
VEHICLE FOR HIRE COMMISSION

**Vehicle for Hire Commission
Driver Training and Testing Committee
Monthly Update Report, October 14, 2009**

VHF Appreciation Day

The YMCAs of Edmonton has agreed to sponsor 9 three-month free memberships. The Committee is still waiting to hear from other sponsors, including the Brokers, Limousine owners/operators and the Edmonton Cabbies Association. As mentioned earlier, the Vehicle for Hire Commission would be supporting the event by waiving the driver permit renewal fees for the award recipients.

Only a small number of nominations have been received. The Committee urges all the stakeholders to promote, support and contribute to this event. Other arrangements are proceeding well.

Driver Training and Testing

The industry has failed to provide any specific examples of content duplication in Defensive Driving and Advanced Driver (Refresher) courses.

The Committee chair met with Jessy Halibi of the Alberta Limousine Association, on September 3, 2009 to initiate a discussion on the Limousine sector driver training and testing issues. Future meetings for this sector are being planned.

Respectfully submitted,

Charan Khehra (Chairperson), Mack Fysh. Chris Leahey, and Hatem Naboulsi (ex-officio)

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OPERATIONS & PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

The Commission received a submission from a member of the industry to seek access for taxis/accessible taxis to Edmonton Transit bus loops at South Campus, Millgate and the University of Alberta for drop-off and pick-up purposes.

Currently, clients of accessible taxis are picked up or dropped off some distance from the area where the ETS service is actually located. Even without considering the kind of inclement weather the city endures for some 6 months of the year, this presents individuals utilizing this service with significant problems.

The Committee met with the Director of Service Development and the Safety Operations Coordinator for the Edmonton Transit System and explained the problems identified. The officials were sympathetic to the concerns expressed on behalf of persons with disabilities. They explained there were space and logistical problems that needed to be overcome before a solution could be arrived at. The officials indicated they would work on the problem and report back to the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Leon Lubin, Chair

Mack Fysh, member and Hatem Naboulsi member-at-large