

IN THIS ISSUE

 ACCIDENTS HURT... A LOT OF PEOPLE.

THIS SUMMER: SAFETY ON THE ROAD

2007 **Road Safety Year**

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



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

Put this **symbol*** in your vehicle's rear window.

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

* Available free of charge in SAAQ service centres.

www.50000victims.com

During Road Safety Year, the SAAQ has a new Web site available: www.50000victims.com. This is a shock site all about road safety.

You will find plenty of information, including various statistics and examples of good driving behaviours to adopt. There are also personal stories, including an emergency doctor's account of speaking to the families of accident victims. He explains just how difficult it is and what the real consequences of traffic accidents are on those close to the victim.

You are one of the "other people" on the road.

Because together, we can change things, visit www.50000victims.com to tell your story and offer your solutions to help improve road safety.

We are all responsible for our conduct on the road.



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Answer: My road use shows _ _ _ _ _ conduct

Accidents hurt... a lot of people

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

Every year, around **50,000** people become **accident victims**... and that's not counting the parents, children, friends and colleagues who are affected.

Running a red light, talking on a cellphone while driving, not wearing a seatbelt or a helmet, jaywalking: these are all examples of risky behaviour that could have **dramatic consequences**, not just on you, but on the people around you. Behaving responsibly on the road is the best way to safeguard... **LIFE**.

We are all responsible for our conduct on the road.

Quiz on road safety

A child can use a seat belt without a booster seat:

A. When the child is five years old.

B. When the child reaches the correct height and weight.

C. When the height of the child, in a sitting position, is 63 cm.

Answer: C. When the height of the child, in a sitting position, is 63 cm.

To find out more on varied road safety topics, go to: www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca.

FOR MY OWN SAFETY AND THAT OF OTHERS

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

Courtesy Ms. Nicole Foucault, Gatineau, Québec



Otherwise, it could cost you...

a fine of \$80 or more

3 demerit points... and your LIFE.

Are you in a rush?

- Rushing to be on vacation? Rushing to get to work?
- Rushing to... lose your spouse, your children, your family?
- Rushing to lose your life?

Every year, speeding causes **150 deaths** and **injures 7,000** on Québec roads.

On the road... SLOW DOWN.

If you drink, don't drive.

Thinking of having a drink to celebrate the nice weather? Starting to eye the patios and sidewalk cafés? Before you start, think about how you are going to get home:

- Choose a designated driver who won't drink and who will drive home;
- Take a taxi or public transit;
- Call a drive home service; or
- Stay the night where you are.

Think ahead!



QUICK'N EASY! Go to www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca to do 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: 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday: noon to 11 p.m.

CARRIER ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS



Carrier enforcement officers are peace officers acting for the SAAQ. As a motorist, you may be intercepted 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, the load is too wide or too long or the material you are carrying is not properly secured;
- 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 minibus, a tow truck or a vehicle or combination of vehicles weighing more than 3,000 kg.

Remember, Contrôle routier Québec helps improve road safety!



Whether you're a **driver**, **passenger**, **pedestrian**, **cyclist**, **moped rider** or **motorcyclist**, did you know that 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.

Is your vehicle damaged?

Check your insurance coverage with 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/



THIS ROAD SIGN TELLS YOU:

- **A.** The maximum speed at which vehicles engaged in road work may travel on a road construction site.
- **B.** The maximum speed at which all types of vehicles may travel on a road construction site.
- C. The maximum speed recommended for all types of vehicles on a road construction site.

Answer B: The maximum speed at which all types of vehicles may travel on a road construction site.

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

DEMERIT POINTS

How many demerit points could be entered on your driving record if you accelerate when being passed?

ANSWER: 2 POINTS

Remember:

Those points remain on your driving record for 2 years.



Summer is here! You are on vacation and you are visiting Québec. You are driving in an unfamiliar city. There is no speed limit posted. What is the maximum speed you can drive?

A. 30 km/h

B. 50 km/h

C. 70 km/h

The correct answer is B: 50 km/h. Unless another speed limit is posted, the maximum you can drive in a city is 50 km/h.

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**

MOTORCYCLISTS, BE CAREFUL!

- 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 as a factor.



BICYCLE RIDERS, WEAR YOUR HELMET.

If you have an accident, the helmet, rather than your head, will absorb and distribute the impact over its surface.

Always wear your helmet when riding!

TO CONTACT US



Monday through Saturday, from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday, from noon to 11 p.m. www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca

Call Centres

Monday through Friday General information: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Compensation for accident victims: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Automated telephone response (toll free)

Monday through Saturday: 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday: noon to 11 p.m.

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: 1800 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 P.O. Box 19600 Québec (Québec) G1K 8J6

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

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Protection of Personal Information

All information gathered by authorized SAAQ personnel is handled confidentially. The SAAQ needs such personal information to apply the Automobile Insurance Act and the Highway Safety Code. 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, study, audit or investigative purposes. Failure to provide information 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 et du remorquage de la ville 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
- Department of Justice Canada
- Environment Canada
- Human Resources and Social Development Canada
- Insurers and their representatives
- 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)