



**Re: Yellow plates in the Downtown Vancouver Entertainment District**

**February 20, 2020**

This letter is to explain the presence of a number of taxis with yellow licence plates that have been operating on weekends in the Downtown Vancouver Entertainment District.

Several years ago a number of taxi companies around the Lower Mainland applied to amend their licences in order to have additional vehicles operate during peak periods (Friday and Saturday nights from 10pm – 5am) in the Downtown Vancouver Entertainment District.

Although these companies received approval to amend their licences, the City of Vancouver had a bylaw at the time that prevented the vehicles from being activated.

The new regulations that came into affect on September 16, 2019 changed municipal authority in relation to passenger directed vehicles, and these companies are now able to activate and operate these additional vehicles. A yellow licence plate at the front of the vehicle indicates a company has the authorization to operate that vehicle during the late hours and jurisdiction mentioned above. If a taxi is working regular shifts as well as the weekend shifts, then it is possible they would have two plates on the vehicle, the regular one and the yellow one.

The Passenger Transportation Branch has received complaints requesting these companies change the location of the yellow plate to the rear of the vehicle. In order for this to happen, the Passenger Transportation Board needs to approve a change to the terms and conditions of licence. To express your thoughts on this matter, please write to the Board directly.

In summary, we wish to clarify that:

- Companies with yellow plates are legally allowed to operate
- The licence plate is affixed to the front of the vehicle as per the terms and conditions of licence

We request that licensees operating in Vancouver send a message either through your dispatch system or by other means to your drivers on this matter. It is important for drivers to be educated on this matter to reduce any frustration resulting from this change.

If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact us at [passengertransportationbr@gov.bc.ca](mailto:passengertransportationbr@gov.bc.ca).

Regards,

Passenger Transportation Branch  
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

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**Ministry of  
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Passenger Transportation Branch

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