

September 22, 2021

Press Release – Passenger Transportation Board concludes investigation on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on BC passenger transportation industry

The Passenger Transportation Board, an independent tribunal with a mandate to make decisions on applications related to passenger directed vehicles in British Columbia, has concluded its investigation on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the BC passenger transportation industry. The investigation was completed on September 17, 2021. The report was posted on September 22, 2021, which can be accessed on the Board [website](#).

The COVID-19 Investigation was conducted by Hara Associates, a professional economist, retained by the Board. The investigation, which began in April 2021, was initiated in the context of relevant applications before the Board—Uber Canada Inc. (#10268-20TNS) and Facedrive Inc. (#10149-20TNS). Pursuant to section 14(d) of the *BC Passenger Transportation Act*, the Board continued to review other applications which involved similar questions of fact, law or policy that may be impacted by the ongoing COVID-19 Board Investigation and decided to Stay such files. These other proceedings included Black Top Cabs Ltd. (#11024-20TNS), North Shore Taxi (1966) Ltd. (10575-20TNS), and Swiftsure TaxiCo. Ltd.; Duncan Taxi Ltd.; Comox Taxi Ltd.; Oceanside Taxi Ltd. (#10336-20TNS).

The Investigation was undertaken in light of the current COVID-19 related economic situation. The Board’s objective was to gather information from the investigation that the decision-makers may use when applying the three factors outlined in section 28 of the Act: public need for service the applicant proposes to provide; applicant is fit, proper and capable of providing the service; and the application would promote sound economic conditions in the passenger transportation business in BC.

With the timely conclusion of the Investigation, the Board would like to thank Hara Associates for their work and seamless execution. The Board highly appreciates all participants for their time and for their cooperation in providing the requested data and information.

All affected applicants have been notified to provide submissions on the contents of the Investigator’s Report before the Board renders any final decisions. The Board is committed to rendering its decision without any delay.

All regular updates will be posted on the Board’s website, <https://www.ptboard.bc.ca/>.

Media Questions: Please contact Kamran Shaikh of PR Associates at kshaikh@prassociates.com or by telephone at 778.846.5406.