

March 6-10, 2017 Is Road Safety at Work Week in BC



In 2017, Road Safety at Work Week is March 6-10. This initiative is intended to improve awareness and adoption of road safety practices by employers in BC. After all, employers are responsible for the safety of workers when they drive on the job.

This year, the focus is on the responsibilities employers have for workers who drive their own vehicles for work. The campaign reminds employers that they have the same legal obligations for safety when workers drive personal vehicles for work as when they drive company vehicles.

Although this safety event is BC-based, it's still a good opportunity for employers across Canada to consider whether they're doing all they should do to ensure the safety of their workers behind the wheel.

In general, employers should:

- Confirm that employee-owned vehicles are fit for purpose, regularly inspected and properly maintained
- Provide employees with instruction, training and supervision necessary to ensure their safety when driving
- Confirm employees know and follow company safe driving policies and procedures.

Employees also have responsibilities when they drive their own vehicles for work. They must:

- Know and obey applicable traffic laws, including bans on distracted driving
- Take steps to ensure their safety and the safety of their passengers
- Follow company safe work policies and procedures
- Not drive or work if impaired by alcohol, drugs or any other means
- Report work-related hazards to their supervisor or employer
- Ensure their vehicle is licensed, insured, operated and maintained in accordance with
- the motor vehicle and other laws if the vehicle is used for commercial purposes.

The OHS Insider has resources to help you develop or improve a workplace road safety program and fulfill your safety duties when workers drive on the job, including:

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1. [A model employee-owned vehicle policy](#)
2. [Road Safety Program Audit Form](#)
3. [Road Safety Data Collection Checklist](#)
4. A [briefing for senior management](#) on liability for workers' distracted driving on the job
5. A [Model Distracted Driving Policy](#)
6. [Spot the Safety Violation: Cell Phones Aren't the Only Distractions for Drivers.](#)

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