

THIS SPRING, Let's show good conduct on the road!



IN THIS ISSUE

- HIGHWAY CONTROLLERS
- MYSTERY WORD: FOR MY OWN SAFETY AND THAT OF OTHERS
- EASING OUR WAY SAFELY INTO SPRING

2007 Road Safety Year

2007 has been named Road Safety Year by the Québec government. There will be **awareness** campaigns, activities to **mobilize** the public and **road checks** planned, all within the perspective of lowering the number of accident victims and improving the overall safety record.

Want to show that you endorse the idea of using the roadway without risking your life or that of others?

Show the **symbol*** on your vehicle's rear window.

This year, let's make a commitment to do all we can to make travel on Québec highways the safest in the world!

* Available for free in SAAQ service centres.

A traffic accident has a wide-ranging impact

Did you realize that **80%** of accidents are linked to road users' behaviour?

Year on year some **55,000** people become **accident victims**... and that's not counting the parents, children, friends and colleagues who are affected by those mishaps.

Ignoring a red traffic light, talking on a cellphone while driving, failing to buckle up or to wear a helmet, along with jaywalking, are examples of risky behaviour that could have **dramatic consequences**, not just on yourself, but on the people around you. Showing responsible road use habits is the best way to safeguard... **LIFE**.

We are all responsible for our conduct on the road.

M Y S T E R Y W O R L D

S	T	R	E	E	T	S	T	H	G	I	L	M	C
T	L	R	C	H	I	L	D	R	E	N	T	O	O
A	E	O	T	L	E	B	T	A	E	S	R	T	N
T	F	F	W	T	I	M	R	E	P	S	A	O	V
I	O	F	P	L	P	O	I	N	T	S	F	R	E
S	L	I	P	O	Y	C	R	O	S	S	F	C	R
T	L	C	O	G	L	A	S	S	N	L	I	Y	S
I	O	E	L	S	D	C	T	S	I	O	C	C	A
C	W	D	I	L	O	A	R	D	S	O	R	L	T
S	B	I	T	O	W	L	E	R	K	K	O	E	I
I	S	L	E	W	N	M	S	I	S	L	A	S	O
X	I	O	H	E	L	P	S	N	I	L	D	U	N
A	G	S	E	A	S	Y	L	K	R	A	S	B	E
T	N	E	D	U	R	P	R	E	S	P	E	C	T

Answer: My road use shows _____ conduct.

Demerit Points

How many demerit points could be entered on your driving record if **you have a learner's licence and you drive without an accompanying rider?**

Answer: 4 points

Remember:

Those points remain on your driving record **for 2 years.**

Being courteous is contagious

On the road, do you have a tendency to:

- use the road shoulder to pass another vehicle in a bottleneck?
- follow a vehicle close behind?
- change lanes suddenly without signaling?
- zigzag between vehicles?

Ever think that such driving habits can be irritating to other motorists?

Put luck on your side

- Avoid driving when you feel tired or stressed.
- Listen to soothing music, if this calms you.
- Keep to the right lane, except when passing.
- Plan your trips.

FOR MY OWN SAFETY AND THAT OF OTHERS

A ALL	F FOLLOW	R RESPECT
B BELT BUS	G GLASS	R RISKS ROADS
C CALM CHILDREN CONVERSATION CROSS	H HELP	S SEAT SIGN SLOW SLOWLY SOLID STATISTICS STREET STRESS
D DOWN DRINK	L LIGHTS LOOK	T TAXI TRAFFIC
E EASY	M MOTORCYCLE	
	O OFFICE	
	P PERMIT POINTS POLITE PRUDENT	

Courtesy Mrs. Nicole Foucault, Gatineau, Québec



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/

QUICK'N EASY! Go to www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca to conduct these operations online:

- have your **change of address** recorded;
- make, change, check or cancel an **appointment for a driving test – knowledge or road test**;
- **pay for renewal** (if you are a member of the Caisses Desjardins or a client of the National Bank of Canada) of your:
 - driver's licence;
 - vehicle registration;
 - disabled parking permit;
- check the **validity of a driver's licence**;
- check if a **vehicle can be licensed**;
- get a **copy of your driving record**;
- get a **copy of your compensation record**;
- notify us of **storage of your vehicle**;
- have your **vehicle removed from storage** and licensed for road use;
- notify us of **vehicle discarding**.

