

May 21, 2002

## **Moratorium Decision on Taxi Applications in the Lower Mainland**

Since October 5, 1998, the Motor Carrier Commission has had a moratorium on applications for taxi licences in the Lower Mainland. In December 1999, this moratorium was revised and the Commission indicated it would accept applications for taxis that were designed to accommodate persons using mobility aids.

In the Spring of 2001, the Commission undertook a consultation study into the supply of taxis in the Lower Mainland. The consultation process was completed and a report was published in October 2001. The report provided a number of options with respect to supply, criteria and boundaries.

After reviewing the report, comments from stakeholders and its own policies, *the Commission has decided to lift the moratorium effective immediately* and implement the new application policies as outlined below.

### **Applications for Taxicab Licences in the Lower Mainland (i.e. Licence Districts 14, 14A and 15)**

The Commission will now accept applications for new taxicabs as well as applications from licensed carriers to alter their Conditions of Licence or to add vehicles to their fleet.

Applicants must still provide evidence of **public need** for the service. Applicants must also include:

- Number of wheelchair accessible vehicles that will be utilized, and rationale for reaching that number
- Notice to municipalities of the application
- Submission of any relevant municipal by-laws
- Other information that the applicant considers pertinent (e.g. population trends, number of visitors/tourists; users of the service and availability of public transit)

The Commission may review these requirements from time to time.