

# Wintering Safely!



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## Highway carrier enforcement officers

If you are a motorist, a highway controller can stop you if:

- you are carrying hazardous materials, equipment or goods (gas, petroleum products, explosives, flammable material, corrosive agents, poisons or infectious substances, etc.);
- your vehicle is in poor mechanical condition;
- your vehicle is overloaded or too wide or too long or if the material you are carrying is not properly tied down;
- you commit a Criminal Code offence, such as:
  - impaired driving;
  - dangerous driving;
  - hit-and-run;
  - fail to stop your vehicle and provide assistance when an accident occurs;
- you are driving a vehicle or combination of vehicles weighing 3,000 kg and over, a minibus or tow truck.

Remember, **Contrôle routier Québec** contributes to improving highway safety!

## If I Were You, I'd Buckle Up.

Otherwise,  
it could cost you...

- a fine of **\$80** or more
- 3 demerit points...
- your life.

**THINK ABOUT IT!**

## NEW!

### Traffic Safety Quiz

Check your grasp of various road  
safety topics at

[www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca](http://www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca)

## Demerit Points

How many demerit points could be entered on your driving record if **you accelerate when a vehicle is trying to pass you?**

**Answer : 2 points**

**Remember:**

Those points remain on your driving record **for 2 years.**

## Covered Anywhere in the World



Whether you're a **driver, passenger, pedestrian, cyclist, moped rider** or **motorcyclist**, you are covered if you're injured in a traffic accident anywhere in the world.

Thanks to the protection **Québec's Public Automobile Insurance Plan** provides, all Quebecers are insured, regardless of fault.

### Who handles compensation ?

- If you are injured, it is the SAAQ.
- If the vehicle is damaged, it is your private insurance company.

To find out more about Québec's Public Automobile Insurance Plan, go to: [www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca/en/accident\\_victim/](http://www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca/en/accident_victim/)

## Speedy?

Could it be that your **impatience** and the **stress** brought on by today's hectic pace carry over when you get at the controls of a vehicle? If so, your driving could be influenced and take you over the speed limit.

On the  
road...

**TAKE IT EASY.**

## A clear view, a question of safety!

Did you know that tinting of a vehicle's windows on either side of the driver is **prohibited** if less than 70% of light (as measure by a photometer) can filter through?

Automobile windows are already tinted by the manufacturer when a vehicle rolls off the assembly line. Should you add a tint to the windows, less than 70% of light may be getting through, and your safety would be at risk. If light transmittance is less than 70%, you will be liable for a minimum **fine of \$100.**


If there is any doubt, the law allows a police officer to issue an **inspection notice**. This notice will require you to go to a mechanical inspection agent certified by the SAAQ, to determine if your vehicle windows comply with safety standards.

- have your **change of address** recorded;
- make, change, check or cancel an **appointment for a driving test – knowledge or road test**;
- **pay for renewal** (if you are a member of the Caisses Desjardins or a client of the National Bank of Canada) of your:
  - driver's licence;
  - vehicle registration;
  - disabled parking permit;
- check the **validity of a driver's licence**;
- check if a **vehicle can be licensed**;
- get a **copy of your driving record**;
- get a **copy of your compensation record**;
- notify us of **storage of your vehicle**;
- have your **vehicle removed from storage** and licensed for road use;
- notify us of **vehicle discarding**.

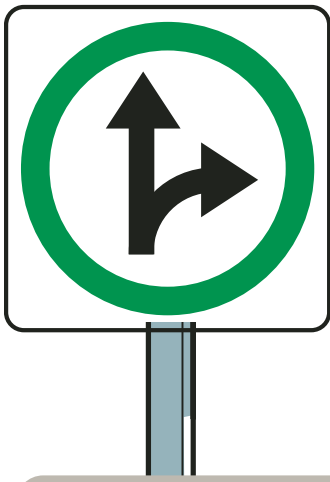
These services are available online:

Monday through Saturday, from 7 am to 11 pm and Sunday, from noon to 11 pm

## DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

- In the event vehicle **passengers** under age 16 fail to wear their **seat belt**, the driver will be the one fined and have 3 demerit points entered on his or her record.
- At an intersection, drivers must yield to a **pedestrian** facing a green traffic light, whether or not there is a walk signal.
- You can donate your car to The Kidney Foundation of Canada's Kidney-Car Program. To find the Kidney-Car number for your region call: 1 888 228-8673; or go to [www.kidneyquebec.ca](http://www.kidneyquebec.ca).
- To use a parking space reserved for the **disabled**, you must hold a **parking permit** issued by the SAAQ. 
- Under the *Criminal Code*, driving while under the influence of a **drug** results in the same penalties as alcohol-impaired driving.
- When drivers turn age 75, they must undergo a **medical and vision examination**, then again at age 80 and every two years afterward. The SAAQ will contact you in that event.





# ROAD SIGN

TRUE OR FALSE?

This sign indicates that you must proceed straight ahead or turn right.

The correct answer is True. Any instructions contained within the green circle are compulsory.

