

# BULLETIN

## June 16, 2020

### End of the Public Health Emergency: Effect on Appeal Deadlines

Under the *Traffic Safety Act*, certain regulatory decisions and actions can be appealed to the Alberta Transportation Safety Board (ATSB). People wishing to request such appeals have 30 days to file their appeal with the ATSB.

On March 17, 2020, Alberta declared a public health emergency (PHE). In April 2020, the Minister of Transportation signed a Ministerial Order that extended the appeal deadline for decisions and actions made during the PHE.

The PHE **ended June 15, 2020**.

Going forward, this means that

- For decisions or actions that were made between March 17, 2020 and June 15, 2020, inclusive, people wishing to appeal will have until July 15, 2020 to file their appeal with the ATSB.
- For decisions or actions that were made on or after June 16, 2020, people wishing to appeal will, once again, have only 30 days to file their appeal with the ATSB.

### Continuation of video and telephone hearings

As a result of the PHE, on March 27, 2020, the ATSB changed all of its hearings to either telephone or video format. These options have proven very effective, and the ATSB will integrate these options into all future appeals.

As the COVID-19 situation remains fluid, the ATSB continues to monitor how best, and most safely, to offer its services. Until further notice, all new hearings will continue to be scheduled by either telephone or video.

Effective July 1, 2020, a limited number of controlled in-person hearings will be scheduled for those appeals adjourned at the onset of the PHE for purposes of an in-person hearing. Such controlled in-

person hearings are **not** being scheduled on an ongoing basis: they are only being offered with a view to ensuring that Appellants who had a matter before the Board on or before March 17, 2020 can be heard during the easing of the restrictions.

Parties who are eligible for such controlled in-person hearings will be contacted directly to schedule their appeal beginning in July.

### **Gradual Reopening of ATSB Offices**

At this time, both ATSB offices remain closed to the public. During the months of July and August, we will be gradually re-opening the offices. Details will follow shortly.

### **Gradual Resumption of Traffic Courses**

The Alberta Safety Council (ASC) will soon be starting to schedule traffic courses. Parties who are waiting to attend such a course will be contacted by the ASC. If you have any questions, please contact the Alberta Safety Council at 1-800-301-6407 or by email at [info@safetycouncil.ab.ca](mailto:info@safetycouncil.ab.ca).

### **Document Filing and Inquiries**

As per our previous Bulletins, until further notice, please DO **NOT** MAIL or COURIER any inquiries and documents. Instead, please send **ALL** inquiries and documents to the Board at: [atsb@gov.ab.ca](mailto:atsb@gov.ab.ca).

### **Further Changes**

Changes in procedure will be posted on our website at <http://atsb.alberta.ca> as they are made. We recommend that you monitor the website for further updates.

**Thank you for your understanding and continued patience as we continue to ensure that we are both following the recommendations of Alberta Health Services and doing our part to protect all Albertans.**