

July 15, 2015

## Responsibilities of Inter-City Bus Operators

Inter-city bus (ICB) operators must provide service to passengers in accordance with the routes and frequency specified on their terms and conditions of licence. Operators must not unilaterally stop or interrupt service or change route points without Board approval.

### *Engaged Carriers*

If ICB operators find that they do not have available vehicles or require extra vehicles on a temporary basis, they may engage or hire another licensee to help them. The licensee must have “engaged carrier authorization” for ICBs. There are a number of licensees with this authorization. If you hire an engaged carrier, they must operate the bus according to the terms and conditions of your ICB licence. You must sign a written agreement with the engaged carrier and this agreement as well as your ICB licence must be in all vehicles operated by the engaged carrier.

A list of licensees with ICB engaged carrier authorization is available at:

<http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/ptb/documents/SA-licensees-by-rd-icbs.pdf>

### *Route Points*

ICB route points typically include municipalities (e.g. incorporated cities, towns, and/or villages) and unincorporated towns and villages. The boundaries of a route point are generally the legal boundary of the incorporated or unincorporated area. ICB operators are expected to provide service to a route point, and at the minimum frequency, as set out in their terms and conditions of license. If you want to change a route point, you must submit an application to the Passenger Transportation Board.

### *Time Schedules and Rates*

Operators may set their own rates and, generally, their own time schedules.

### *Defective Vehicles*

Section 14 of the [Passenger Transportation Regulation](#) sets out requirements for situations where a vehicle is so defective that passenger safety is at risk. In such circumstances, the vehicle must stop operating. Operators must arrange for the passengers to be transported in a licensed commercial passenger vehicle to their destination or to a place where they can get accommodation or alternate transportation. If operators determine that a licensed commercial passenger vehicle is not available, passengers may be transported in a motor vehicle with proper insurance.

### *Penalties*

Administrative fines or penalties may be issued by the Registrar of Passenger Transportation, PT Branch, if operators are not complying with the terms and conditions of their licence.

### **More Information**

[Application Guide 15](#): *"I want to reduce minimum service levels or eliminate a route for my ICB service"*