For more on road signs and traffic signals, go to: [www.mtq.gouv.qc.ca](http://www.mtq.gouv.qc.ca)

*Check your knowledge  
online!*

**AUTOMOBILE-MOTORCYCLE**



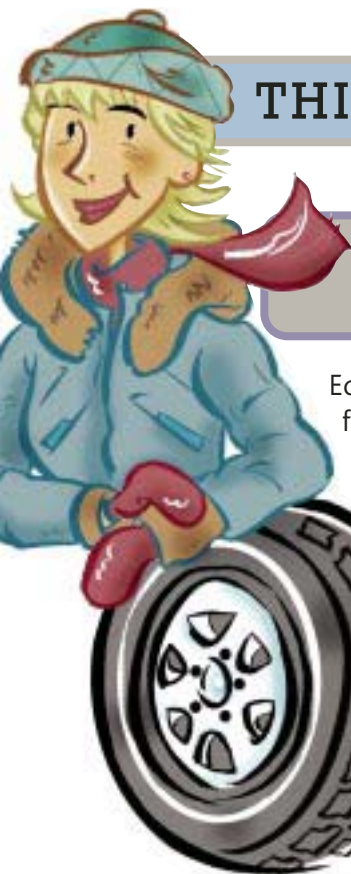
You are approaching an area where the road is ice-covered. To lessen the likelihood of skidding, you should:

- A** Step firmly on the brake pedal.
- B** Slow down by gradually easing off the accelerator.
- C** Accelerate, then release the accelerator.

The correct answer is B. Slow down by gradually easing off the accelerator. By easing off the accelerator, the engine itself will help the vehicle slow down.

Whether you are an **experienced** or **novice driver**, test your **automobile** or **motorcycle** driving knowledge by taking the online quiz at: [www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca](http://www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca)

# THIS WINTER, BE CAUTIOUS



## Why winter tires?

Equip your vehicle with four winter tires, which provide better traction than all-season tires.

In comparison with winter tires, all-season tires start to harden and lose their elasticity and their traction between  $-8^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

For safety's sake, think about it!

## Before starting the engine...

Always clear snow and ice from the windows, roof and hood of your vehicle.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

Windshield wiper sprayers can freeze while your vehicle is parked and then block. To prevent melted snow from turning into ice, turn on the sprayers once or twice before turning off the engine.

## If you are stuck in a snow storm:

1. Stop your vehicle in a safe place;
2. Turn on the hazard lights;
3. Avoid leaving the vehicle, remain calm and wait for help;
4. Avoid exposure to the cold;
5. Turn on the engine and heating system, 10 minutes every hour, making sure the hazard lights and exhaust pipe are clear;
6. When the engine is on, lower your window a little to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.
7. Protect yourself to avoid hypothermia, i.e. a lowering of the body temperature below its normal temperature.



## DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

If you're stuck for quite a while, move about to keep from falling asleep. Intense cold and sleep can bring on hypothermia and lead to death.

# TO CONTACT US



Monday through Saturday,  
from 7 am to 11 pm  
Sunday, from noon to 11 pm

## Call Centres

Monday through Friday

General information: from 8 am to 5:30 pm

Accident victims' compensation: 8:30 am to 5 pm

## Automated telephone response

(toll free)

Monday through Saturday, from 7:30 am to 11 pm

Sunday, from noon to 11 pm

**Québec (city and vicinity): 418 643-7620**

**Montréal: 514 873-7620**

**From elsewhere in Québec, Canada, USA, toll free:  
1 800 361-7620**

## TDD/TTY

**Montréal: 514 954-7763**

**From elsewhere in Québec, toll free: 1 800 565-7763**

## Automated telephone response

(with charge)

24 hours, 7 days a week

- Check that a vehicle can be licensed before:
  - its sale to an individual;
  - its purchase from an individual;
- check that a prospective driver's licence is valid before lending or renting your vehicle.

**One number: 1 900 565-1212 (\$1.50 per call)**

Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec

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E-mail any comments to us at: [courrier@saaq.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:courrier@saaq.gouv.qc.ca)

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Société de l'assurance  
automobile



## Protection of Personal Information

Information concerning a person sought by the SAAQ is handled confidentially. Such personal information is needed by the SAAQ to carry out its mandates under the Automobile Insurance Act and the Highway Safety Code. Personal information obtained is only disclosed to staff internally or to authorized agents. Under the **Act respecting access to documents held by public bodies and the protection of personal information**, it may be conveyed to Government departments or agencies, or used for statistical, survey or study purposes. Individuals may consult or correct any personal information concerning them held in SAAQ records. The information must be provided on request and failure to do so can result in a refusal of service on the SAAQ's part. Individuals may consult or correct any personal information concerning them held in SAAQ records.

For more information, contact the SAAQ's call centres or consult the Policy on Privacy on the SAAQ website at [www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca](http://www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca).

## List of organizations authorized to disclose information without getting the consent of the individuals concerned

To implement the Highway Safety Code and related statutes:

- Agencies responsible for implementing equivalent statutes in Canada and elsewhere
- Bureau du taxi de la Communauté urbaine de Montréal
- Commission des transports du Québec
- Courts including municipal courts
- Insurance Bureau of Canada (IBC)
- Ministère de la Justice du Québec
- Ministère de la Sécurité publique du Québec
- Ministère des Transports du Québec
- Revenu Québec
- Sûreté du Québec and other police forces
- Transport Canada

For implementing statutes and other purposes:

- Agence nationale de l'encadrement du secteur financier
- Canada Border Services Agency
- Canada Revenue Agency
- Commissaire à la déontologie policière
- Commission de la construction du Québec
- Commission de la protection du territoire agricole
- Commission des normes du travail
- Coroner
- Environment Canada
- Human Resources Development Canada
- Insurers and their representatives
- Justice Canada
- Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux
- Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale
- Ministère des Affaires intergouvernementales
- Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune
- Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs
- National Battlefields Commission
- Office de la protection du consommateur
- Office québécois de la langue française
- Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec
- Régie du bâtiment du Québec
- Revenu Québec
- Société d'habitation du Québec
- Statistics Canada
- Vehicle manufacturers and dealerships (recall campaigns)