These services are available online:

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

**IF I WERE YOU,
I'D BUCKLE UP.**

Otherwise, it could cost you...
a fine of **\$80** or more,
3 demerit points...
and your **LIFE**.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

In the event vehicle **passengers under age 16** fail to wear their **seat belt**, the **driver** will be the one **fined** and have **3 demerit points** entered on his or her record.

Quiz on road safety

Use of a **hands-free cellphone** in a vehicle is:

- A.** Less dangerous than a hand-held phone.
- B.** More dangerous than a hand-held phone.
- C.** Just as dangerous as a hand-held phone.

Answer: C. Just as dangerous as a hand-held phone. The problem is with the type of conversation that is being held, not the type of cellphone used. The longer, more stressful, more emotional or demanding a conversation, the more a driver's attention is focused on the telephone conversation and less on the road.

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.

If there is any doubt, the law allows a police officer to 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.

EASING OUR WAY SAFELY INTO SPRING



Spring is here! What is your first trip of the season?

- A. A trip to Boston.
- B. A 20 km trip.
- C. A trip from Rimouski to Québec.

The correct answer is B. A 20 km trip. Take your motorcycle out gradually in the spring. Do practice runs at low speeds and review driving techniques by going out on short trips.

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

Let's share the road

Spring signals the return of motorcycles, scooters and bicycles to the roadways. For the safety of all road users, let's be on the lookout and share roadspace.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

As a **cyclist**, you can be fined \$15 or more for disregarding traffic rules or road signs and signals.

Care and vigilance save lives!

Pedestrians

- Walk on the sidewalk and, if there is none, walk on the side of the road, facing oncoming traffic.
- Cross a roadway at the nearest intersection.
- Obey traffic signs and signals.
- Avoid crossing between parked cars.

Drivers

- Bring your vehicle to a stop behind the stop line.
- Obey road signs and traffic signals at intersections.
- Yield the way to pedestrians at a crosswalk.
- Motion with your hand to signal pedestrians that it's safe to cross.





ROAD SIGN



WHAT DOES THIS SIGN MEAN?

- A. Prepare to stop abruptly.
- B. You are entering a priority traffic lane. You must yield and adjust your speed.
- C. This sign is used only in Europe.

The correct answer is B: You are entering a priority traffic lane. You must yield and adjust your speed.

For more on road signs and traffic signals, go to: www.mtq.gouv.qc.ca

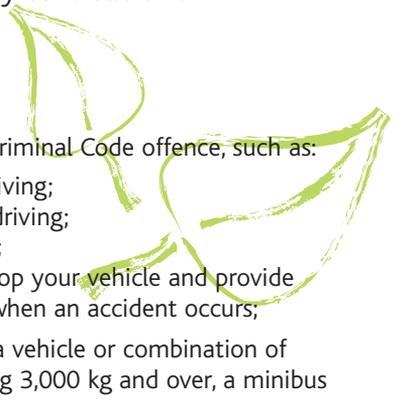
HIGHWAY CONTROLLERS



Highway controllers are peace officers acting for the SAAQ.

As a motorist, you may be intercepted by controllers if:

- you are carrying hazardous materials, equipment or goods (gas, petroleum products, explosives, flammable material, corrosive agents, poisons or infectious substances, etc.);
- your vehicle appears to be in poor mechanical condition;
- your vehicle is overloaded or too wide or too long or if the material you are carrying is not properly tied down;
- you commit a Criminal Code offence, such as:
 - impaired driving;
 - dangerous driving;
 - hit-and-run;
 - failure to stop your vehicle and provide assistance when an accident occurs;
- you are driving a vehicle or combination of vehicles weighing 3,000 kg and over, a minibus or tow truck.



Remember, Contrôle routier Québec contributes to improving highway safety!

TO CONTACT US



Monday through Saturday,
from 7 am to 11 pm
Sunday, from noon to 11 pm
www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca

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)

Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec
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E-mail any comments to us at: courrier@saaq.gouv.qc.ca

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**Société de l'assurance
automobile**

Québec



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.

List of organizations authorized to receive and disclose information without getting the consent of the 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 du Québec
- 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 Border Services Agency
- 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 Relations internationales
- 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
- Statistics Canada
- Vehicle manufacturers and dealerships (recall campaigns)