

**WEBINAR:**

# **Distracted Driving - More Than Just Phones**

**February 24  
10–11 a.m.**

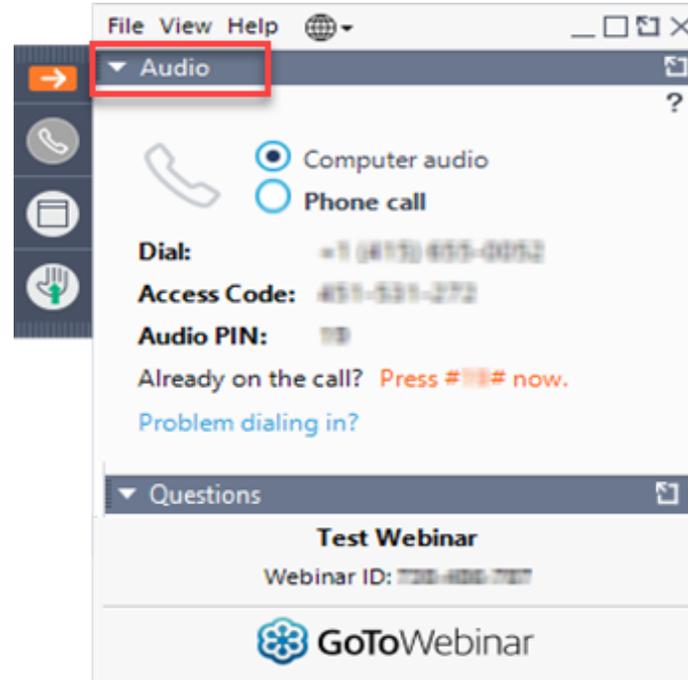


# Audio instructions

- Select “Computer audio” to use your computer’s sound

OR

- Select “Phone call” to dial in and enter audio pin

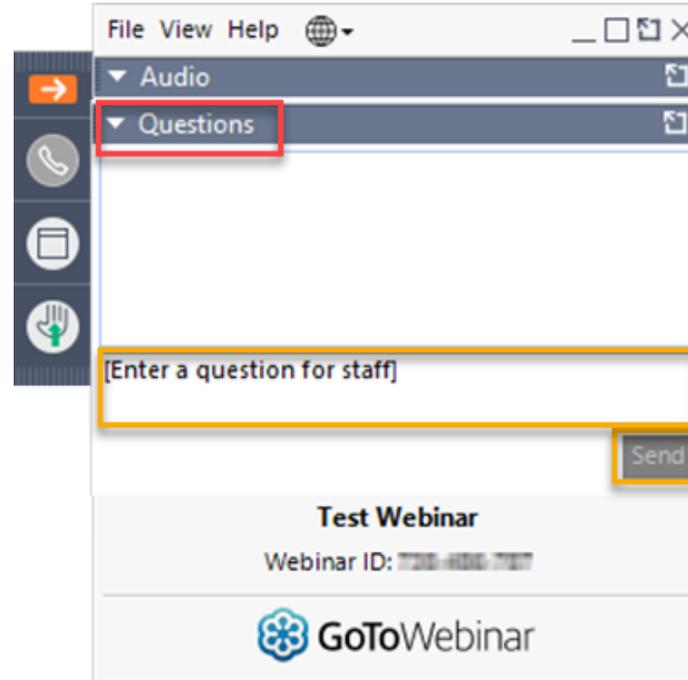


# Asking questions

- Click on “Questions” to expand the Questions pane

then.....

- Type and send your question to the moderator



# After the webinar

## We will be sending you:

- Presentation slides
- Recording
- Links to all resources mentioned today

Please complete the short survey



## Webinar recording:

[View webinar recording](#) (approx 1 hour)

## Webinar slides:



[Download the slides](#) from our Webinar (PDF 3 MB)

## Webinar resources:

Here are links to various resources which were mentioned in the webinar session:

- [Link to the Road Safety at Work website](#)
- [Link to the Road Safety at Work website](#)
- [Link to the Road Safety at Work website](#)
- [Link to the Road Safety at Work website](#)
- [Link to the Road Safety at Work website](#)
- [Link to the Road Safety at Work website](#)

