WWW.Saaq.gouv.qc.ca NEWSLETTER NO. 14 3rd quarter 2006

Summer safely!

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A clear view, a question of safety!

Did you know that tinting of a vehicle's windows on either side of the driver is **prohibited** if less than 70% of light (as measure by a photometer) can filter through?

Automobile windows are already tinted by the manufacturer when a vehicle rolls off the assembly line. Should you add a tint to the windows, less than 70% of light may be getting through, and your safety would be at risk. If light transmittance is less than 70%, you will be liable for a minimum **fine of \$100**.

Since March 27, 2006

If in doubt, a police officer may issue an inspection notice. This notice will require you to go to a mechanical inspection agent certified by the SAAQ, to determine if your vehicle windows comply with safety standards.



Speedy?

With the demands of work, family life, studies, new technology, quick meals... everything is happening so fast! Could it be that your impatience and the stress brought on by today's hectic pace carry over when you get at the controls of a vehicle? If so, your driving could be influenced and take you over the speed limit.

ON THE ROAD, THINK ABOUT... SLOWING DOWN.



TO OVERTAKE ANOTHER VEHICLE ON THE HIGHWAY, YOU MUST BE IN THE LEFT LANE. ENSURE, HOWEVER, THAT YOU RETURN TO THE RIGHT LANE ONCE YOU'VE OVERTAKEN THE VEHICLE.



REMEMBER

THE LEFT LANE IS RESERVED FOR OVERTAKING OTHER VEHICLES.

If you're meeting or following a **school bus**, remember:

prepare to stop when it has its flashing **amber** lights or **hazard lights** in operation;

IN SIGHT!

2 stop at least five metres from the bus when it has it's red lights flashing or its stop sign extended.

Should you fail to stop your vehicle or pass a school bus with it's red lights flashing or its stop sign extended, you are liable:

- for a fine of \$200 to \$300 and
- to have 9 demerit points entered on your driving record.

Covered anywhere in the world

Whether you're a **driver**, **passenger**, **pedestrian**, **cyclist**, **moped rider** or **motorcyclist**, you are covered if you're injured in a traffic accident anywhere in the world.

Thanks to the protection **Québec's Public Automobile Insurance Plan** provides, all Quebecers are insured, regardless of fault.

Who handles compensation?

- If you are injured, it is the SAAQ.
- If the vehicle is damaged, it is your private insurance company.

To find out more about Québec's Public Automobile Insurance Plan, go to: www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca/en/accident_victim/

ARE YOU PULLING A TRAILER?

Do it safely, by ensuring that:
the coupling system and safety chains are in good condition, firmly attached and used correctly;

 your vehicle and trailer are in good operating condition and have been inspected by a professional.

A modified driver's licence

Mindful of the **quality** and **security** of its products, the SAAQ has made recent improvements to driver's licences, probationary licences and taxi driver licences.

Your new licence has the benefit of:

- a new more durable material and
- superior print quality.

Demerit points

How many demerit points could be entered on your driving record if **you fail to wear a helmet** when operating a **motorcycle or scooter**?

ANSWER: 3 POINTS

Remember:

Those points remain on your driving record for 2 years.

Pedestrians, be safety conscious

Each day, approximately ten pedestrians are involved in traffic accidents throughout Québec.

Before you cross:

- · Go to the nearest intersection or pedestrian crosswalk;
- take a moment to check the traffic to make sure you can walk across safely;
- look left, right, then left again;
- look over your shoulder to check that no vehicles behind you are about to turn right;
- establish eye contact with drivers to make sure they see you.

Don't take chances.

COURTESY TO THE DISABLED

Think twice before you park your vehicle in a handicapped parking space.

Disabled persons require these parking spaces in order to go about their daily activities.

Respect their needs!



A Indicates that a flagperson is directing traffic during road work.

B Indicates the presence of a school crossing guard.

C Indicates that you must stop immediately.

The correct answer is A. Indicates that a flagperson is directing traffic during road work.

For more on road signs and traffic signals: www.mtq.gouv.qc.ca/en

CHECK YOUR DRIVING KNOWLEDGE

When you are making a right turn at an intersection, you must use the turn-signal light:

- A Only if there are vehicles coming from the opposite direction.
- **b** Only if there are vehicles behind you.
- C Every time.

