

June 11, 2015

Dear Partners in Road Safety:

I am pleased to announce that the Province is conducting a public consultation on the issue of distracted driving, as part of the Ministry of Justice's mission to have the safest roads in North America by 2020.

Distracted driving is currently the second-leading contributing factor in motor vehicle fatalities on BC roads. On average, 88 people die every year due to driver distraction. I am committed to protecting British Columbians from distracted drivers.

On October 20, 2014, the Province increased the penalty points from zero to three for drivers caught using a handheld device while driving, in addition to the \$167 fine. This consultation marks the beginning of our next step. Over the next four weeks RoadSafetyBC will be consulting with the public to get their feedback on distracted driving, the current law, and potential changes to sanctions.

The consultation officially kick-offs on June 16, 2015, when we launch our interactive website, and lasts until July 16, 2015. The website will provide the opportunity for the public to learn about distracted driving and provide feedback on BC's distracted driving laws. The link will be sent to you once the site has gone live on June 16.

A key component to the success of this engagement will be the input I receive from the diversity of individuals and organizations across British Columbia who are interested in reducing driver distraction. I would like to hear your organization's perspective on distracted driving in BC and any recommendations on improving the Province's approach to distracted driving.

Please submit your formal responses to RoadSafetyBC@gov.bc.ca by July 10, 2015. In order to promote the transparency of this review, stakeholder submissions will be posted to the website and made available to the public. The website also contains a listing of all stakeholders who have received this invite to participate in the consultation.

.../2 Partners in Road Safety Page 2 Please include the name of your organization in the name of the document. To protect your privacy, do not include your personal phone number or e-mail address in your submission. I look forward to hearing from you on this important topic.

Yours very truly,

Suzanne Anton QC  
Attorney General  
Minister of Justice