# Introducing today's presenters



**Sgt. P.S. (Patrick)  
Davies** A/NCO IC



**Fraser Coast Integrated  
Road Safety Unit**



**Leanne Cassap**



**Road Safety & Community  
Coordinator**

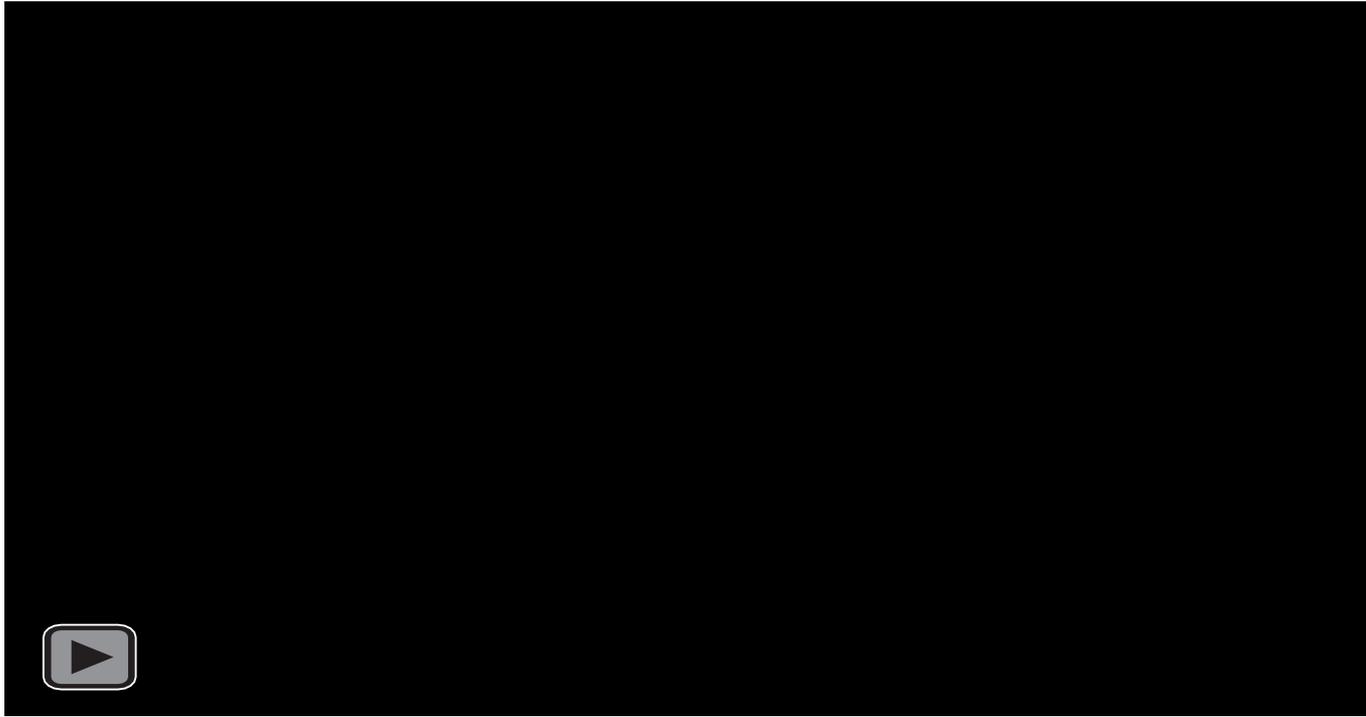
Customer Experience &  
Public Affairs

The Langleys

# Distracted Driving - The Law in British Columbia



# How distracted are you?



# Definition

**Distracted driving** is any activity that reduces your ability to **focus** on the road.



# Cell phones - not just a phone anymore

- In the past there wasn't nearly as much that you could do with a cell phone
  - Really just talking and texting
- Smartphone manufacturers have added:
  - Social media apps, mapping tools, games, email and more!



# The types of devices we choose will continue to evolve, as will the types of distraction they afford us

- The trend toward wearable devices – like smart watches – has grown significantly in recent years



# Definition of an electronic device

As per the Motor Vehicle Act:

## Part 3.1 – Use of Electronic Devices while Driving Definitions

### 214.1 In this Part:

“**electronic device**” means

- (a) A hand-held cellular telephone or another hand-held electronic device that includes a telephone function,
- (b) A hand-held electronic device that is capable of transmitting or receiving electronic mail or other text-based messages, or
- (c) A prescribed class or type of electronic device;



# Careless driving

## Careless driving

- Eating or drinking while driving is not illegal, but the activity could be distracting enough to contribute to a collision, or could cause you to violate a specific section of the MVA by being inattentive to roadway signage, roadway markings, the sudden, unexpected actions of fellow motorist(s).



