidney-Car Program. You will be contributing to research and help the many thousands of Quebecers who suffer from kidney disease. An income tax receipt will be issued for your donation and your vehicle will be recycled!

To find the Kidney-Car number for your region call:

1 888 228-8673 or

go to www.kidneyquebec.ca

For more information on donating your old vehicle, contact the SAAQ, the Corporation des concessionnaires d'automobiles du Québec or CAA-Québec.

DID YOU KNOW THAT

Thanks to the Kidney-Car Program, The Kidney Foundation of Canada has given new life to over 20,000 vehicles since 1998.

Société de l'assurance automobile

Québec

