

Dear Perimeter Seating Bus Owner/Operator,

October 7, 2019

This email is being sent as a reminder of the regulatory changes that came into effect on April 1, 2019 relating to perimeter seating buses (PSB). These changes were announced through an Industry Notice published on March 20, 2019 and which remains available on <u>our website</u>.

The key changes included the need for licensees to:

- Obtain consent forms for every unaccompanied minor aboard a PSB
- Provide a safety monitor anytime there is an unaccompanied minor in a PSB

Further regulatory changes came into effect on September 16, 2019 which increased the powers of the Registrar. Administrative fines of up to \$50,000 are now permissible at the Registrar's discretion. Failure to obtain consent forms for unaccompanied minors and failure to provide safety monitors when applicable are offences subject to administrative fines. Furthermore, the failure to carry a licence when operating a passenger directed vehicle is also subject to an administrative fine.

In addition, PSBs may undergo a Level 1 Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance check to ensure it meets minimal *Motor Vehicle Act* and Regulation standards.

Licensees can read about the fines in the *Passenger Transportation Act* located on the <u>BC Laws website</u>. Specifically:

- Part 6, Section 46 (2) (c) references the \$50,000 Administrative Fine
- Part 7, Section 57 (4) references the \$100,000 fine for companies contravening licensing requirements

The Order in Council detailing new Violation Tickets Administration and Fines is also available on the Passenger Transportation Branch website.

The Industry Notice is attached to this email for your convenience and you are advised to become familiar with, and adhere to, its contents.

Sincerely,

Michele Jaggi-Smith

Registrar & Executive Director