# Dangerous driving

## Dangerous operation (Criminal code)

- 320.13 (1) Everyone commits an offence who operates a conveyance [a definition which includes motor vehicle] in a manner that, having regard to all the circumstances, is dangerous to the public.
- 320.13 (2) ...and, as a result, causes bodily harm to another person.
- 320.13 (3) ...and, as a result, causes the death of another person.



# Why is it a problem?

- Smartphones are convenient, but there's one place they seem to do more harm than good - and that's behind the wheel.
- Research shows that when drivers use cell phones, their attention to the road drops. Psychologists call this 'cognitive distraction'.



# Mobile data terminals

- Mobile data terminals are non-hand-held computerized devices without a telephone function that are licensed under the [Radiocommunication Act](#).
- These devices are used only to communicate with a dispatcher or control centre and where pre-packaged data are transmitted, point in time, over a set radio frequency.



# More sources of distractions

And 'connected' or 'smart' in-vehicle systems are also on the rise, turning cars into **'smartphones on wheels'**



# Distracted driving in BC

## Police reported 5 year average (2016-2020)



Distracted and inattentive driving is responsible for more than one quarter (27 per cent) of all car **crash fatalities** in B.C.



Distracted and inattentive driving is one of **the leading causes of crashes** with pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists



Driver distraction is a factor in more than 40 per cent of police-reported **injury crashes**.



# B.C.'s mobile device law

## Section 214.2 of the Motor Vehicle Act



### Since June 1, 2016:

\$368 fine and four penalty points

Considered a 'high risk driving' behaviour, and part of Driver Improvement Program.



### Since March 1, 2018:

Drivers using an electronic device while driving face added and higher penalties under the Driver Risk Premium.

### the rules



The use of hand-held personal electronic devices while driving has been banned in B.C. since 2010.

The law also applies while you're stopped at a red light or slowed in traffic.



**\$368**



The penalty for one distracted driving ticket is a **\$368 fine and four penalty points.**

If you have your L or N, you're not allowed to use any personal electronic devices, even with a hands-free system.



#EyesFwdBC and #LeaveYourPhoneAlone

# Using electronic devices while driving

## Section 214.1 of the Motor Vehicle Act

“use”, in relation to an electronic device, means or more of the following actions:

- **Holding** the device in a position in which it may be used;
- **Operating** one or more of the device’s functions;
- **Communicating** orally by means of the device with another person or another device;
- **Taking another action** that is set out in the regulations by means of, with or in relation to an electronic device.



# Permitted uses – Except L & N drivers

## Hands free communication:

- Electronic Device **may not be held or operated by the hand**
- Device must be **voice-activated** or require only one touch to initiate, accept or end a call
- Earpiece can only be worn **in one ear only**
- Electronic device must be **securely fixed** to the vehicle or worn securely on the body
- Electronic device must be installed in a manner that **does not obstruct the driver's view** or interfere with the safety or operating equipment of the vehicle.





BC Highway  
Patrol



Questions

# Other sources of distraction...



Drive Without Due Care  
and Attention Section  
144 (1)(a) \$368 / 6 pts.



Attempting to multitask  
while driving (e.g.,  
eating, reading)



Cellphones being used for  
recording (pictures or  
video)



# Having your cell phone in your lap is distracted driving, rules B.C. judge - R v. Rajani



Driver was ticketed on March 15, 2019, after a police officer saw driver looking down while driving. Driver's phone on his "right" lap, connected to a charging cord.



Driver fought the ticket in provincial court, admitting looking down, but said the phone had been wedged between his right thigh and the seat, and he wasn't using it.



The judge upheld the ticket, finding that having the phone "perched, if not on his lap, rather precariously beside his lap" amounted to breaking B.C.'s distracted driving laws.



Driver appealed B.C. Supreme Court judge upheld that ruling, finding that **having the phone anywhere in a driver's lap amounts to "holding" it.**



# Holding or moving a cellphone while driving is against the law, B.C. judge rules - R v Bakhsheshi



Driver was convicted in May 2021 for distracted driving. Driver alleged his phone fell on the floor and he reached down to pick it up, transferred it to his right hand and then placed it on the dash.



