



INTERSECTION SAFETY CAMERA

PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT 2019



RoadSafetyBC



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

BC's Intersection Safety Camera (ISC) program is an automated enforcement initiative designed to reduce motor vehicle crashes at intersections, and the subsequent injuries and fatalities. This program is a partnership between the Province, the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC), and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), and has been in operation since 1999. The ISC program operates 140 digital cameras installed at high-risk intersections throughout BC to enforce red light running offences. BC's ISC sites were selected based on extensive data analysis to identify those intersections that see the most serious injury crashes, and where road safety benefits are most effective.

ISC – SPEED IMPLEMENTATION

In 2019, the ISC program was expanded to enable automated speed enforcement at 35 of the existing camera locations. Key factors used to assess and select ISC sites for speed enforcement included:

- Prevalence and extremity of speeding
- Record of fatal and severe injury crashes, and
- Potential to reduce collisions.

The cameras use radar technology to detect vehicles travelling through the intersection over the posted speed limit on all light phases. New, prominent signs have been installed at each ISC speed location to warn approaching drivers about the enhanced intersection enforcement.

The first five upgraded cameras were activated on July 29, 2019 and implementation continues in a phased approach, with all 35 speed-activated ISCs scheduled to be operational by spring 2020.

The Province's [ISC website](#) was also created in 2019, using a new citizen-focused service design, improved mapping and navigation information, and an easy step-by-step guide on how to pay or dispute an ISC ticket.

On October 7, 2019, ISC violation tickets became payable online through [PayBC](#). This allows greater convenience for citizens and improved efficiency in processing payments.

PROGRAM OFFICERS

Intersection Safety Camera Officers (ISCOs) are responsible for charging all intersection safety camera offences. The ISCOs are appointed as Special Provincial Constables under Section 9 of the *Police Act*. Officers are specially trained on the Prescribed Technology to verify the authenticity of image evidence and offence data and review the images to determine if a charge may be laid. The officers are also responsible for prosecuting the violation tickets in Provincial Traffic Courts around the province.

Images that are chargeable for red light infractions fall under Section 129(1) of the *Motor Vehicle Act (MVA)* - 'disobey red light at intersection'. Images that are chargeable for speeding infractions fall under MVA Sections 146(1) - 'speed in (outside) municipality', 146(3), 146(5) - 'speed against highway sign', 146(7) - 'speed against municipal sign', and 148(1) - 'excessive speed'.

ISC violation tickets are issued to Registered Owners of vehicles and do not carry driver penalty points.

PROGRAM TIMELINE TO END OF 2019

MARCH
2018

BC government announced the Intersection Safety Camera (ISC) Program to be upgraded for automated speed enforcement

JULY
2018

Completion of full activation for red light enforcement – up from 25% to 100%

MAY
2019

Site selection and engineering assessments completed for automated speed enforcement at existing red light camera locations

JUNE
2019

New updated speed and red light warning signs installed at all 140 ISC sites throughout the province

JULY
2019

First five cameras activated for speed enforcement and [ISC website](#) launched

SEPTEMBER
2019

Five additional cameras activated for speed enforcement (total ten cameras active for speed enforcement)

OCTOBER
2019

Online payment of all ISC violation tickets available through [PayBC](#)

NOVEMBER
2019

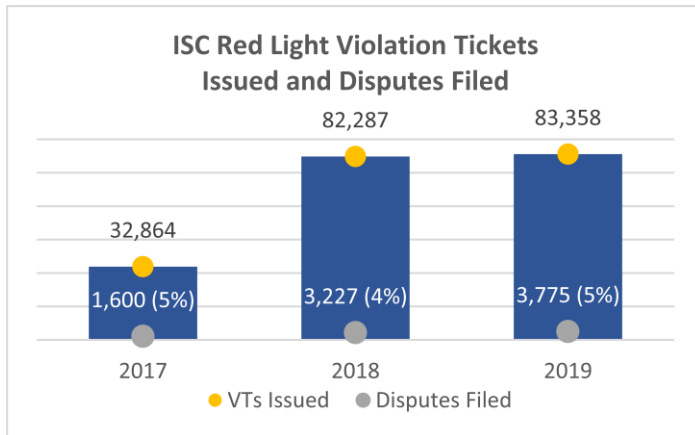
Six additional cameras activated for speed enforcement (total 16 cameras active for speed enforcement)

PROGRAM STATISTICS – 2019

ISC program outputs for 2019 are summarized in the table below:

Violations	Total Violation Tickets Issued	Payment			Disputes ¹		Revenue
		Total Paid	Paid Online	Payment Rate	Disputes Filed	Dispute Rate	
Red Light	83,358	73,490	8,062	88%	3,775	5%	\$10,604,774.24
Speed	9,721	4,101	2,303	42%	525	5%	\$750,490.99
Total	93,079	77,591	10,365	83%	4,300	5%	\$11,355,265.23

Violation ticket fines include a victim surcharge levy. Net revenues from all violation tickets are returned to BC municipalities to assist them in ensuring safety and addressing community strategic priorities.



The increase in red light violation tickets between 2017 and 2018 results from the phased increased activation of ISC cameras, from 25% to 100% activation in July 2018. The 35 sites selected for speed enforcement were non-operational during the technical upgrades, resulting in lower than forecasted red light volumes for 2019.

Prosecution statistics show outcomes of tickets disputed in the current or previous year(s). A total of 3,477 disputes for red light tickets were scheduled to be heard in traffic court in 2019. Of the total disputes, 40 percent (1,399) of disputants did not show up to their court dates, and 45 percent (1,550) pleaded guilty. For defendants who chose to dispute their tickets, 89 percent were found guilty. Prosecution statistics for speeding violation tickets are not yet available, as disputes are scheduled to be heard in court starting in January 2020.

Summary of ISC Red Light Prosecution Statistics			
	2017	2018	2019
Total Disputes ²	1,490	1,549	3,477
No Show	539	636	1,399
Guilty Plea	646	663	1,550
Trial - Guilty	145	132	242
Trial - Not Guilty	15	14	29
Other ³	145	104	257

¹ Includes disputes 'filed' in 2019

² Includes disputes 'heard' in the identified year

³ "Other" category consists mostly of withdrawn tickets