The correct answer is C. Every time. Before making a turn at an intersection, the driver must signal the intention using the turn-signal lights.

Whether you are an **experienced** or **novice driver**, test your driving knowledge by taking the online quiz at: **www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca/en**

ON THE GOOD SIDE OF THE ROAD

BE TWICE AS CAREFUL ON A MOTORCYCLE

- Make sure you're easily seen by motorists;
- ride defensively

and

• reduce your travel speed.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

In more than 40% of fatal motorcycle accidents, there was no other vehicle involved. The vast majority of those accidents occur in curves, with speeding a factor.

DID YOU KNOW THAT ...?

For the protection of cyclists, the Highway Safety Code allows motor vehicle operators to cross over one or other of these lane markers:



But before doing so... make sure it can be done safely!

TO CONTACT US

Call Centres

Monday through Friday General information: from 8 am to 5:30 pm Accident victims' compensation: 8:30 am to 5 pm

Automated telephone response (toll free)

Monday through Saturday, from 7:30 am to 11 pm Sunday, from noon to 11 pm

Québec (city and vicinity): 418 643-7620 Montréal: 514 873-7620 From elsewhere in Québec, Canada, USA, toll free: 1 800 361-7620

TDD/TTY Montréal: 514 954-7763 From elsewhere in Québec, toll free: 1 800 565-7763

Automated telephone response (with charge)

24 hours, 7 days a week

- Check that a vehicle can be licensed before:
- its sale to an individual;
- its purchase from an individual;
- check that a prospective driver's licence is valid before lending or renting your vehicle.

One number: 1 900 565-1212 (\$1.50 per call)

SAAQCLIC ONLINE SERVICES

Monday through Saturday, from 7 am to 11 pm Sunday, from noon to 11 pm

www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca/en

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Produced by the Direction des communications.

E-mail any comments to us at: **courrier@saaq.gouv.qc.ca**

Version française disponible sur demande.

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ISSN: 1705-9283

Illustrations: Paul Bordeleau



Protection of Personal Information

Information concerning a person sought by the SAAQ is handled confidentially. Such personal information is needed by the SAAQ to carry out its mandates under the Automobile Insurance Act and the Highway Safety Code. Personal information obtained is only disclosed to staff internally or to authorized agents. Under the Act respecting access to documents held by public bodies and the protection of personal information, it may be conveyed to Government departments or agencies, or used for statistical, survey or study purposes. Individuals may consult or correct any personal information concerning them held in SAAQ records. The information must be provided on request and failure to do so can result in a refusal of service on the SAAQ's part. Individuals may consult or correct any personal information concerning them held in SAAQ records.

For more information, contact the SAAQ's call centres or consult the Policy on Privacy on the SAAQ website at www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca.

Information conveyed without the express consent of individuals concerned

To implement the Highway Safety Code and related statutes:

- Agencies responsible for implementing equivalent statutes in Canada and elsewhere
- · Bureau du taxi de la Communauté urbaine de Montréal
- Commission des transports du Québec
- Courts including municipal courts
- Insurance Bureau of Canada (IBC)
- Ministère de la Justice du Québec
- Ministère de la Sécurité publique
- Ministère des Transports du Québec
- Revenu Québec
- Sûreté du Québec and other police forces
- Transport Canada

For implementing statutes and other purposes:

- Agence nationale de l'encadrement du secteur financier
- Canada Revenue Agency
- Commissaire à la déontologie policière
- Commission de la construction du Québec
- Commission de la protection du territoire agricole
- Commission des normes du travail
- Coroner
- Environment Canada
- Human Resources Development Canada
- Insurers and their representatives
- Justice Canada
- Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux
- Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale
- Ministère des Affaires intergouvernementales
- Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune
- Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs
- National Battlefields Commission
- Office de la protection du consommateur
- Office québécois de la langue française
- Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec
- Régie du bâtiment du Québec
- Revenu Québec
- Société d'habitation du Québec
- Statistic Canada
- · Vehicle manufacturers and dealerships (recall campaigns)