The incident was seen by a police officer, who had to swerve out of the vehicle's way. Driver was fined and ICBC suspended his driver's licence for about four months.

Driver appealed court decision in B.C. Supreme Court arguing he was not talking on the cellphone or texting with it. He argued that his action of picking up the phone, transferring it between hands and placing it on the dash didn't constitute use.



The judge upheld the court decision finding that "He not only held it in his left hand. He transferred it into his right hand in the process, demonstrating the telltale signs of a duly distracted driver by swerving.



Judge said in a Jan. 28 decision released on Feb. 7 that **the law prohibiting the "use" of a cellphone is far more than just using it for talking or texting. "It is a provision aimed at ensuring safety."**



# ICBC road safety education

Cell Watch  
Volunteers

Partner  
with Police

High crash  
corridors

Distracted  
walking course

Distracted  
driving simulator



# Campaign outreach



# Media



# Social media



ICBC @icbc · Mar 2

Starting Mar. 1, drivers with two convictions for using an electronic device while driving within 3 years will pay as much as \$2,000 in penalties on top of their insurance premium. #EyesFwdBC [ow.ly/unS930iH17](https://www.icbc.com/road-safety/cr...)



Surrey RCMP  
March 15

Think we can't see you checking that text message? We're scoping for distracted drivers. Police, ICBC and Cell Watch volunteers with Surrey RCMP and Surrey Crime Prevention Society will be out this week reminding drivers to #leavethephonealone



Richmond RCMP  
@RichmondRCMP

Don't drive distracted - Leave the phone alone  
#RichmondRCMP & volunteers cracking down today

#EyesFwdBC #leaveyourphonealone  
[icbc.com/road-safety/cr...](https://www.icbc.com/road-safety/cr...)



# Leave your phone alone

## Don't use your cellphone at a red light

The law applies whenever you're in control of the vehicle, whether stopped at a red light or in bumper-to-bumper traffic.

## Keep your hands off

The law applies whenever you're in control of the vehicle, whether stopped at a red light or in bumper-to-bumper traffic.

## Keep your eyes on the road

Don't glance at your phone while driving, even if you're using it hands-free.

## If you have a Learner's (L) or Novice (N)

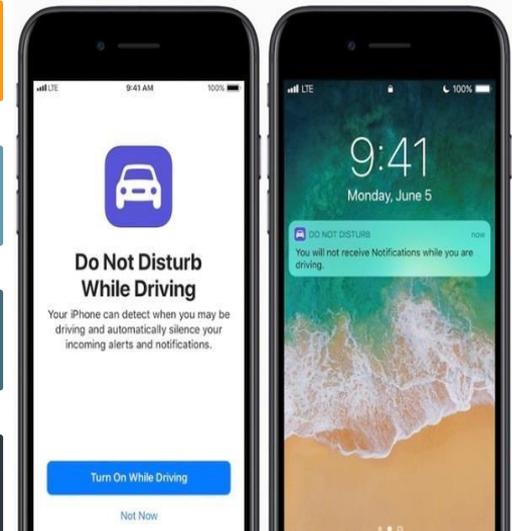
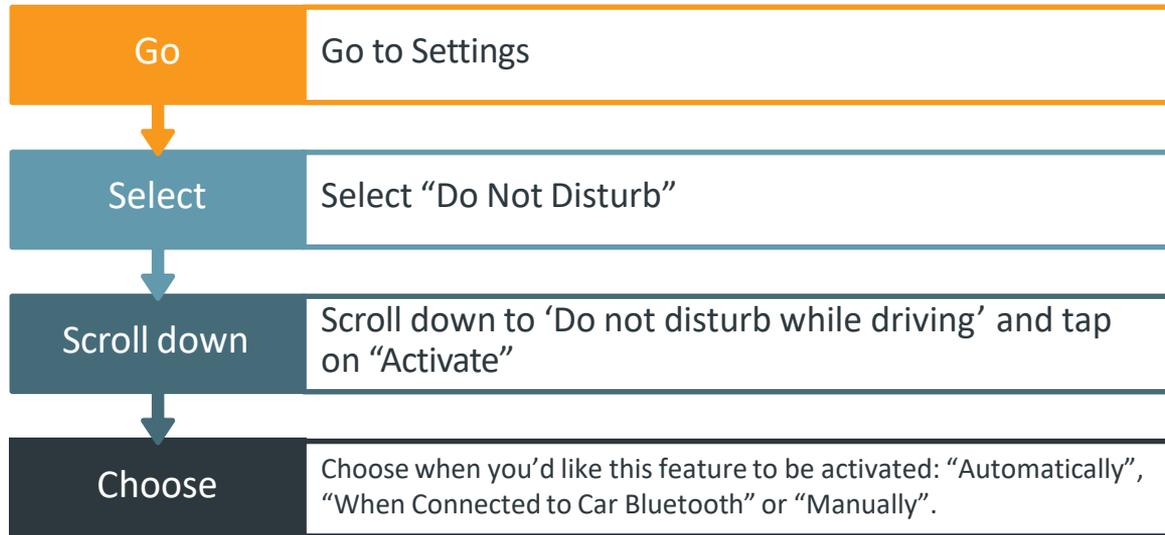
The law applies whenever you're in control of the vehicle, whether stopped at a red light or in bumper-to-bumper traffic.

## Make sure you understand the law

Link to how to [use electronic devices while driving](#)  
(RoadSafetyBC)

# Tips for safe cellphone use

## Activate 'Do Not Disturb While Driving' feature in iPhone



# Tips for safe cellphone use

- Pair your device to Bluetooth in your vehicle, if available.
- Check your vehicle owner's manual for instructions.



What can employers do



# Tools and resources for reducing your risk

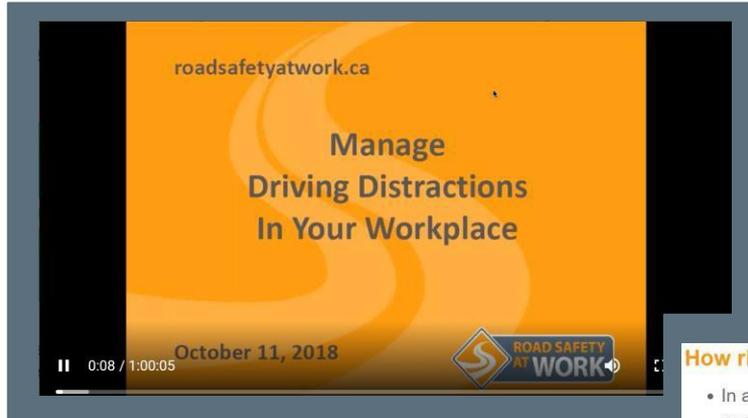


## 2022 ICBC Road Safety Campaign Calendar

	MARCH		APRIL	MAY		JULY	SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER		DECEMBER
Enhanced Enforcement Period BCACP	Distracted Drivers Campaign	Occupant Restraint Campaign		High Risk Driving Campaign		Summer Impaired Driving Campaign (Alcohol/Drug)	Distracted Driving Campaign		Occupant Restraint Campaign	Drive Relative to Conditions Campaign (Speed/Pedestrian)		Winter Impaired Driving Campaign (Alcohol/Drug)
Road Safety Issue ICBC	Distractions	Occupant Restraint	Auto Crime	High Risk Driving	Motorcycles	Summer Impaired (alcohol/drug)	Distractions	Back to School*		Drive Relative to Conditions (Speed/Peds)	Shift into Winter (Pedestrian Safety)	Winter Impaired (alcohol/drug)

- Connect with your local Road Safety & Community Coordinator
  - presentation(s)
  - distracted driving simulator
  - walking course
  - campaign stakeholder emailer
- Contact your local community police office to request Cell Watch
- ICBC and RCMP BC Highway Patrol websites

# Online resources



*We're here to help you!*

### How risky is driving while distracted?

- In a 2013 survey conducted by the [Governors Highway Safety Association](#), nearly 90% of licensed drivers said that talking on a cell phone while driving is a "somewhat serious" or "very serious" threat to their personal safety; about 95% of respondents said that texting, e-mailing or checking social media on a device while driving was a **more serious** threat to their safety.
- Drivers engaged in text messaging are 23 times more likely to be involved in a crash or near crash event compared with non-distracted drivers. ([Virginia Tech Transportation Institute](#)).
- As passengers, active children are four times more distracting than adults; infants are eight times more distracting than adults ([CAA](#)).
- Talking on a cell phone while driving impairs your driving ability about the same as a blood alcohol content of 0.08. ([University of Utah](#), 2006).

# Distracted driving policy components



Purpose



Roles and responsibilities



Risk-reducing steps

*Instructions: This template does not cover all driving distractions. Edit it to include the situations and distractions your employees face while driving for work. Be sure to explain in this policy what you expect employees to do to reduce distracted driving risks. Plug your organization's name in where you see "Company Name." Delete these instructions when done.*

## [Company Name] Distracted Driving Policy

### Why we have this policy

[Company Name] is committed to ensuring the health and safety of our employees when they are driving or riding in a vehicle used for work. Applying this policy will help our management team, supervisors, and employees work together to avoid distracted driving. Our goal is to reduce the likelihood that any of us is involved in a distracted driving crash.

### Who needs to follow this policy

This policy applies to all our employees when they are driving company-owned or leased vehicles used for work/personal purposes, as well as employee-owned vehicles and rental vehicles used for work.

### Employee responsibilities

#### Our employees will:

- Comply with requirements in the *Motor Vehicle Act* rules for use of electronic devices while driving
- Not operate a phone (hand-held or hands-free), laptop, navigation device, infotainment system or other electronic device (e.g., smart watch, dashcam, on-board recorder, vehicle monitoring system, etc.) while driving
- Record a voicemail greeting before driving that invites callers to leave a message
- Turn their phone off or activate its "Do not disturb" feature and stow it in a secure location (e.g., glovebox, trunk) before getting underway
- Program any navigation / infotainment / music system or other electronic device before getting underway
- Find a safe place to pull over and park before making any calls or texts, or adjusting the navigation / infotainment / music system
- Avoid reading and personal grooming activities (e.g., shaving, applying make-up) while driving
- Refrain from eating or drinking and any other activities that reduce their ability to keep their eyes —and their attention —on the road

Your signature below certifies your agreement to comply with this policy. Non-compliance is a serious matter and may subject you to disciplinary action.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employee Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employee Name



# Test your knowledge

Take the quiz



Test your distraction knowledge

- Do you understand your responsibilities as an employee driving for work, or your obligations as an employer?
- Are you familiar with the best practices to avoid distracted driving?
- Take a few minutes to complete our 15-question quiz



BC Highway  
Patrol



Questions

# Contact us with your questions



**Leanne Cassap**  
ICBC Road Safety & Community  
Coordinator  
Customer Experience & Public  
Affairs  
The Langleys  
Office: 604-533-7472  
Mobile: 604-789-7483  
Twitter: @roadsafetylea  
Email: [leanne.cassap@icbc.com](mailto:leanne.cassap@icbc.com)



**Sgt. P.S. (Patrick) DAVIES**  
Operations NCO  
B.C. Highway Patrol  
Fraser Coast Integrated Road Safety  
Unit – **FC IRSU**  
Office: 604-539-2731  
Fax: 604-539-2732  
Email: [patrick.davies@rcmp-grc](mailto:patrick.davies@rcmp-grc)



Road safety is smart business.  
**Angelina Robinson**  
Client Relationship Manager  
Road Safety at Work  
Phone: 250-703-2500  
Email: [arobinson@roadsafetyatwork.ca](mailto:arobinson@roadsafetyatwork.ca)





# Visit our websites for more resources



<https://bc-cb.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/>

<https://www.icbc.com/>

<https://roadsafetyatwork.ca/>

# Thank you



See next slide for a list of links to resources  
mentioned in this webinar



# Links to various resources mentioned in this webinar

## Road Safety at Work

[Webinar: Manage distracted driving in your workplace](#)

[Distracted driving tool kit](#)

[Distracted driving policy template](#)

[Distracted driving quiz](#)

## WorkSafeBC

[Distracted driving on the job](#) (video)

## RCMP

[Self-assessment: Distracted driving quiz](#)

[Leave the phone alone](#) (video)

[RCMP website](#)

## ICBC

[The ICBC regional coordinators](#) (PDF)

[Upcoming ICBC / RCMP distracted driving campaign](#) (PDF)

[ICBC Distracted driving sticker request](#)

[ICBC Distracted driving in B.C. infographic](#)

## RoadSafetyBC

[Use of electronic devices while driving](#)

